THE WAR OF THE REALMS

Jason Aaron • Russell Dauterman • Matthew Wilson
Mike del Mundo • Ed McGuinness
Andrea Sorrentino • Mark Morales

MARVEL

THE WAR OF THE REALMS

THE WAR OF THE REALMS

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WAR OF THE REALMS: WAR SCROLLS #1-3

"THE GOD WITHOUT FEAR"
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Matthew Wilson
COLOR ARTIST

"THE WARRIORS THREE (OR FOUR)"
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Ricardo López Ortiz
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Felipe Sobreiro
COLOR ARTIST

"NICE SHOT, FRANK"
Ram V
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Cafu
ARTIST
Brian Reber
COLOR ARTIST

"WAUGH OF THE REALMS"
Chip Zdarsky
WRITER
Joe Quinones
ARTIST
Joe Rivera
INK ASSISTS
Rico Renzi
COLOR ARTIST

"AGENCY"
Devin Grayson
WRITER
Paul Davidson
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Andres Mossa
COLOR ARTIST

"MY DRAG BRUNCH WITH LOKI"
Anthony Oliveira
WRITER
Nick Robles
ARTIST
Cris Peter
COLOR ARTIST

"A ROSE FOR VICTOR"
Christopher Cantwell
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Cian Tormey
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"THE FACE OF A WARRIOR"
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Roberto Poggi
INKER
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WAR OF THE REALMS OMEGA

"GOD AND THE DEVIL WALK INTO A CHURCH"
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Matt Milla
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LETTERER

"THE JOB I HAVE TO DO"
Al Ewing & Jason Aaron
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"BORN SMALL"
Daniel Kibblesmith
WRITER
Bazaldua
ARTIST
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"WAR ORPHANS"
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Adriano Di Benedetto
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COLOR ARTIST
VC's Joe Sabino
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Java Tartaglia & Felipe Sobreiro
COLOR ARTISTS
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Marco Castiello
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THE WAR OF THE REALMS

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NEW AGENTS OF ATLAS #1-4

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Haining & Gadson of
Tan Comics (#1) &
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Carlos Lopez
with Andrew Crossley (#3)
COLOR ARTISTS

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and Cully Hamner
& Brian Reber (#3)
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Lan Medina
PENCILER

Cam Smith
INKER

Andy Troy
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COLOR ARTISTS

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& Travis Lanham (#8)
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& Morry Hollowell (#8)
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THE UNBEATABLE SQUIRREL GIRL #43-46

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LETTERER

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Thor is back.
While still unworthy of lifting his hammer, Mjolnir, he is once more the God of Thunder.

Just in time too, for the city of Asgardia has been destroyed, Jane Foster is still battling cancer, and All-Father Odin is busy trying to restore Old Asgard to its former glory. So it's up to Thor to stop Malekith's attempt to conquer all of the Ten Realms. But with the Rainbow Bridge shattered, he has no way of taking the fight to the dark elf king.

With allies including the now-resurrected Balder the Brave, Thor did manage to stave off an invasion of Hel by the armies of Muspelheim.

But Malekith has other allies in this War of the Realms…

THOR #8

Prison of Angels

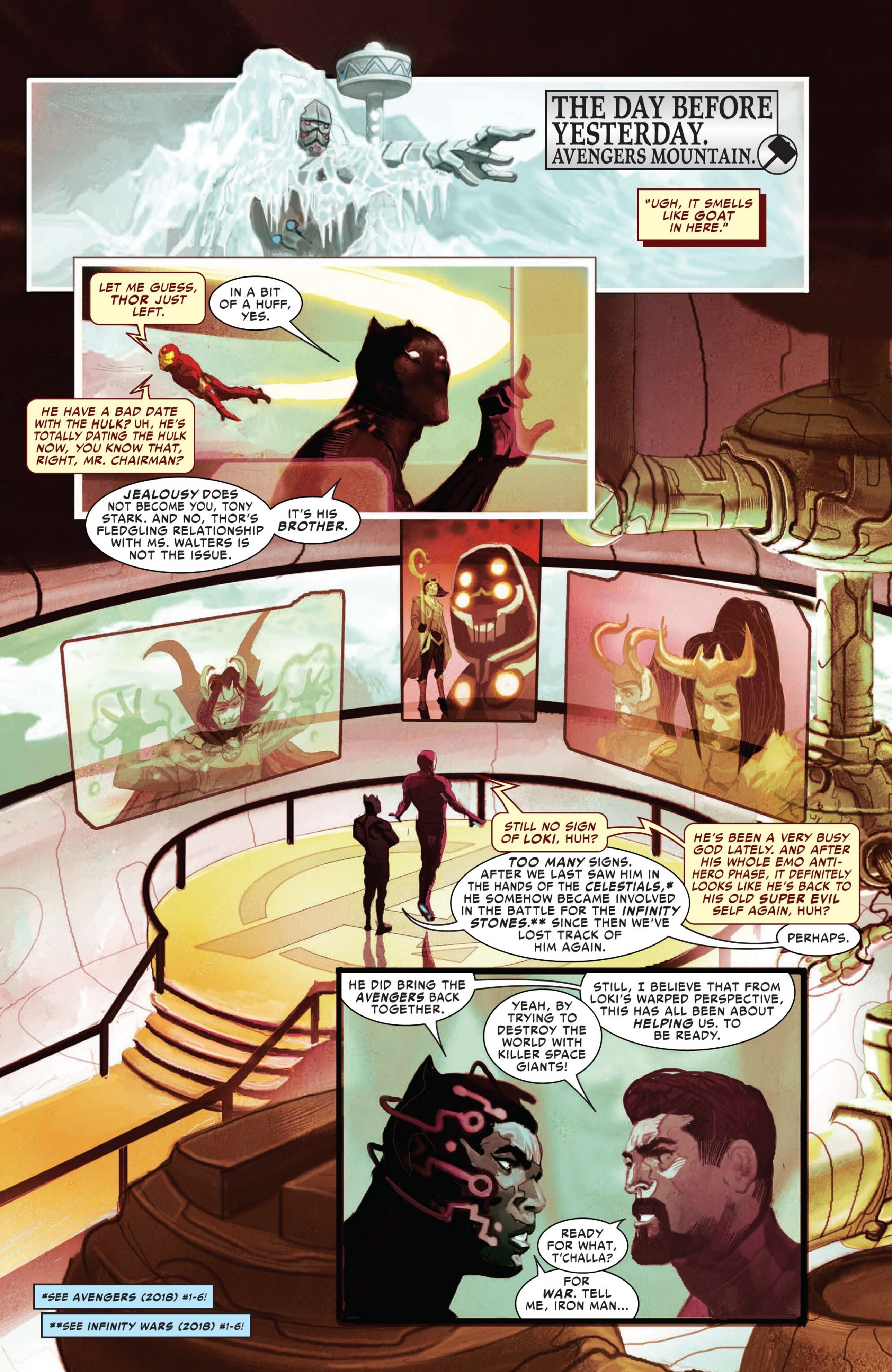
TOMORROW.
THE PAIN CLOISTER.
YOU CAN'T BE THOR. WHERE'S YOUR HAMMER?
THE HAMMER IS DEAD. THE LEGEND IS DEAD.
LOOK AT YOUR HANDS. LOOK AT WHAT'S HAPPENING TO YOU.
RENOUNCE YOUR FATHER.
RENOUNCE ASGARD. AS THEY'VE RENOUNCED YOU.
WHAT WOULD YOU DO IF YOUR HAMMER WERE HERE? YOU COULDN'T EVEN LIFT IT.
YOU'RE NOTHING. YOU'RE UNWORTHY.
YOU'RE UNWORTHY AND THE THUNDER IS DEAD.
WHERE'S YOUR HAMMER?
I DON'T SEE YOUR HAMMER.
YOU'RE NOT EVEN A GOD ANYMORE.
YOUR OWN FATHER CAN'T STAND THE SIGHT OF YOU.
WHERE'S YOUR HAMMER?
DO YOU WANT TO DIE?
LOOK AT YOUR HANDS.
DO YOU WANT TO DIE HERE LIKE THIS? FOR NOTHING?
RENOUNCE YOUR FATHER.
RRRRRRRAAAAAAGGGHHHH!
RENOUNCE ASGARD WHILE YOU STILL HAVE A TONGUE.
YOUR HAMMER RENOUNCED YOU. RENOUNCE ASGARD.
WHERE'S YOUR HAMMER? WHERE'S YOUR THUNDER?
LISTEN TO YOURSELF.
YOU CAN'T BE THOR.
YOU WILL NEVER SEE ASGARD AGAIN.
THOR DOESN'T SCREAM.

YESTERDAY.
MANHATTAN.
KRAKOOM!
HE'S SURLY TODAY.

I CAN TELL BY THE THUNDER. THE WAR MUST BE GETTING TO HIM.
GRRRR, STUPID SKY DROOL.
SKY DROOL NOT GOOD FOR LADY MASTER. JANE AND THORI WALK FASTER NOW.

RELAX, THORI. A LITTLE STORM'S NOT GONNA KILL ME.
GOD, I WISH I WAS UP THERE IN IT.
NOTHING WILL KILL LADY MASTER WHILE THORI WALKING HER!

JANE AND THORI MURDER CANCER NOW! MURDER MURDER MURDER!
YOU'RE A GOOD DOG, THORI, BUT NOT SO LOUD WITH THE MURDERS.
THORI SORRY.
MURDER MURDER MURDER!


THE DAY BEFORE YESTERDAY.
AVENGERS MOUNTAIN.
"UGH, IT SMELLS LIKE GOAT IN HERE."
LET ME GUESS, THOR JUST LEFT.
IN A BIT OF A HUFF, YES.
HE HAVE A BAD DATE WITH THE HULK? UH, HE'S TOTALLY DATING THE HULK NOW, YOU KNOW THAT, RIGHT, MR. CHAIRMAN?
JEALOUSY DOES NOT BECOME YOU, TONY STARK. AND NO, THOR'S FLEDGLING RELATIONSHIP WITH MS. WALTERS IS NOT THE ISSUE.
IT'S HIS BROTHER.
STILL NO SIGN OF LOKI, HUH?
TOO MANY SIGNS. AFTER WE LAST SAW HIM IN THE HANDS OF THE CELESTIALS,* HE SOMEHOW BECAME INVOLVED IN THE BATTLE FOR THE INFINITY STONES.** SINCE THEN WE'VE LOST TRACK OF HIM AGAIN.
HE'S BEEN A VERY BUSY GOD LATELY. AND AFTER HIS WHOLE EMO ANTI-HERO PHASE, IT DEFINITELY LOOKS LIKE HE'S BACK TO HIS OLD SUPER EVIL SELF AGAIN, HUH?
PERHAPS.
HE DID BRING THE AVENGERS BACK TOGETHER.
YEAH, BY TRYING TO DESTROY THE WORLD WITH KILLER SPACE GIANTS!
STILL, I BELIEVE THAT FROM LOKI'S WARPED PERSPECTIVE, THIS HAS ALL BEEN ABOUT HELPING US. TO BE READY.
READY FOR WHAT, T'CHALLA?
FOR WAR. TELL ME, IRON MAN...
*SEE AVENGERS (2018) #1-6!
**SEE INFINITY WARS (2018) #1-6!

"WHAT DO YOU KNOW OF THE OTHER REALMS?"
TWO DAYS AGO.
OLD ASGARD.
BOOOM!
BOOM!
BOOM!
BLAST IT ALL TO HEL AND BACK! I HAVE HAD IT UP TO MY EYE WITH THAT INFERNAL RACKET!
DAY AND NIGHT, THE CLANGING NEVER STOPS! HOW MANY BOR-DAMNED HAMMERS DOES THAT BOY NEED?
WHAT? SCREWBEARD'S EARS MORE TIRED THAN EVEN ARMS! WHAT ODIN SAY? MORE HAMMERS?
SURTUR TAKE YOUR EARS, SCREWBEARD! AND YOUR HALF-WIT DWARF BRAIN!
SCREWBEARD MAKE MORE HAMMERS! SCREWBEARD NEVER STOP MAKING MORE HAMMERS!
NOISY ENOUGH IN HERE AS IS. DON'T NEED TIRED OLD GOD YELLING SAD INSULTS LIKE FIVE-YEAR-OLD ELF.
ODIN WANT BE HELPFUL FOR CHANGE, THEN PICK UP MALLET, POUND URU INTO SHAPE. LEAVE SCREWBEARD BE.
HEL. IF I CAN'T SLEEP, I SUPPOSE I MIGHT AS WELL BLUDGEON SOMETHING.
ODIN WILL SHOW YOU DWARVES HOW IT'S DONE! BRING ME MORE URU! AND ALL THE MEAD YOU CAN CARRY!
LET ASGARD ECHO ONCE MORE WITH THE SOUND OF GODS READYING FOR WAR! HEL, IT ALMOST FEELS LIKE HOME AGAIN!
WAIT UNTIL THOR SEES THE ARSENAL I MAKE HIM!

NOW.
THE HALL OF THE PENITENT.
CAUGHT THEM TRYING TO SNEAK IN. THEY WERE RELUCTANT TO PART WITH THESE. BUT WE SHOWED THEM WE ARE MANY.
AND THUS THEY FELL BEFORE THE FURY OF *HEVEN*.
THROW THEIR WEAPONS IN THE WELL, MY ANGELS. DID THEY SAY WHY THEY'VE COME? DID THEY CONFESS THEIR *SINS*?
ISN'T IT OBVIOUS WHY THEY'RE HERE? THEY ARE *NOTHING-ONES*, JUST LIKE *HER*. THEY'VE COME FOR THE *WINGLESS WHORE*.
THE *QUEEN* WILL WANT CONFESSIONS. SUMMON THE *LADIES OF SORROW*. TELL THEM WE HAVE TWO UNREPENTANT HEATHENS HERE IN NEED OF THE GOSPEL.
HAVE YOU ANYTHING TO SAY FOR YOURSELVES, HEATHENS, BEFORE YOU ARE SHOWN THE LIGHT?
SP-TEW!
GAGGH!
WHAT *SHE* SAID.

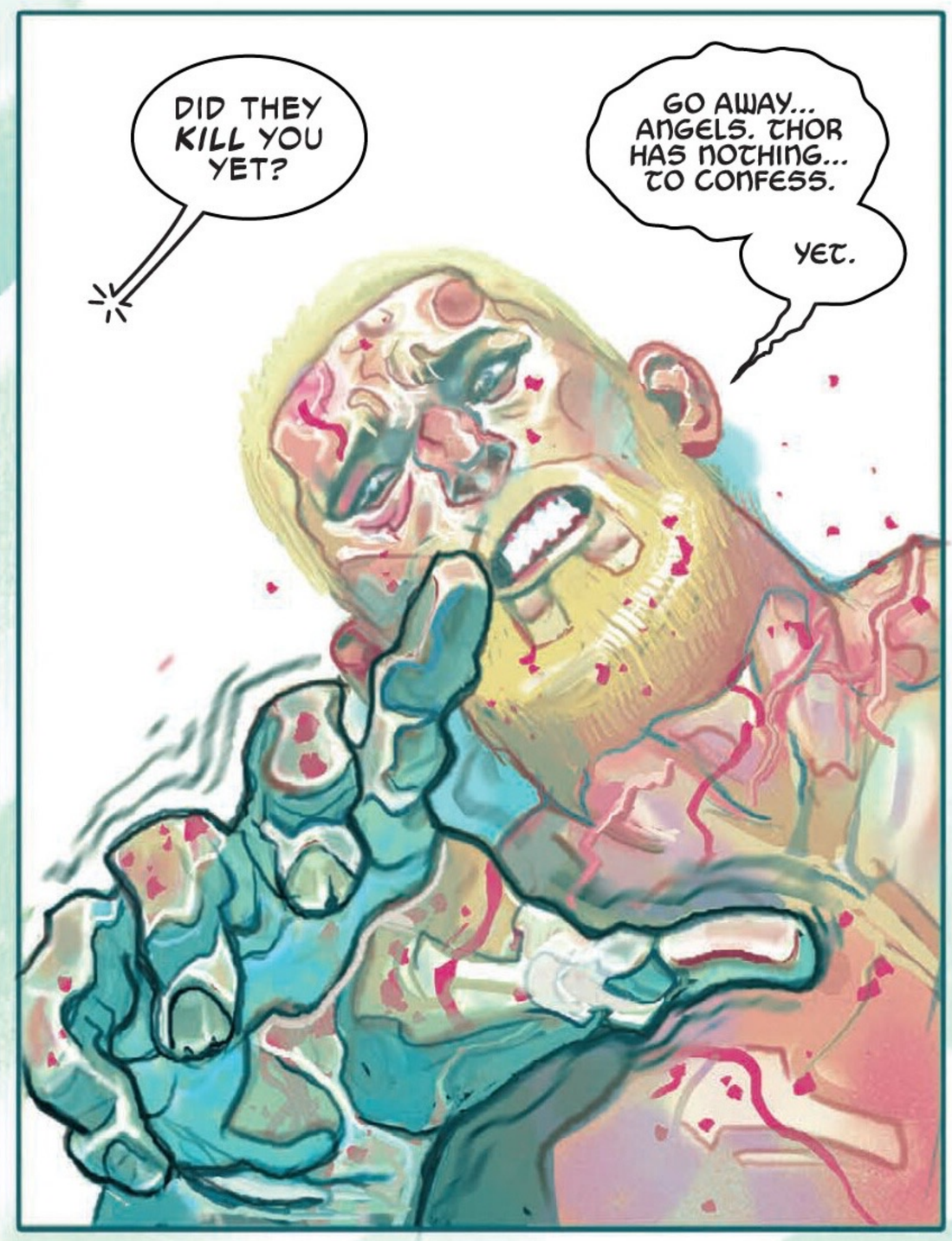
TAKE THEM AWAY AT ONCE! AND BE NOT GENTLE ABOUT IT!
THOR AND VALKYRIE OF ASGARD! WELCOME TO THE PRISON OF ANGELS!
THIS WAY TO THE CALVARY CELLS!
YOU HARPIES DO NOT UNDERSTAND! I AM NOT LOCKED INSIDE THIS PRISON WITH YOU!
ALL OF YOU ARE LOCKED INSIDE HERE WITH--

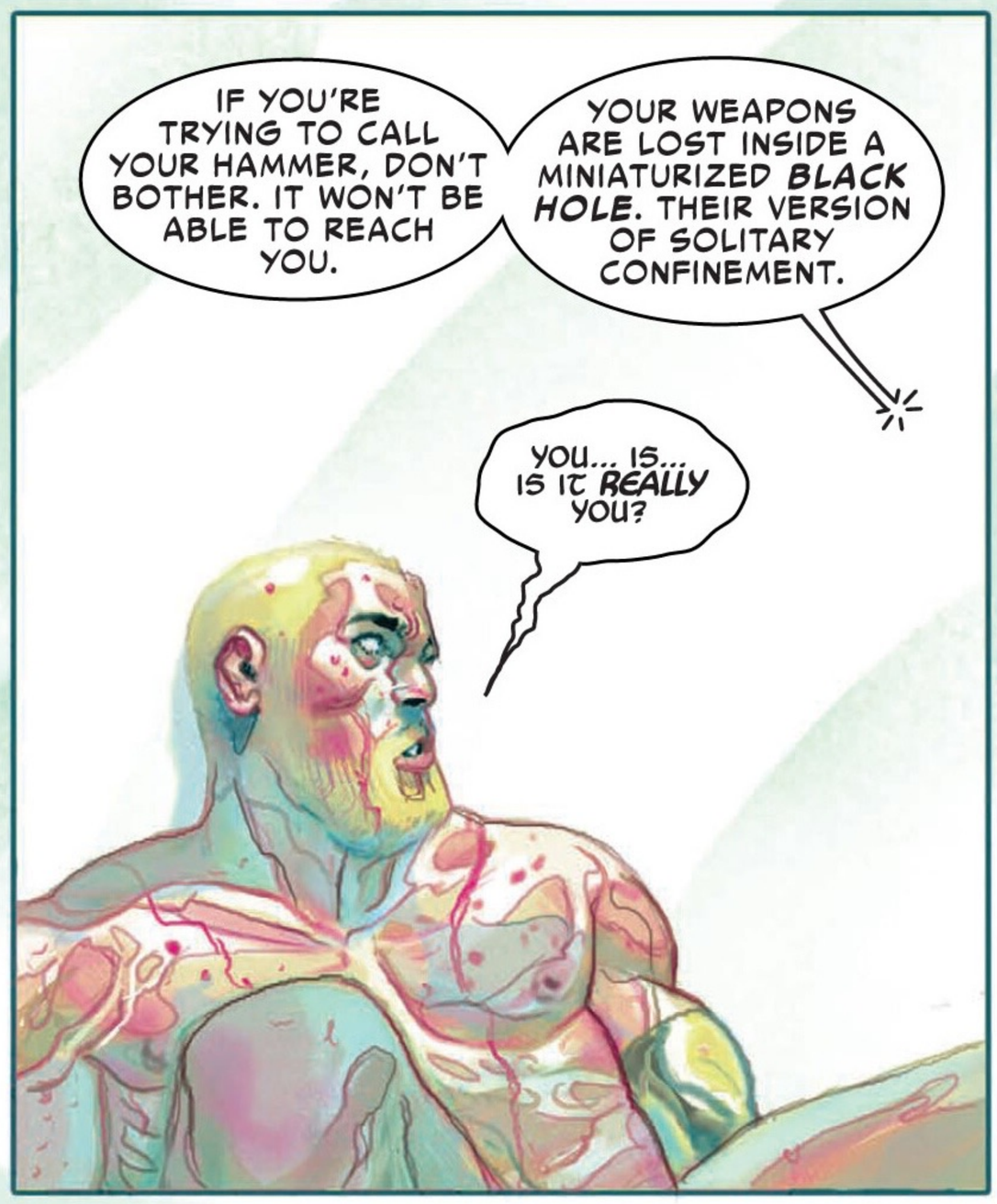
RENOUNCE ASGARD.

WHERE'S YOUR HAMMER?

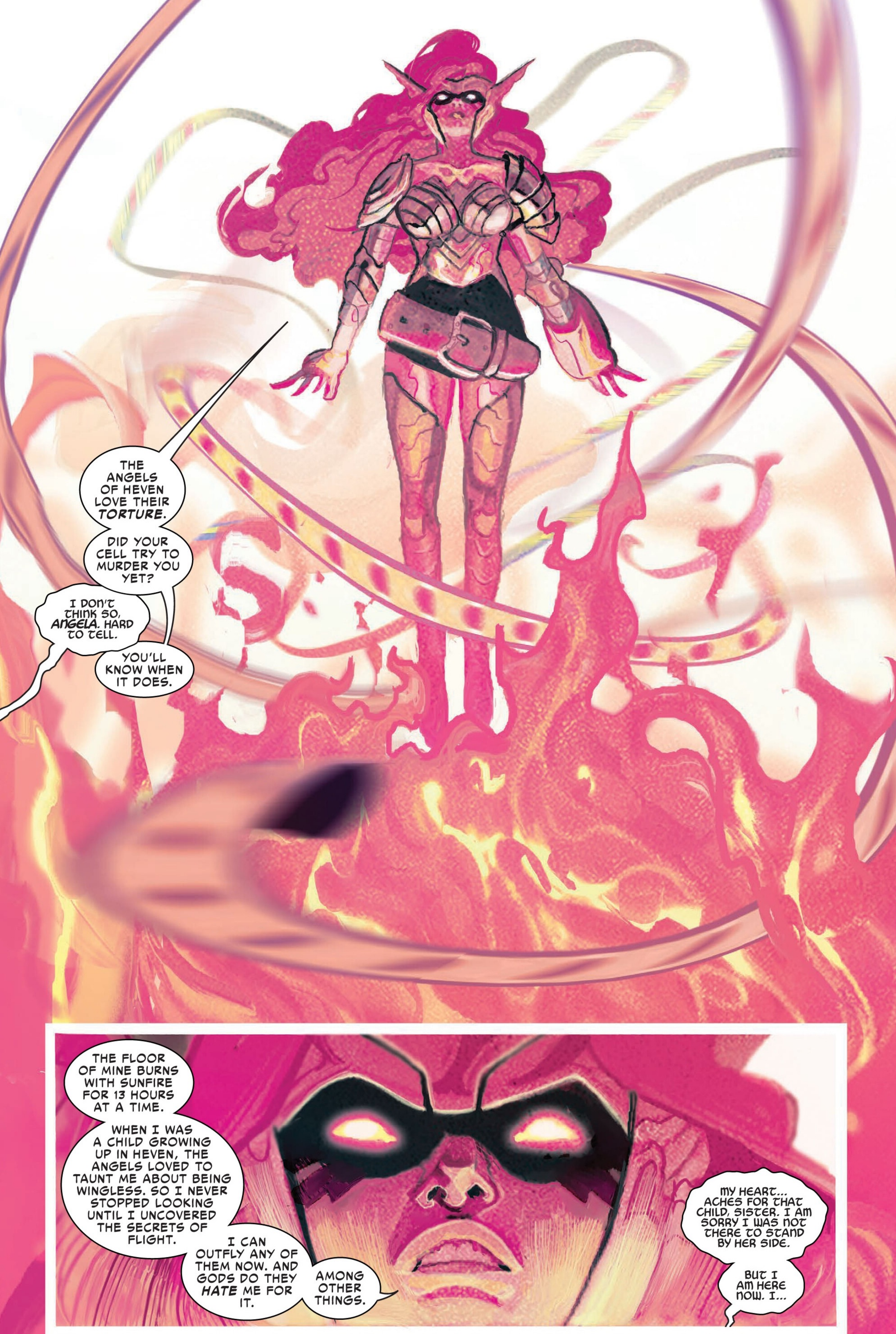
WHERE'S YOUR THUNDER?

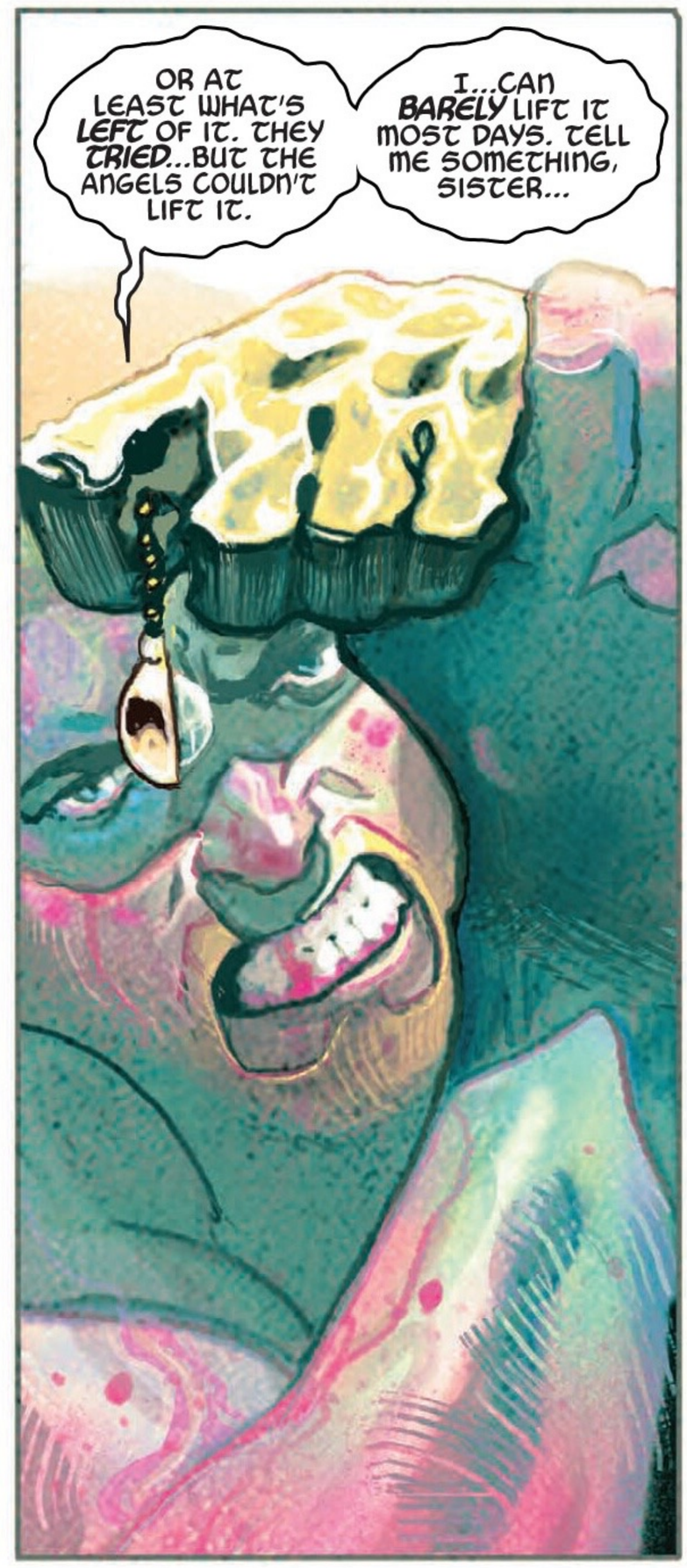
YOU'RE NOT A GOD ANYMORE.


DID THEY KILL YOU YET?
GO AWAY... ANGELS. THOR HAS NOTHING... TO CONFESS.
YET.


IF YOU'RE TRYING TO CALL YOUR HAMMER, DON'T BOTHER. IT WON'T BE ABLE TO REACH YOU.
YOUR WEAPONS ARE LOST INSIDE A MINIATURIZED BLACK HOLE. THEIR VERSION OF SOLITARY CONFINEMENT.
YOU... IS... IS IT REALLY YOU?

SISTER?
THIS PRISON IS THE SIZE OF A PLANET AND, AS NEAR AS I CAN TELL, EMPTY EXCEPT FOR US.
YET THEY PUT US IN CELLS SIDE BY SIDE? WHY WOULD THEY DO THAT?
IF YOU KNEW HEVEN LIKE I DO, BROTHER, IT'D BE OBVIOUS.


THE ANGELS OF HEVEN LOVE THEIR *TORTURE*.
DID YOUR CELL TRY TO MURDER YOU YET?
I DON'T THINK SO, *ANGELA*. HARD TO TELL.
YOU'LL KNOW WHEN IT DOES.
THE FLOOR OF MINE BURNS WITH SUNFIRE FOR 13 HOURS AT A TIME.
WHEN I WAS A CHILD GROWING UP IN HEVEN, THE ANGELS LOVED TO TAUNT ME ABOUT BEING WINGLESS. SO I NEVER STOPPED LOOKING UNTIL I UNCOVERED THE SECRETS OF FLIGHT.
I CAN OUTFLY ANY OF THEM NOW. AND GODS DO THEY *HATE* ME FOR IT.
AMONG OTHER THINGS.
MY HEART... ACHES FOR THAT CHILD, SISTER. I AM SORRY I WAS NOT THERE TO STAND BY HER SIDE.
BUT I AM HERE NOW. I...



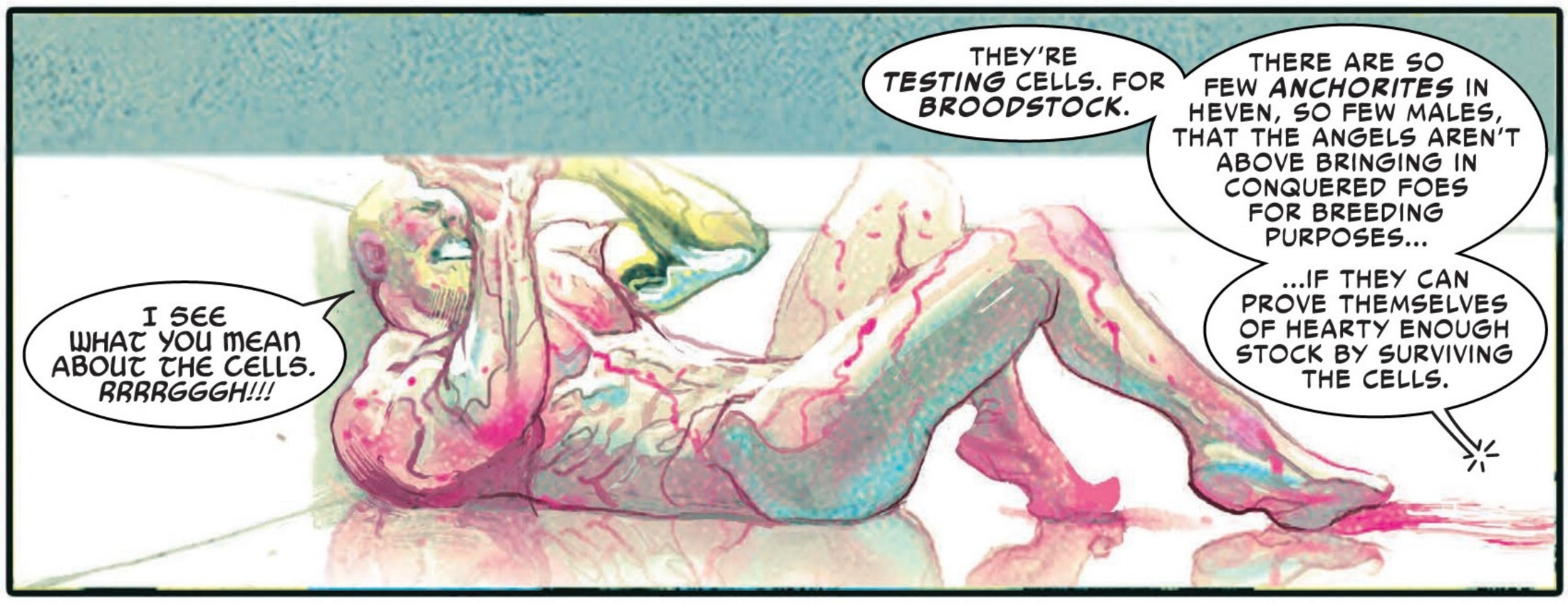
AM I WORTHY?

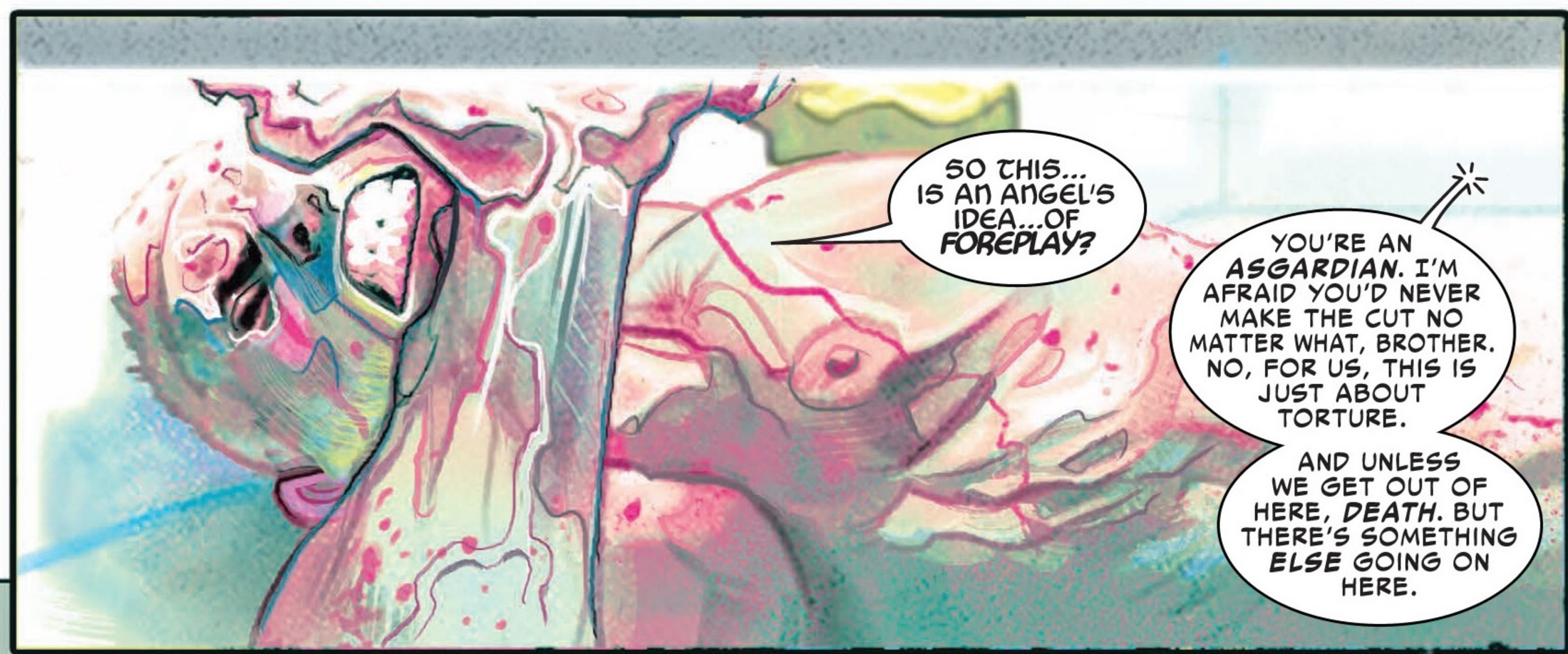
ASK ME THAT QUESTION AGAIN ONCE WE'RE FREE OF THIS PLACE, THOR.

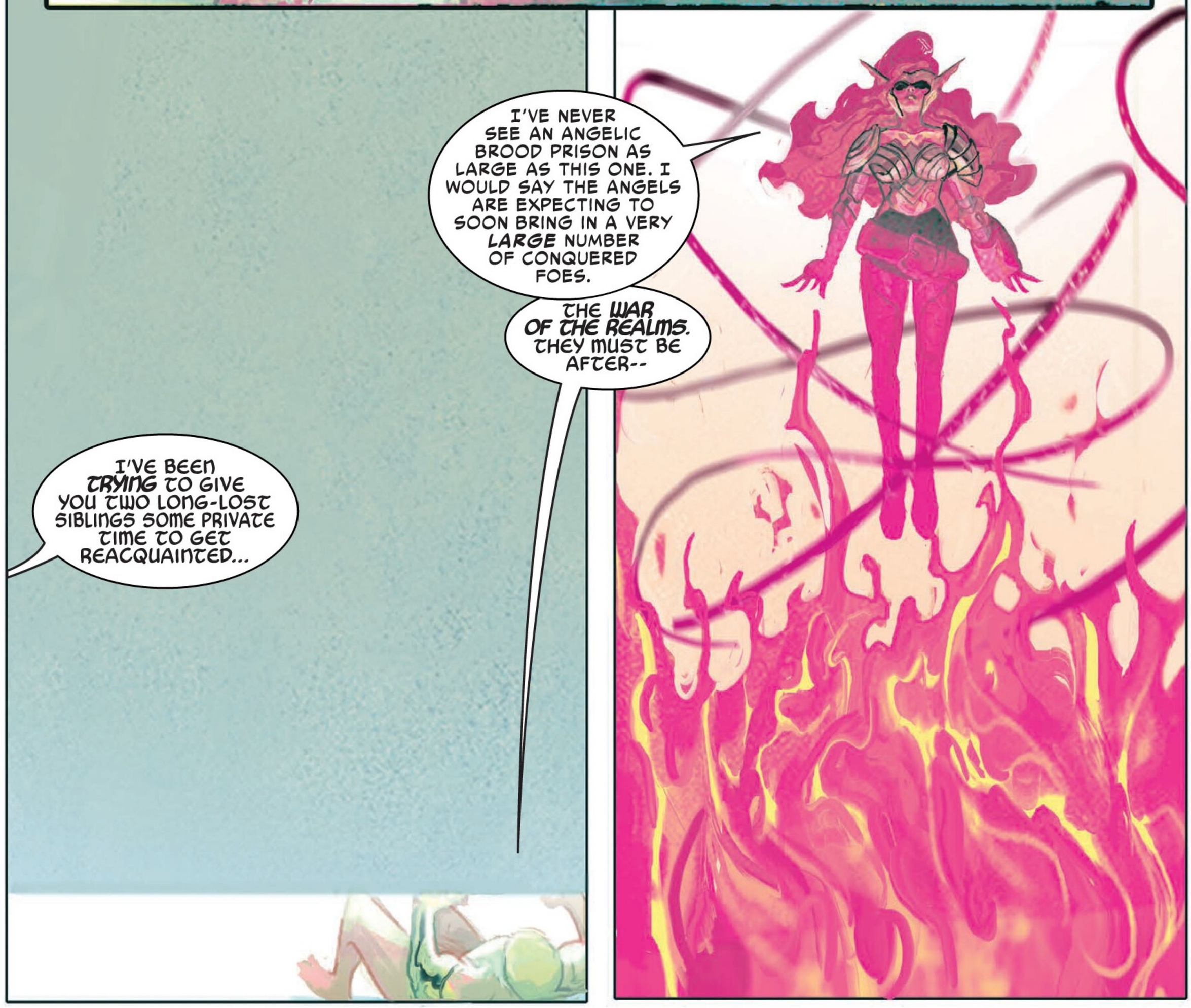
I DO HOPE THERE'S MORE TO THIS ESCAPE PLAN OF YOURS.

YES, THERE'S...

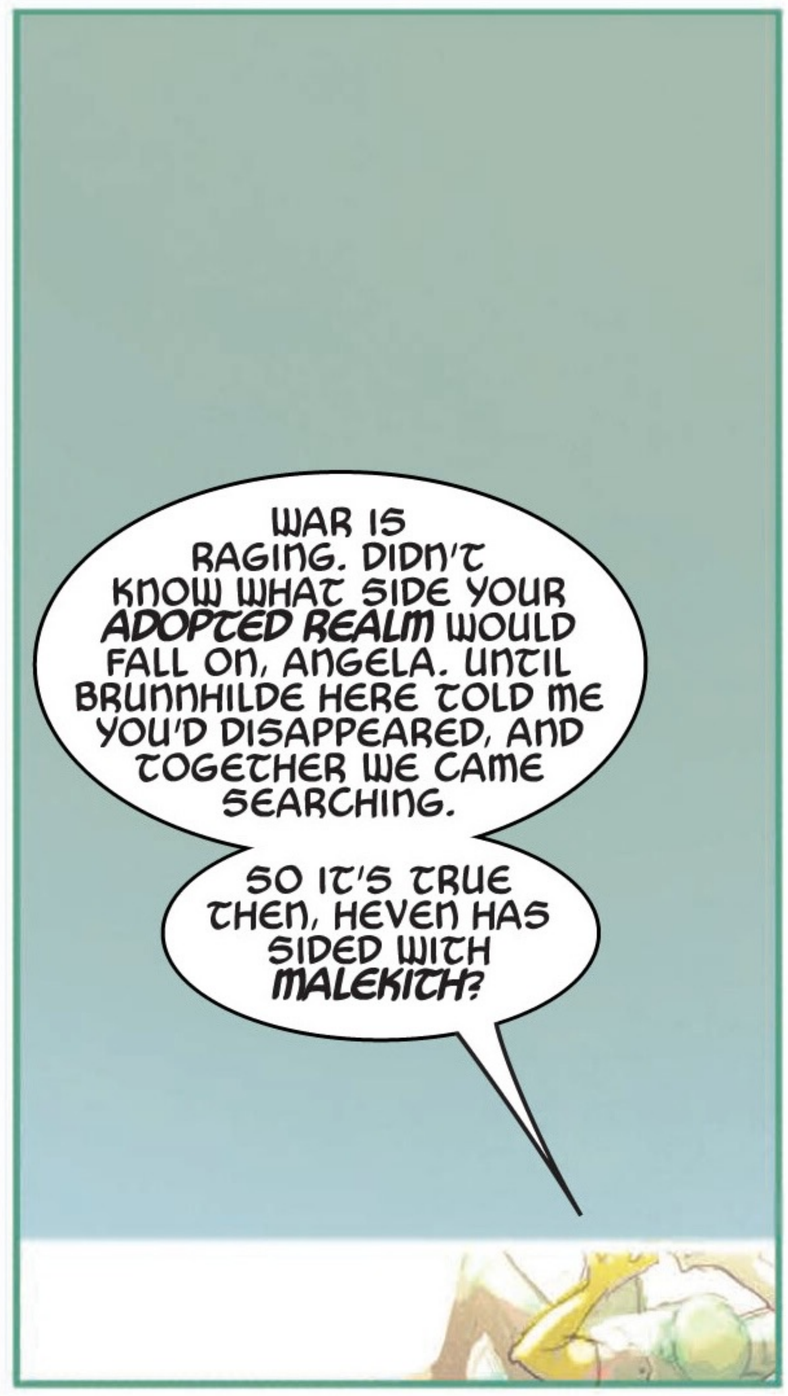
GAGGGHH!!!


I SEE WHAT YOU MEAN ABOUT THE CELLS. RRRRGGGH!!!
THEY'RE TESTING CELLS. FOR BROODSTOCK.
THERE ARE SO FEW ANCHORITES IN HEVEN, SO FEW MALES, THAT THE ANGELS AREN'T ABOVE BRINGING IN CONQUERED FOES FOR BREEDING PURPOSES...
...IF THEY CAN PROVE THEMSELVES OF HEARTY ENOUGH STOCK BY SURVIVING THE CELLS.


SO THIS... IS AN ANGEL'S IDEA...OF FOREPLAY?
YOU'RE AN ASGARDIAN. I'M AFRAID YOU'D NEVER MAKE THE CUT NO MATTER WHAT, BROTHER. NO, FOR US, THIS IS JUST ABOUT TORTURE.
AND UNLESS WE GET OUT OF HERE, DEATH. BUT THERE'S SOMETHING ELSE GOING ON HERE.


I'VE NEVER SEE AN ANGELIC BROOD PRISON AS LARGE AS THIS ONE. I WOULD SAY THE ANGELS ARE EXPECTING TO SOON BRING IN A VERY LARGE NUMBER OF CONQUERED FOES.
THE WAR OF THE REALMS. THEY MUST BE AFTER--
I'VE BEEN TRYING TO GIVE YOU TWO LONG-LOST SIBLINGS SOME PRIVATE TIME TO GET REACQUAINTED...

...BUT DO YOU SUPPOSE WE COULD SKIP TO THE PART WHERE WE BREAK THE HEL OUT OF HERE?
VALKYRIE? I FIGURED THIS WAS YOUR IDEA.
YOU DIDN'T THINK I'D MISS A CHANCE TO PUNCH ANGELS, DID YOU? STILL WAITING ON THAT. INSTEAD I'M DODGING BLADES.


WAR IS RAGING. DIDN'T KNOW WHAT SIDE YOUR ADOPTED REALM WOULD FALL ON, ANGELA. UNTIL BRUNNHILDE HERE TOLD ME YOU'D DISAPPEARED, AND TOGETHER WE CAME SEARCHING.
SO IT'S TRUE THEN, HEVEN HAS SIDED WITH MALEKITH?

I'M AFRAID SO.
THEN AYE, LADIES...

...ANGELS WILL MOST ASSUREDLY BE PUNCHED THIS DAY.
I'VE BEEN TRYING TO BREAK OUT OF HERE FOR DAYS. SO ANY TIME YOU WANT TO UNVEIL THE FULL EXTENT OF THIS GENIUS PLAN OF YOURS...

THE GOD OF THUNDER IS NO FOOL, SISTER. WE DID NOT COME HERE ALONE. BRUNNHILDE AND I BROUGHT BACKUP.
SPLENDID. WHO IS IT? PLEASE SAY SKURGE AND THE DESTROYER AND THE REST OF THE ASGARDIANS OF THE GALAXY.

MY GOAT.
AND MY DOG.
ALSO VALKYRIE'S HORSE.

MY FAMILY IS INSANE.
THERE ARE HUNDREDS OF BATTLE-HARDENED ANGELIC WARRIORS ONBOARD THIS SHIP.
I HATE TO BREAK IT TO YOU, GOD OF THUNDER, BUT YOUR PRECIOUS ANIMALS ARE MOST ASSUREDLY ALREADY DEAD. SO I SUGGEST WE--
THOOOOM

THORI SORRY WE LATE. THORI LOSE TRACK OF TIME WHEN *MURDERING*.

MASTER READY TO *GO* NOW?

AYE, ALMOST, DOG. JUST WAITING ON...ONE LAST THING...

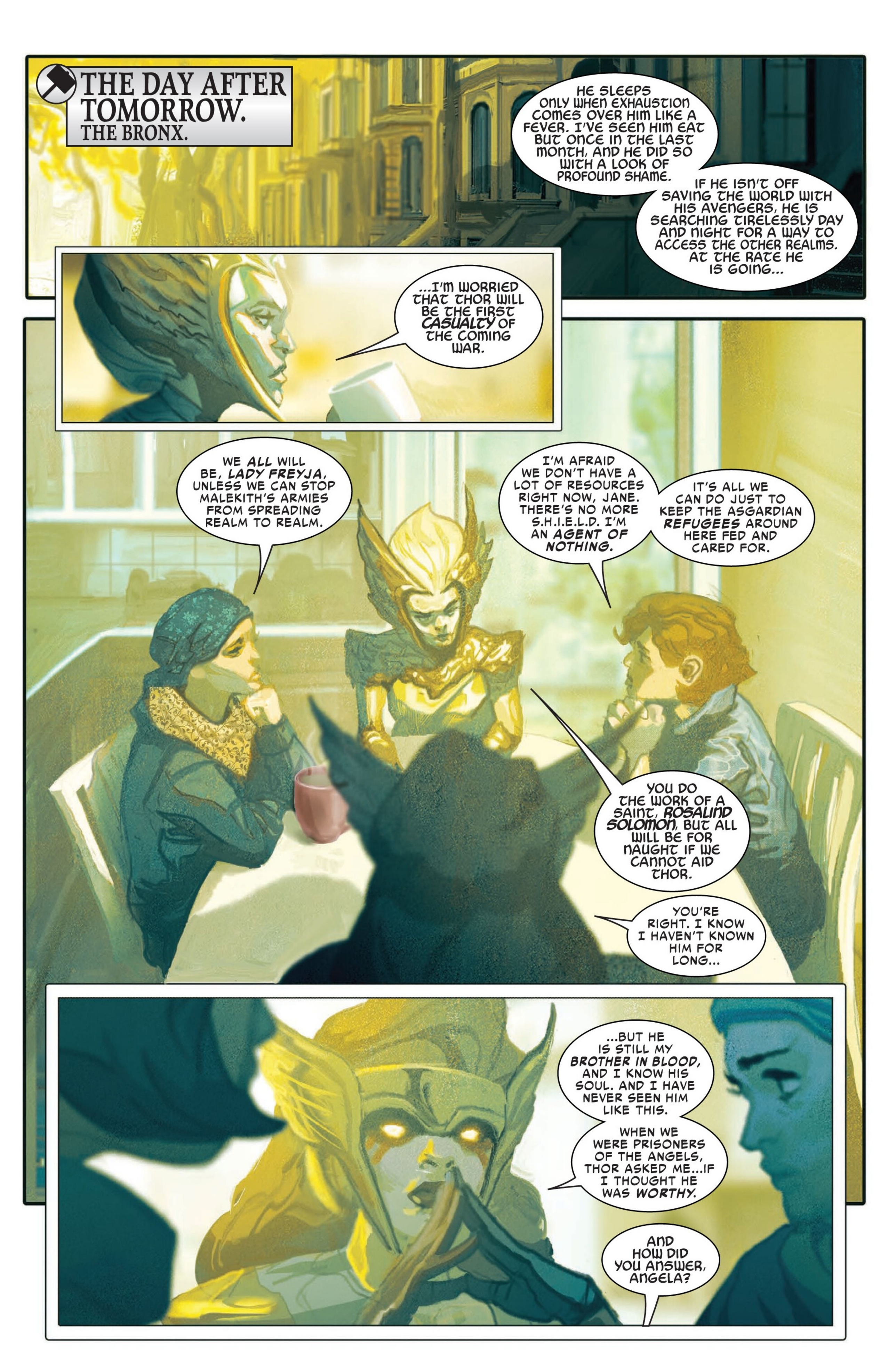
THE GRAVITY WELL IS COMING APART AT THE SEAMS!

SOMETHING JUST CAME FLYING OUT OF IT!

THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE! WHAT IN THE NAME OF HEVEN WAS *IN* THERE?

THERE WAS ONLY ONE *MJOLNIR*, BUT 'TIS NOT ALWAYS THE *HAMMER* THAT IS MOST IMPORTANT...

'TIS THE HAND THAT HOLDS IT.
ALL ANGELS TO ARMS! THE PRISONERS ARE ESCAPING!
NAY! THESE PRISONERS AREN'T GOING ANYWHERE!
NOT UNTIL EVERY ANGEL IN THIS PRISON HAS BEEN SENT STRAIGHT TO HEL!
"I'M WORRIED ABOUT HIM."


THE DAY AFTER TOMORROW.
THE BRONX.
HE SLEEPS ONLY WHEN EXHAUSTION COMES OVER HIM LIKE A FEVER. I'VE SEEN HIM EAT BUT ONCE IN THE LAST MONTH, AND HE DID SO WITH A LOOK OF PROFOUND SHAME.
IF HE ISN'T OFF SAVING THE WORLD WITH HIS AVENGERS, HE IS SEARCHING TIRELESSLY DAY AND NIGHT FOR A WAY TO ACCESS THE OTHER REALMS. AT THE RATE HE IS GOING...
...I'M WORRIED THAT THOR WILL BE THE FIRST CASUALTY OF THE COMING WAR.
WE ALL WILL BE, LADY FREYJA, UNLESS WE CAN STOP MALEKITH'S ARMIES FROM SPREADING REALM TO REALM.
I'M AFRAID WE DON'T HAVE A LOT OF RESOURCES RIGHT NOW, JANE. THERE'S NO MORE S.H.I.E.L.D. I'M AN AGENT OF NOTHING.
IT'S ALL WE CAN DO JUST TO KEEP THE ASGARDIAN REFUGEES AROUND HERE FED AND CARED FOR.
YOU DO THE WORK OF A SAINT, ROSALIND SOLOMON, BUT ALL WILL BE FOR NAUGHT IF WE CANNOT AID THOR.
YOU'RE RIGHT. I KNOW I HAVEN'T KNOWN HIM FOR LONG...
...BUT HE IS STILL MY BROTHER IN BLOOD, AND I KNOW HIS SOUL. AND I HAVE NEVER SEEN HIM LIKE THIS.
WHEN WE WERE PRISONERS OF THE ANGELS, THOR ASKED ME...IF I THOUGHT HE WAS WORTHY.
AND HOW DID YOU ANSWER, ANGELA?

"I'M AFRAID... I DIDN'T.
"NOT JUST YET. WE STILL HAD MUCH WORK TO DO. WE WERE FOCUSED ON ESCAPING THE PRISON OF ANGELS.
"THE PRISON WAS A MASSIVE SPACE VESSEL, OVERFLOWING WITH THE WARRIORS OF HEVEN. ANGELS WHO WERE NO STRANGER TO WARFARE AND SLAUGHTER.
"HE TORE THROUGH THEM LIKE A THUNDERSTORM FULL OF BARBED WIRE. I HAD NEVER SEEN ANYTHING LIKE IT.
"AND NEITHER HAD THEY.
I WOULD ASK YOU TO YIELD, ANGELS OF HEVEN, BUT THERE ARE NO DUNGEONS LEFT IN THE RUINS OF ASGARD. SO I AM NOT HERE TO TAKE PRISONERS THIS DAY.

I AM HERE FOR ANSWERS. AND YOU WILL GIVE THEM TO MY HAMMER HERE.

HOW IS MALEKITH MOVING HIS FORCES BETWEEN THE REALMS?!

AND WHERE ARE HIS ARMIES HEADED NEXT?!

SPEAK, ANGELS!

YOU'RE WASTING YOUR TIME, BROTHER. THESE HARPIES WOULD SWALLOW THEIR OWN TONGUES BEFORE THEY'D GIVE YOU ANSWERS.

NO MATTER HOW MUCH YOU THREATEN THEM, THEY'LL STILL BE MORE FRIGHTENED OF BETRAYING THEIR QUEEN AND THEIR REALM.

YOU'RE RIGHT, THOUGH. WE'RE IN NO POSITION TO TAKE PRISONERS. YET WE CAN'T JUST LET THESE WINGED SADISTS FLY FREE. SO WHAT DO WE DO WITH THEM?

THOR?

WE HAVE A PRISON, VALKYRIE. RIGHT HERE.

AND IF THESE ANGELS DO NOT FEAR MY HAMMER...

...THEN LET THEM SPEND ETERNITY BY ITS SIDE!

"HE FASTENED THE ENTIRE SHIP TO ONE OF HIS HAMMERS AND SENT IT FLYING INTO THE DEPTHS OF SPACE.
"ANGELS TRAPPED FOREVER IN THEIR OWN PRISON. I MUST SAY, IN THAT MOMENT...
"...MY BROTHER FELT LIKE A TRUE SON OF *ODIN*."
BROTHER. YOU ASKED ME A QUESTION EARLIER. I WOULD ANSWER IT NOW.
YOU ASKED IF YOU WERE WORTHY.
I WOULD LIKE TO TELL YOU YES. BUT I'M AFRAID I AM TOO SCARRED TO EVER BE THE ARBITER OF SUCH THINGS.
I AM NOT WORTHY OF CALLING YOU WORTHY, I SUPPOSE YOU COULD SAY. I CAN ONLY TELL YOU THIS:
YOU ARE THE BEATING HEART OF THE REALMS, THOR ODINSON. NOT JUST FOR ASGARD. FOR *ALL* OF THEM, WHETHER THEY WANT TO ADMIT IT OR NOT.
WITHOUT YOU, THE SKIES WOULD BE SILENT AND YGGDRASIL WOULD BE NOTHING BUT A GALLOWS HUNG WITH DEAD WORLDS. SO IF *YOU* ARE NOT WORTHY, BROTHER...
"...THEN WHAT THE HEL HOPE DO ANY OF THE REST OF US HAVE?"
AND WHAT DID THOR SAY TO THAT?
WHAT HE USUALLY SAYS, FREYJA.

KRAKAKOOOM
"SO DOES ANYONE HAVE THE FAINTEST IDEA... WHERE MY SON IS AT THIS MOMENT?"
SO MANY HAMMERS.
BUT NONE OF THEM ARE YOU.
NONE OF THEM TELL ME WHAT TO DO.
OF COURSE, ALL-MOTHER, WE'VE GOT TO HELP THOR, BUT HE'S RIGHT TO BE WORRIED. THIS WAR WILL BE THE END OF US ALL.
AND I HAVE NO IDEA HOW TO BEGIN EVEN PREPARING TO--
KNOCK KNOCK
HOLD ON, I'M COMING.

OH. UM. HELLO?
ROSALIND SOLOMON. I AM THE BLACK PANTHER, CHAIRMAN OF THE AVENGERS. THIS IS MY COMRADE, OKOYE.
WE WERE WONDERING IF YOU'D BE INTERESTED IN A NEW LINE OF WORK.
YOU ONCE WERE AN AGENT OF S.H.I.E.L.D.
HOW DOES AGENT OF WAKANDA SOUND?

THOR #9

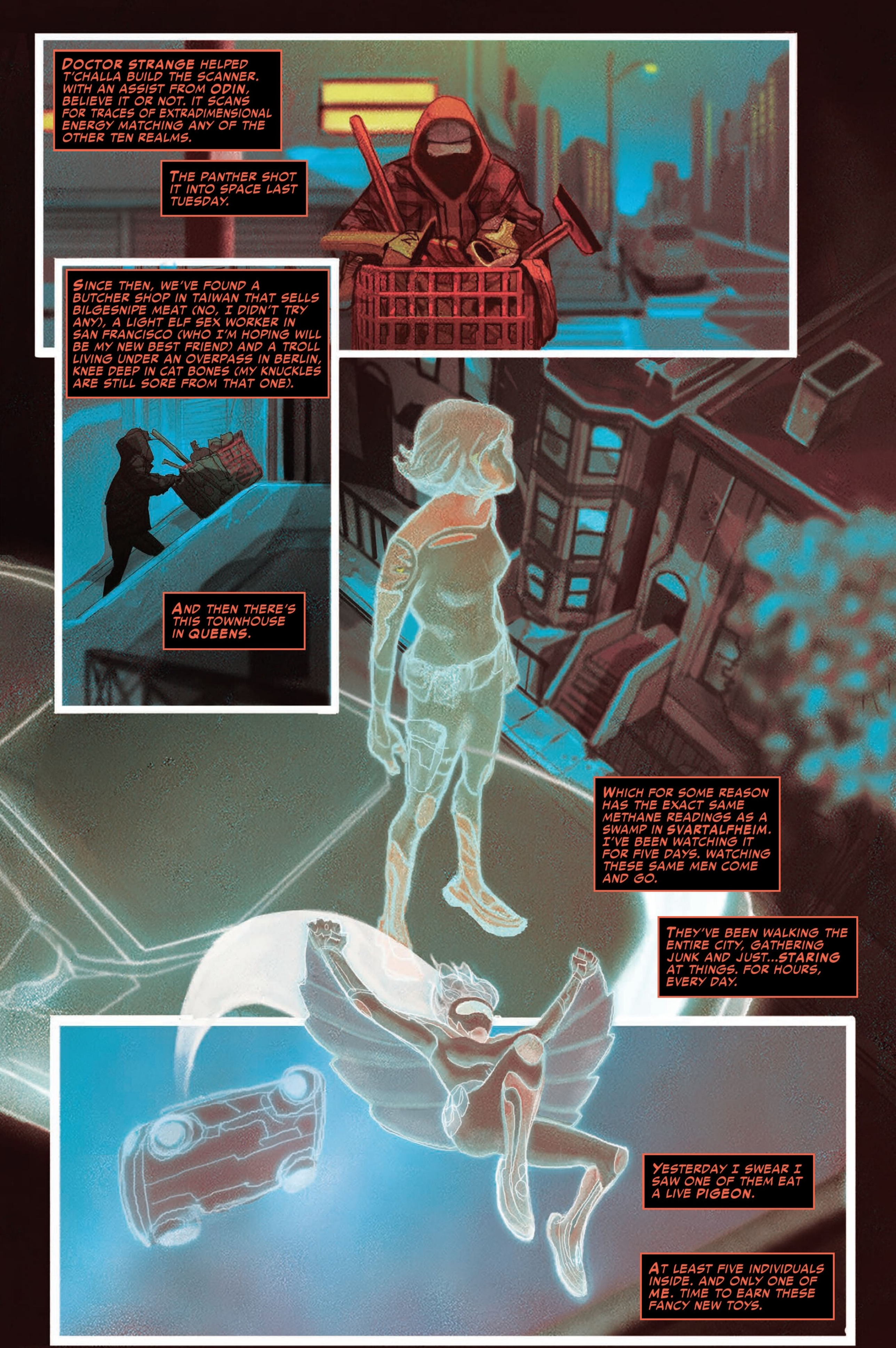
The Woman with the Vibranium Gun

NOT A DAY GOES BY I DON'T THINK ABOUT BROXTON.
WHAT THE HELL DO YOU WANT?
DO YOU REMEMBER CALLING ME THE OTHER NIGHT, DARIO?
NO.
I'M NOT SURPRISED. YOU SOUNDED QUITE EXCEPTIONALLY DRUNK.
I'VE BEEN UNDER HOUSE ARREST FOR TWO WEEKS. THERE ISN'T MUCH ELSE TO DO AROUND HERE.
OH CRY ME A RIVER. YOUR HOUSE IS THE SIZE OF DISNEYLAND. I GOT LOST THREE TIMES SNEAKING IN HERE.
WELL FEEL FREE TO GET LOST AGAIN.
YOU CALLED ME. I CAN PLAY IT BACK FOR YOU, IF YOU'D LIKE? IT'S PROBABLY BEEN A LONG TIME SINCE YOU'VE HEARD YOURSELF CRY.
WHAT CAN I SAY, I AM DEEPLY MOVED BY REALLY GOOD SCOTCH.
I THINK YOU DRINK BECAUSE YOU WANT TO DROWN IT OUT-- THAT SQUEAKY LITTLE VOICE YOU DIDN'T EVEN KNOW WAS STILL IN THERE. WHO WOULD'VE GUESSED THAT DARIO AGGER HAS A CONSCIENCE.
YOU WOULDN'T SAY THAT IF YOU COULD'VE SEEN WHAT I DID TO MY LAWYERS AFTER THEY FAILED TO GET THESE RIDICULOUS CHARGES THROWN OUT.
DARIO AGGER.
C.E.O. OF THE ROXXON ENERGY CORPORATION.
RIGHT. UNION ORGANIZERS IN COLOMBIA GORED BY A BULL. IN THEIR BEDS. THAT DEFINITELY DOESN'T SOUND LIKE YOU.
I'LL BEAT IT. JUST LIKE I BEAT EVERY TRUMPED-UP CHARGE YOU EVER THREW AT ME, BACK WHEN YOU STILL SORT OF MATTERED.
I OUTLASTED YOUR PRECIOUS S.H.I.E.L.D.--ROXXON AND I WILL OUTLAST YOU ALL.
THAT'S NOT WHAT YOU SAID WHEN YOU CALLED ME LAST NIGHT. YOU BEGGED ME TO HELP YOU. HELP YOU STOP IT.
I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT. GET THE HELL OUT OF MY HOUSE BEFORE I HAVE YOU DRAGGED OUT BY SOMEONE WHOSE GUN AND BADGE HASN'T BECOME UTTERLY USELESS, LIKE YOURS.
STOP WHAT, DARIO? WHAT HAVE YOU DONE?
YOU'RE RIGHT, DARIO, YOU OUTLASTED S.H.I.E.L.D., BUT HERE'S THE THING...

...SO DID I.
TURNS OUT THERE ARE OTHER GUNS AND BADGES IN THE WORLD.
AND BOY, JUST WAIT'LL YOU SEE WHAT THIS ONE CAN DO.
ROZ SOLOMON. FORMER AGENT OF S.H.I.E.L.D.
BEFORE BROXTON, I WAS AN ENVIRONMENTALIST. THE NIGHT IT FELL...
...I BECAME SOMETHING ELSE.
S.H.I.E.L.D. IS DEAD. DESERVEDLY SO, MANY WOULD SAY. AND DEAD IT SHALL REMAIN.
HERE WE ARE NOT LOOKING TO RECREATE THE BUREAUCRATIC FOLLIES OF THE PAST.
DAYS EARLIER. WAKANDA.
OUR AGENTS WILL NOT BE THE POLICEMEN OF THE WORLD. AND OUR ORGANIZATION WILL NOT BE INFILTRATED OR MISUSED ON A DAILY BASIS.
NOT SO LONG AS I AM ALIVE AND STILL CAPABLE OF SWINGING A STICK.
FORGET EVERYTHING YOU EVER LEARNED FROM S.H.I.E.L.D.--THIS IS SOMETHING ENTIRELY NEW.
WELCOME TO THE AGENTS OF WAKANDA.
OKOYE. LEADER OF THE DORA MILAJE.

KING T'CHALLA IS NOW CHAIRMAN OF THE AVENGERS--MUCH TO THE CHAGRIN OF MANY OTHER HEADS OF STATE--WHICH LEAVES EARTH'S MIGHTIEST HEROES WITHOUT ACCESS TO MANY OF THEIR ALLIES FROM THE PAST.
IN ORDER TO PROTECT A WORLD THAT SEEMS DETERMINED TO TEAR ITSELF APART IN AN EVER-INCREASING VARIETY OF WAYS, THE AVENGERS WILL REQUIRE AN ENTIRELY NEW SUPPORT STAFF.
A NETWORK OF HIGHLY SKILLED COVERT AGENTS, WITH A GLOBAL AND INTERGALACTIC REACH, DEVOTED TO INTELLIGENCE GATHERING, SUPER-ESPIONAGE AND SPECIAL MISSIONS OF AN UNPARALLELED NATURE.
IF THE AVENGERS ARE THE HAMMER, THE AGENTS OF WAKANDA WILL BE THE HAND THAT HOLDS THE NAIL.
HI.
SORRY ABOUT THE MESS IN THE BREAKROOM, BOSS.
KA-ZAR AND GORILLA-MAN HAVE ALREADY JOINED THE RANKS. (THEY WERE T'CHALLA'S CHOICES.)
OUR AGENTS MUST BE ABLE TO WORK ALONE AND UNDETECTED IN THE MOST INHOSPITABLE REGIONS IN EXISTENCE. ATLANTIS. SUBTERRANEA. THE NEGATIVE ZONE. THE MICROVERSE. HELL ITSELF, IF NEED BE.
FOR THIS TASK, YOU WILL HAVE THE MANY RESOURCES OF WAKANDA AT YOUR DISPOSAL. INCLUDING ITS MOST PRECIOUS ONE.
WHOA. IS THAT REALLY...
A GUN THAT FIRES VIBRANIUM BULLETS? YES, IT IS.
WE HAVE EVERY STYLE OF WEAPON YOU CAN IMAGINE IN THIS ARMORY. BUT YOU'RE AN AMERICAN, SO I ASSUME YOU'VE BEEN HANDLING ONE OF THESE SINCE GRAMMAR SCHOOL.
USE THE BULLETS SPARINGLY. AND RETRIEVE THEM WHENEVER POSSIBLE.
YOU'RE JOKING?
IN WAKANDA WE NEVER JOKE ABOUT VIBRANIUM.

THERE'S ALSO VIBRANIUM IN YOUR BOOTS AND GLOVES, AND YOUR JUMPSUIT IS BASED ON T'CHALLA'S OWN PANTHER SUIT TECHNOLOGY, ALREADY TAILORED TO YOUR DNA.
UH. AND HOW DO YOU HAVE MY DNA?
OUR BACKGROUND CHECKS ARE QUITE EXTENSIVE. YOU SHOULD SEE ABOUT GETTING MORE FIBER IN YOUR DIET.
OVER HERE, YOU'LL FIND THE OFFICE FROM WHICH YOU'LL BE WORKING--
--AN ALL-TERRAIN MOBILE COMMAND POST MORE TECHNOLOGICALLY ADVANCED THAN THE ROCKETS THAT HAVE TAKEN MEN TO OTHER PLANETS. IT ALSO COMES IN GREEN.
PLEASE TELL ME IT FLIES.
OF COURSE IT FLIES. AND YOU'LL FIND ITS HANDLING A VAST IMPROVEMENT ON THOSE ANTIQUATED S.H.I.E.L.D. MODELS.
WOW. I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY. I'M REALLY FLATTERED YOU GUYS THOUGHT OF ME FOR THIS.
YOU UNDERSTAND WE ARE ASKING YOU TO RISK YOUR LIFE IN THE MOST LUDICROUS WAYS IMAGINABLE ON A NO-DOUBT DAILY BASIS.
DURING YOUR TIME WITH S.H.I.E.L.D., YOU WERE PREDOMINANTLY AN ENVIRONMENTALIST. IF YOU CHOOSE TO ACCEPT THIS POSITION, YOU WILL BE ENTERING AN ENTIRELY NEW WORLD OF DANGER.
YOU'RE KIDDING, RIGHT? I DATED THOR AND LIVED.
WHEN DO I START?


DOCTOR STRANGE HELPED T'CHALLA BUILD THE SCANNER. WITH AN ASSIST FROM ODIN, BELIEVE IT OR NOT. IT SCANS FOR TRACES OF EXTRADIMENSIONAL ENERGY MATCHING ANY OF THE OTHER TEN REALMS.
THE PANTHER SHOT IT INTO SPACE LAST TUESDAY.
SINCE THEN, WE'VE FOUND A BUTCHER SHOP IN TAIWAN THAT SELLS BILGESNIPE MEAT (NO, I DIDN'T TRY ANY), A LIGHT ELF SEX WORKER IN SAN FRANCISCO (WHO I'M HOPING WILL BE MY NEW BEST FRIEND) AND A TROLL LIVING UNDER AN OVERPASS IN BERLIN, KNEE DEEP IN CAT BONES (MY KNUCKLES ARE STILL SORE FROM THAT ONE).
AND THEN THERE'S THIS TOWNHOUSE IN QUEENS.
WHICH FOR SOME REASON HAS THE EXACT SAME METHANE READINGS AS A SWAMP IN SVARTALFHEIM. I'VE BEEN WATCHING IT FOR FIVE DAYS. WATCHING THESE SAME MEN COME AND GO.
THEY'VE BEEN WALKING THE ENTIRE CITY, GATHERING JUNK AND JUST...STARING AT THINGS. FOR HOURS, EVERY DAY.
YESTERDAY I SWEAR I SAW ONE OF THEM EAT A LIVE PIGEON.
AT LEAST FIVE INDIVIDUALS INSIDE. AND ONLY ONE OF ME. TIME TO EARN THESE FANCY NEW TOYS.

WHOA. WAVE OF NAUSEA HITS ME AS I CLIMB THROUGH THE WINDOW. PANTHER TECH BEEPS IN MY EARS, TELLING ME I JUST CROSSED SOME SORT OF MAGICAL THRESHOLD.
GUESS THAT EXPLAINS WHY THE PLACE IS AS BIG AS AN AIRPLANE HANGAR ON THE INSIDE.
THEIR RENT MUST BE INSANE. EVEN FOR ASTORIA.
DON'T THINK THEY'RE GETTING THEIR SECURITY DEPOSIT BACK, THOUGH.
DARK ELVES. THE CREEPIEST CREEPS IN ALL THE TEN REALMS. MALEKITH'S BOYS.
THERE'S A WAR GOING ON OUTSIDE...
Yummy Circles
THEY'RE BUILDING A MAP OF MANHATTAN. LOOKING TO LAUNCH TERRORIST ATTACKS, MAYBE.
OR LAY THE GROUNDWORK FOR A FULL-SCALE INVASION. FOR MALEKITH'S BELOVED WAR OF THE REALMS.
FISH
BAKE IT
Chooowee!
THIS IS EXACTLY WHY I HAVE THIS JOB. TO GET THE INTEL, THEN CALL IN THE BIG GUNS.
A DARK ELF TERRORIST CELL IN NEW YORK CITY? I'D SAY THAT WARRANTS THE ATTENTION OF THE AVENGERS.
SO WHY AM I NOT MAKING THE CALL?

DAMN. I DATED THOR LONG ENOUGH TO KNOW A BIFROST WHEN I SEE ONE.
BUT THIS ONE'S NO RAINBOW BRIDGE.
AND IT DEFINITELY DOESN'T LEAD TO ASGARD.

BOOM!
BOOM!
BOOM!
MY JOB!
GAGGH!!!
KILL HER!

BOOM!
BOOM!
RRRRGHH!!!
ALSO, DID YOU KNOW FROST GIANTS HAVE REALLY BIG EYES AND ARE GREAT AT SEEING? EVEN THINGS THAT ARE SUPPOSED TO BE CLOAKED AND INVISIBLE?
YOU'RE FIGHTING A FROST GIANT ON YOUR OWN? ARE YOU INSANE?!
I'M BLOWING HOLES IN IT THE SIZE OF MY BATHROOM, BUT IT JUST...
...SPITS ON THEM AND KEEPS GOING.
WOOOOOOP
IF IT WEREN'T SO GROSS I'D BE TOTALLY IMPRESSED!
ARE ALL ICE GIANTS THIS TOUGH?
YES! THAT'S WHY YOU NEED A MAGIC HAMMER TO FIGHT THEM!
I HAVE VIBRANIUM BOOTS! HOW DO YOU BEAT THEM WITH THAT?
YOU BEAT A FROST GIANT BY DOING THE SMART THING, ROZ!
YOU CALL THOR! YOU CALL HIM RIGHT NOW!
YEAH. ABOUT THAT...

DAYS EARLIER.
AVENGERS MOUNTAIN.

IN ADDITION TO WAKANDA, YOU'LL ALSO BE ABLE TO OPERATE OUT OF THE AVENGERS HEADQUARTERS WHEN NEEDED--

--WHICH IS CONNECTED BY *CELESTIAL TELEPORTATION* TO VARIOUS SPOTS ACROSS THE GLOBE.

YOU MAY SET UP *LIVING QUARTERS* HERE IF YOU LIKE, AMONG THE AVENGERS.

YEAH, I'M NOT SURE THAT'S SUCH A GREAT...

MEAD
HULK TIME NOW.
THOR BE BUSY FOR WHILE.

UM, SURE, JENNIFER. I DIDN'T MEAN TO--
FOR TRAINING. LOTS OF TRAINING.
RIGHT, I REALLY DON'T NEED TO KNOW ANY--
LOUD TRAINING. VERY LOUD.
OKAY, I'M GONNA GO NOW.

NO MATTER WHAT HEAR, NO COME INSIDE.

HULK SMASH!
HA, IS IT TRAINING TIME ALREADY? SMASH AWAY, MY LADY!
I REMEMBER THE FACES FROM THAT LAST NIGHT IN BROXTON. EVERY ONE OF THEM. LOOKING UP AT ME WITH SHOCK AND HORROR.

BUT NO ONE WAS MORE SHOCKED OR HORRIFIED THAN ME.
AS I SHOT AND KILLED THEM ALL.
HA HA HAA HAA!

GRRRAGH!
I DON'T CARE IF IT'S AWKWARD WITH YOUR EX-BOYFRIEND! DYING WILL BE EVEN MORE AWKWARD! CALL THOR!
I CAN'T, JANE. YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND.
STOMP!
TO HELL WITH YOUR PRIDE, ROZ! I'LL CALL HIM MYSELF!
BLAOW!
JANE...THERE'S SOMETHING I WANT YOU TO KNOW. IN CASE THIS IS THE LAST TIME WE TALK.
DON'T SAY THAT, ROZ! THOR'S MOTHER HAS A SUMMONING STONE! I'M GONNA GET HER TO--
I COULDN'T LIFT IT.
YOUR MJOLNIR.
I TRIED, WHEN IT WAS SITTING ON THE MOON. BEFORE YOU PICKED IT UP. I TRIED AND I COULDN'T.
I'M NOT WORTHY, JANE. I'M NOT YOU.
NO ONE COULD LIFT THE DAMN HAMMER! NOT EVEN THOR! WHO CARES ABOUT THAT RIGHT NOW?!
KACKSHW!
I CARE, BECAUSE THIS IS ALL I HAVE. AND IF I CAN'T EVEN DO THIS ON MY OWN, THEN WHAT THE HELL AM I--
GUUGHK!

ROZ!
OH HELL. NOT TROLLS. NOT AGAIN.
WHAT THE HEL HAVE WE HERE?
SHE'S A SPY. KILL HER.
MALEKITH WILL WANT HER ALIVE. FOR A LITTLE WHILE AT LEAST.
I KNOW THIS FACE. I'VE SEEN IT BEFORE. THIS...HOLY STONES...
THIS IS ROZ SOLOMON, THE TROLL SLAYER OF BROXTON.
YOU KILLED MY BROTHER, YOU HUMAN GARBAGE.
I'M GONNA GRIND YOUR FACE-FLESH BETWEEN MY BACK TEE--
BOOM!
BROXTON, OKLAHOMA, WAS WHERE THE GODS USED TO LIVE.

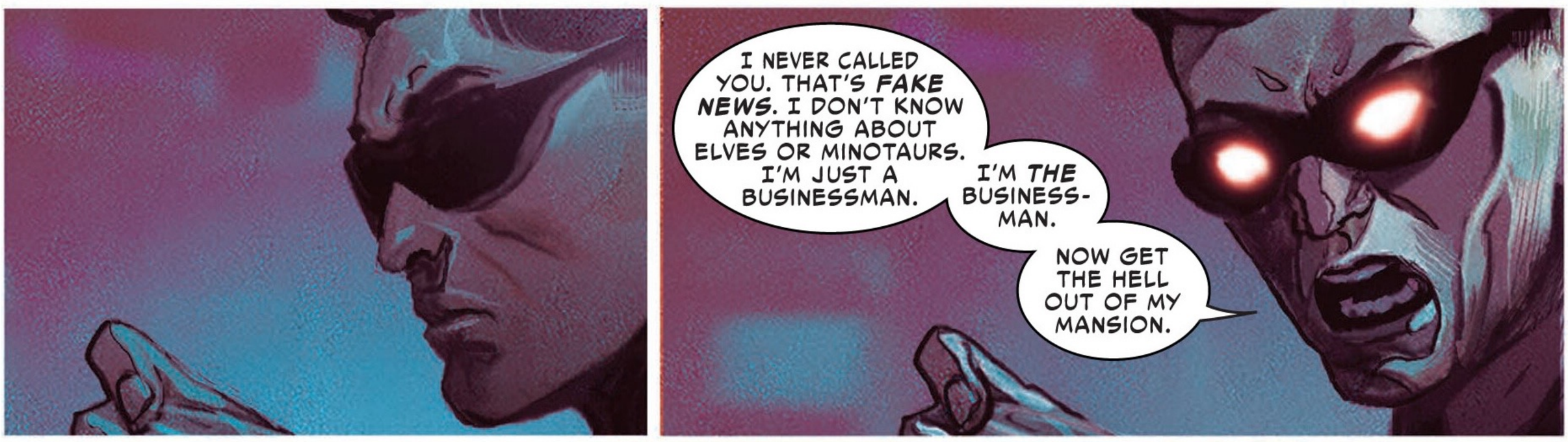
YOINK!
IT WAS WHERE I USED TO SIT AND HAVE COFFEE WITH THOR. WHERE I KISSED HIM FOR THE FIRST TIME.
IT WAS WHERE I FIRST FIRED A GUN.
PEW! PEW! PEW!
KABOOM!
KABOOM!
OUR COVER'S BLOWN! TORCH THE BUILDING! CALL THE BLACK BIFROST!
THE NIGHT BROXTON FELL, IT WAS OVERRUN BY TROLLS. I WAS ON THE GROUND AS AN AGENT OF S.H.I.E.L.D.
YOU'RE NOT GONNA MAKE IT TO SVARTALFHEIM-- EXCEPT IN MY BELLY, YOU...
THE LUT.
WHAT? WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?
I DID MY JOB. I SAVED THE GOOD PEOPLE OF BROXTON.
THE LUT.
WHAT THE...
I SHOT AND KILLED 17 TROLLS.
THEY GAVE ME A RAISE FOR IT.

THE LUT DESERT.
IRAN.
CELESTIAL TECH BUILT INTO THE CAR. A ONE-WAY TELEPORTATION CHARGE.
I JUST TRANSPORTED US TO THE HOTTEST PLACE ON THE FACE OF THE EARTH--
BLAM
ARGH!
--AND NOW I HAVE QUESTIONS.
YOU SHOT ME!
AND YOU'RE GOING TO ANSWER THEM.
OR YOU'RE GOING TO DIE, RIGHT HERE IN FRONT OF ME, BIG GUY.
ALREADY SHOT ME FULL OF HOLES. CAN'T KILL ME WITH YOUR LITTLE GUN.
OH I IMAGINE I COULD. BUT I WON'T HAVE TO.
IT'S 150 DEGREES RIGHT NOW. AND YOU'RE NOT WEARING A WAKANDAN SUPER-SUIT.
START TALKING. WHILE YOU STILL CAN.

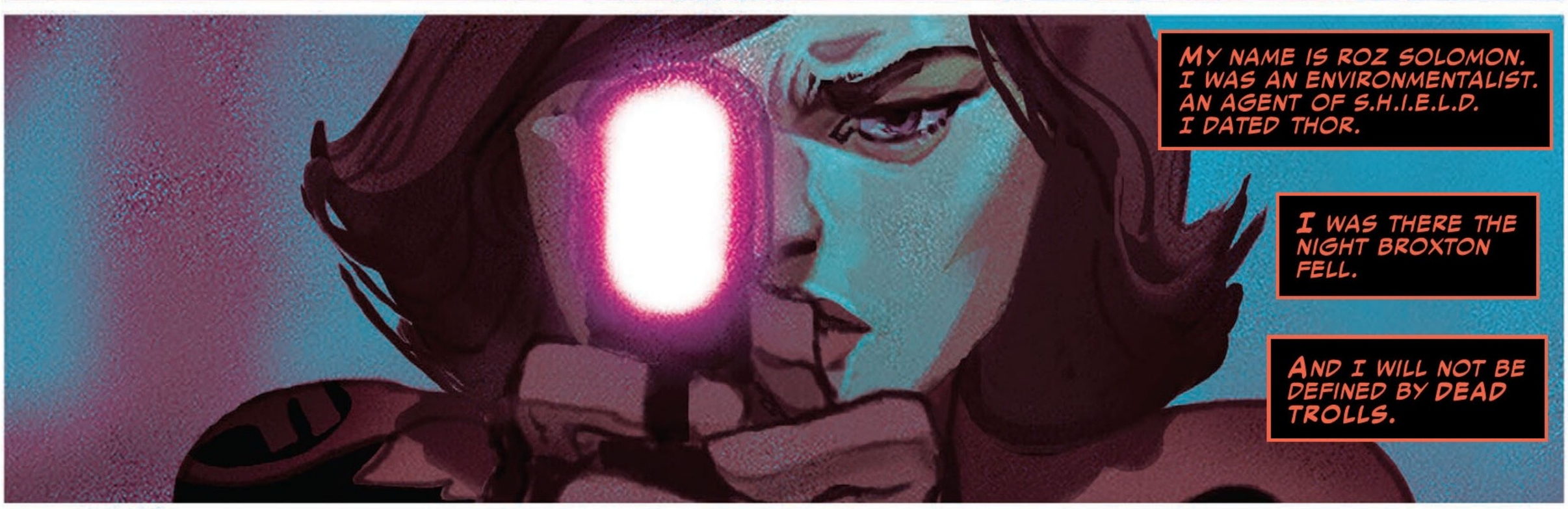
A SHORT TIME LATER.
MALEKITH BUILT HIS OWN BIFROST.
THAT'S HOW HE'S MOVING BETWEEN THE REALMS. AND THE NEXT STEP IS TO USE IT TO BRING HIS ARMIES HERE. TO INVADE THE EARTH.
FROSTY HERE WOULDN'T TELL ME WHEN. BUT MY GUESS IS SOON.
IN THE NAME OF THE GODS. LADY SOLOMON...
YOU KILLED A FROST GIANT.
NO.
THE EARTH KILLED HIM.
ALL I DID WAS WATCH.

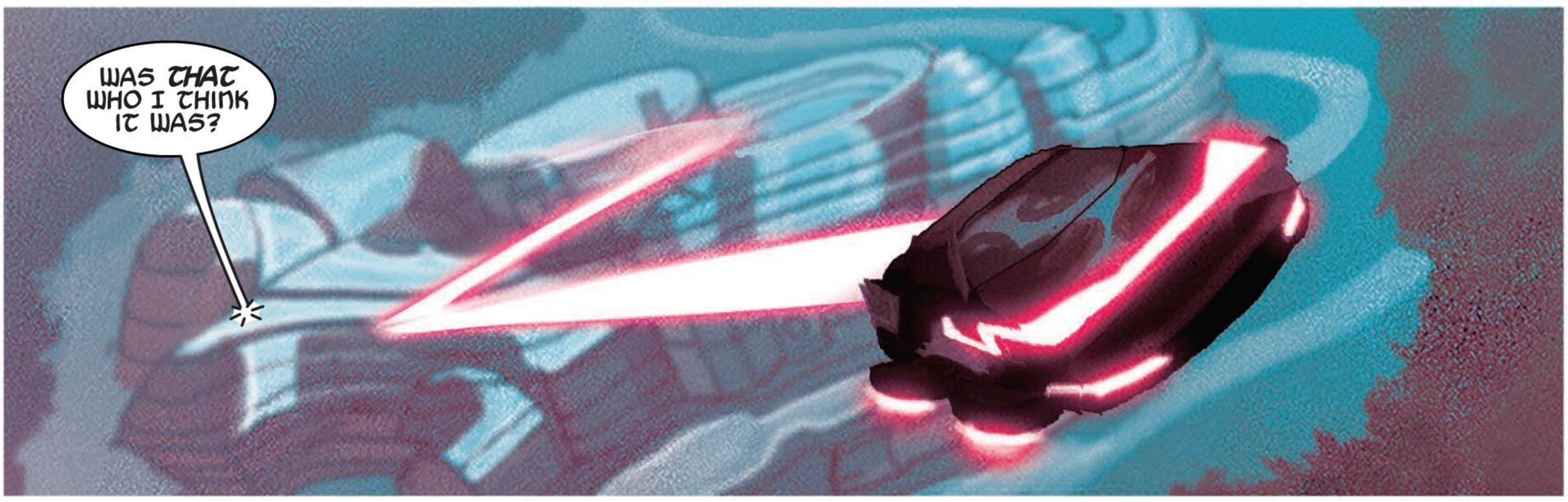
I DID SHOOT THE TROLL. YOU CAN PROBABLY STILL GET HIM TO A DOCTOR. UP TO YOU.
WHAT'S ONE MORE DEAD TROLL IN MY DREAMS?
ROSALIND...
...WHAT'S HAPPENED TO YOU?
I GOT REALLY GOOD AT MY JOB.
JUST IN TIME TOO. THE WAR OF THE REALMS IS COMING HERE, THOR. RIGHT TO OUR DOORSTEP. WE ALL HAVE TO BE READY.
IT'S A GOOD THING YOU'RE DOING ALL THAT TRAINING.
TRAINING?
I'LL SEE YOU IN THE SKIES, GOD OF THUNDER.
NOT A DAY GOES BY I DON'T THINK ABOUT BROXTON. BUT I'M NOT HAUNTED. NOT ANYMORE.
I'M DRIVEN.

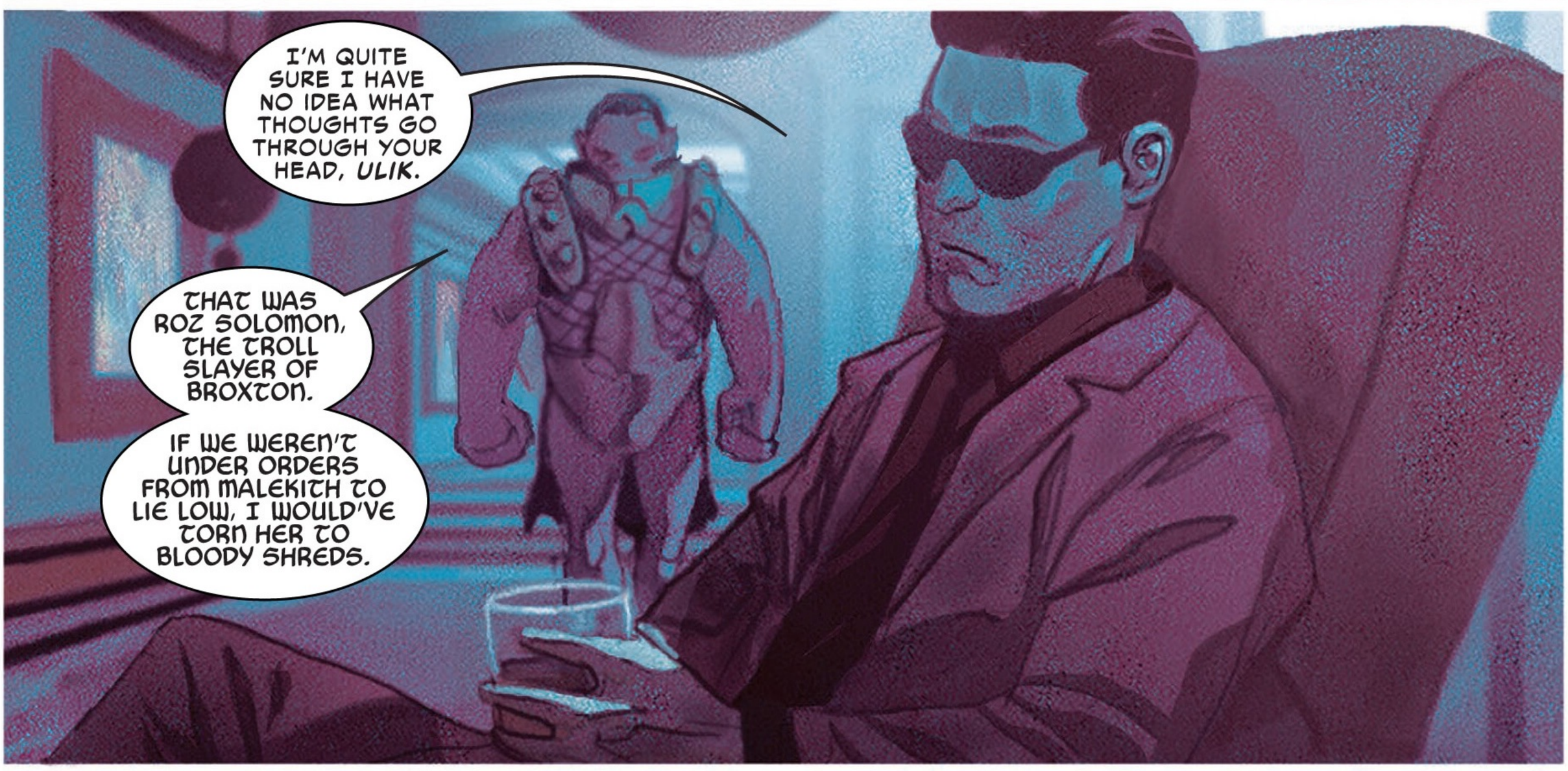
I KNOW THE FACE OF WAR. ALL ITS MANY FACES. AND I'M NOT AFRAID TO STARE RIGHT BACK.
LOOK AT ME, DARIO. I KNOW EXACTLY WHY YOU CALLED ME. YOU SAID YOU WANT ME TO HELP YOU STOP IT.
YOU MEAN YOUR DEAL WITH MALEKITH. YOU MEAN THE WAR OF THE REALMS.
WHAT'S A MALEKITH?
YOU SOLD OUT THE EARTH TO A DARK ELF PSYCHOPATH WHO WANTS EVERYONE AND EVERYTHING IN EXISTENCE TO BE AS DAMAGED BY WAR AS HE IS.
AND NOW YOU FEEL BAD ABOUT IT. BECAUSE YOU'RE A MINOTAUR WHO MAYBE STILL REMEMBERS WHAT IT'S LIKE TO BE HUMAN.
WELL, I'M HERE, DARIO, AND I HAVEN'T SHOT YOU YET, WHICH MEANS I'M LISTENING.
SO HOW DO WE STOP THIS WAR?


I NEVER CALLED YOU. THAT'S FAKE NEWS. I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT ELVES OR MINOTAURS. I'M JUST A BUSINESSMAN.
I'M THE BUSINESS-MAN.
NOW GET THE HELL OUT OF MY MANSION.

MAYBE I CAN'T STOP THE WAR. BUT I COULD DAMN SURE STOP HIM. RIGHT HERE AND NOW.
FOR THE PRICE OF ONE VIBRANIUM BULLET.


MY NAME IS ROZ SOLOMON. I WAS AN ENVIRONMENTALIST. AN AGENT OF S.H.I.E.L.D. I DATED THOR.
I WAS THERE THE NIGHT BROXTON FELL.
AND I WILL NOT BE DEFINED BY DEAD TROLLS.


WAS THAT WHO I THINK IT WAS?


I'M QUITE SURE I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT THOUGHTS GO THROUGH YOUR HEAD, ULIK.
THAT WAS ROZ SOLOMON, THE TROLL SLAYER OF BROXTON.
IF WE WEREN'T UNDER ORDERS FROM MALEKITH TO LIE LOW, I WOULD'VE TORN HER TO BLOODY SHREDS.

NEXT TIME, BE MY GUEST.
GET UP, AGGER. BOSS WANTS TO SEE YOU.
I'M UNDER HOUSE ARREST.
YOU THINK MALEKITH GIVES A DAMN ABOUT MIDGARD LAWS?
BESIDES, WE'RE NOT EXACTLY WALKING OUT THE FRONT DOOR.

WE HAVE OUR OWN BIFROST, AFTER ALL.
NOW COME THE HEL ON.
WE'VE ALL GOT A WAR TO PLAN.

THE BLACK BIFROST.
MALEKITH HAS HIS OWN BIFROST HERE IN SVARTALFHEIM.
THAT'S THE KEY TO HIS PLAN. IF WE CANNOT DESTROY THE BLACK BRIDGE, THERE WILL BE NO HOPE OF STOPPING HIS ARMIES.
THERE'S PROBABLY NO HOPE EITHER WAY, BUT I'M DOING THE DAMN JOB I WAS SENT HERE TO DO.
NEVER LET IT BE SAID THAT CUL BORSON ISN'T A GOD OF HIS WORD.
JUST TELL ME, BROTHER ODIN...WHEN DO I HAVE YOUR LEAVE TO BE MY TRUE SELF AGAIN, THE GOD OF FEAR?
AND START SLAUGHTERING SOME ELVES.

THOR #10

A Boy and His All-Father

WEEKS AGO.
OLD ASGARD.

I WASN'T THERE WHEN THE BOY WAS BORN. OR IF I WAS, I WAS TOO DAMNED **DRUNK** TO REMEMBER.

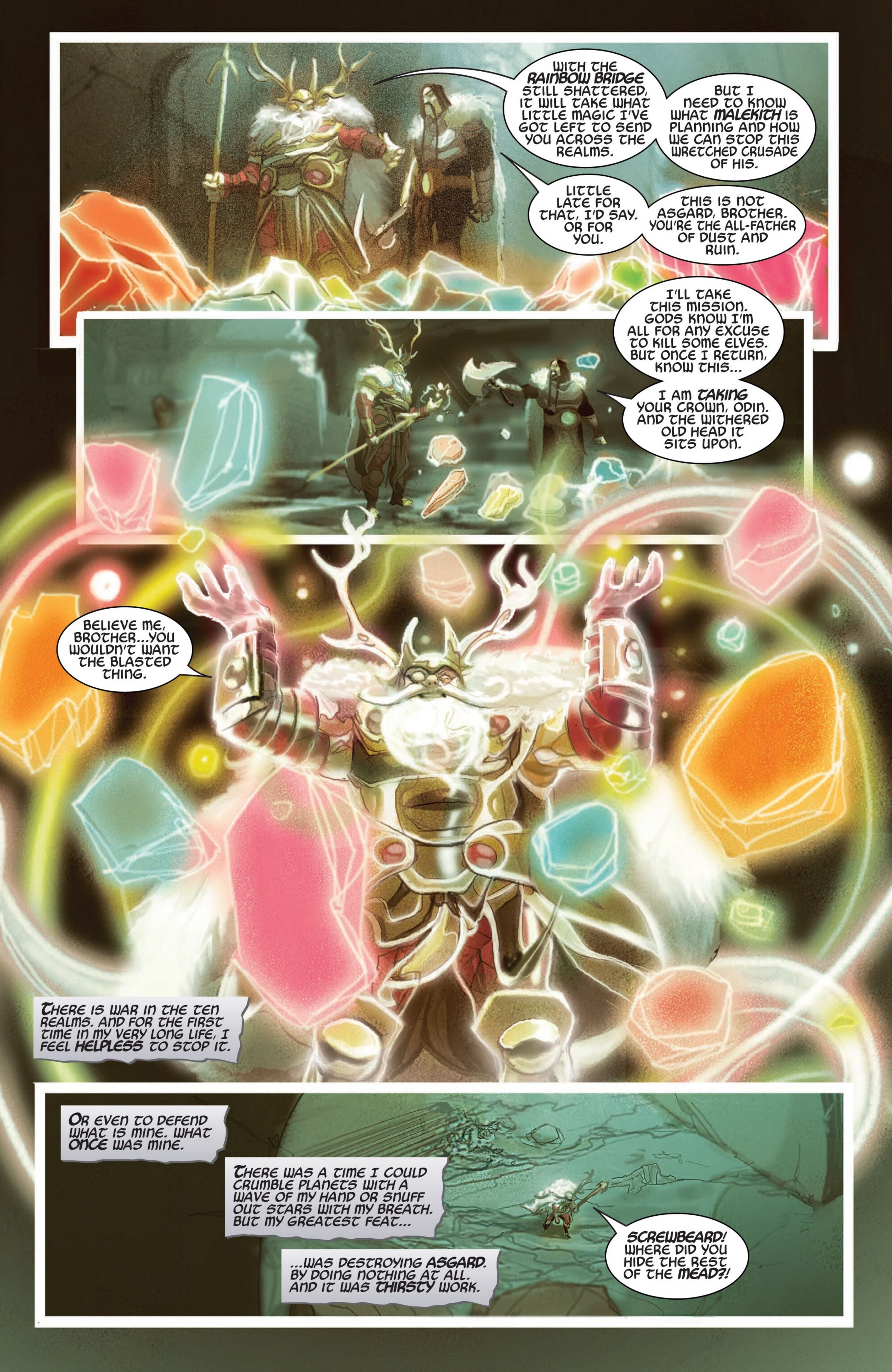
THIS IS NOT A DISCUSSION. YOU WILL GO. YOUR **ALL-FATHER** COMMANDS YOU.

MY FAMILY LIFE HAS ALWAYS BEEN COMPLICATED, TO SAY THE LEAST.
US ALL? ALL WHO EXACTLY?
WHEN I LOOK AROUND ASGARD, I SEE TWO SQUABBLING BORSON BROTHERS, A BLIND VANIR AND SOME DRUNKEN DWARVES. YOU WOULD RISK MY LIFE FOR THIS?
YOU KNOW DAMN WELL WHO ALL I MEAN.

I'VE KNOWN MANY WOMEN, SOME GODDESSES, SOME GIANTESSES, SOME WORLD-DEVOURING COSMIC FIREBIRDS. I'VE FATHERED MORE SONS THAN I CARE TO REMEMBER.
MY OLDER BROTHER HERE ONCE TRIED TO BURN THE WORLD.
OPEN YOUR EYE, ODIN! THE REALM ETERNAL IS NO MORE!
THE GODS HAVE ABANDONED YOU! YOUR OWN SON HAS RENOUNCED YOU! AND YOUR OBSTINATE TROLLOP OF A WIFE IS MOST ASSUREDLY NEVER COMING BACK!

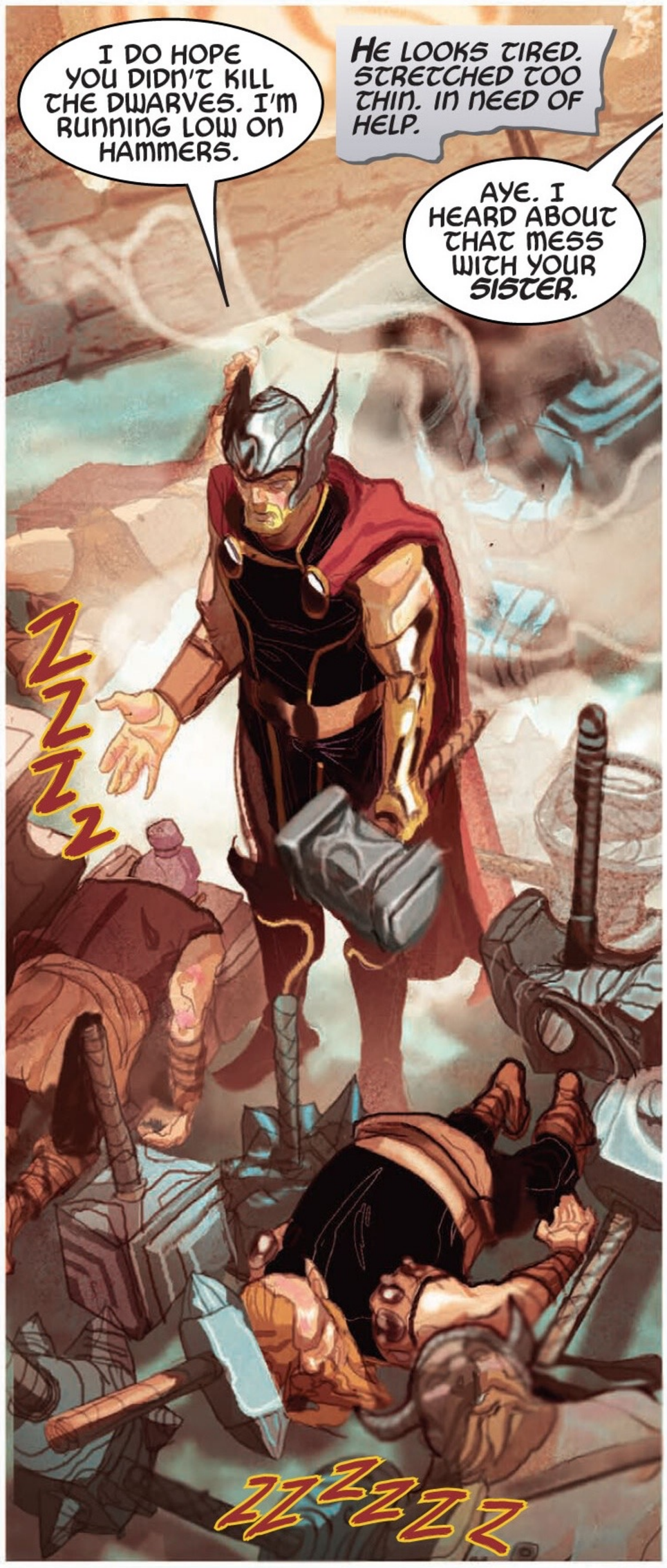
THERE HAVE BEEN TIMES IT HAS ALL FELT TOO GREAT A WEIGHT. EVEN FOR THE GOD OF GODS.
HURK!
SPEAK OF MY WIFE AGAIN, AND I'LL SEND YOU TO THE DARK ELVES WITH ONE LESS TONGUE IN YOUR IMPUDENT HEAD.
ASGARD WILL RISE AGAIN, AS IT ALWAYS HAS. AND SO WILL I.

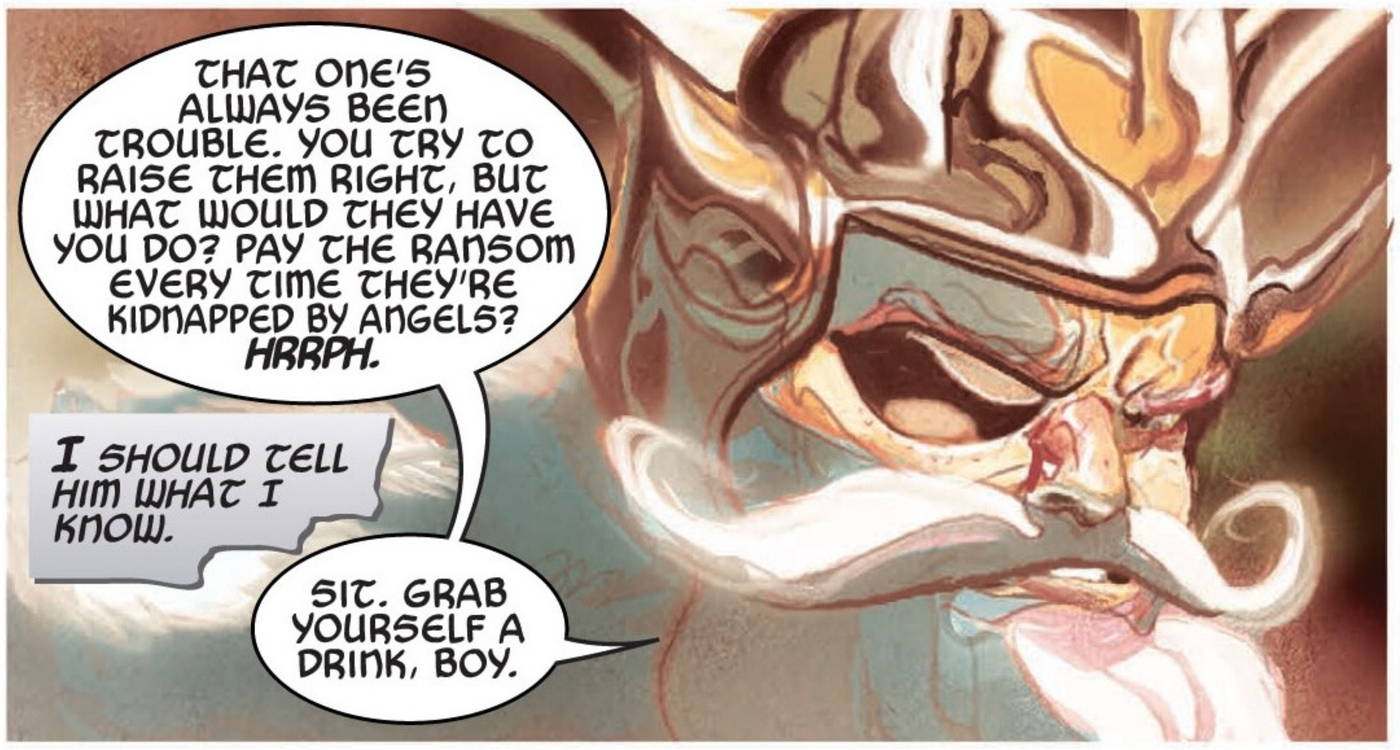
I HAVE FOUND THAT THOSE TIMES ARE BEST FACED...WHILE PROFOUNDLY REMOVED FROM ANY SEMBLANCE OF SOBRIETY.
BUT FIRST WE MUST SURVIVE THIS WAR.
THAT IS WHY I NEED YOU, CUL. THAT IS WHY YOU'RE GOING TO SVARTALFHEIM.


WITH THE RAINBOW BRIDGE STILL SHATTERED, IT WILL TAKE WHAT LITTLE MAGIC I'VE GOT LEFT TO SEND YOU ACROSS THE REALMS.
BUT I NEED TO KNOW WHAT MALEKITH IS PLANNING AND HOW WE CAN STOP THIS WRETCHED CRUSADE OF HIS.
LITTLE LATE FOR THAT, I'D SAY. OR FOR YOU.
THIS IS NOT ASGARD, BROTHER. YOU'RE THE ALL-FATHER OF DUST AND RUIN.
I'LL TAKE THIS MISSION. GODS KNOW I'M ALL FOR ANY EXCUSE TO KILL SOME ELVES. BUT ONCE I RETURN, KNOW THIS...
I AM TAKING YOUR CROWN, ODIN. AND THE WITHERED OLD HEAD IT SITS UPON.
BELIEVE ME, BROTHER...YOU WOULDN'T WANT THE BLASTED THING.
THERE IS WAR IN THE TEN REALMS. AND FOR THE FIRST TIME IN MY VERY LONG LIFE, I FEEL HELPLESS TO STOP IT.
OR EVEN TO DEFEND WHAT IS MINE. WHAT ONCE WAS MINE.
THERE WAS A TIME I COULD CRUMBLE PLANETS WITH A WAVE OF MY HAND OR SNUFF OUT STARS WITH MY BREATH. BUT MY GREATEST FEAT...
...WAS DESTROYING ASGARD. BY DOING NOTHING AT ALL. AND IT WAS THIRSTY WORK.
SCREWBEARD! WHERE DID YOU HIDE THE REST OF THE MEAD?!

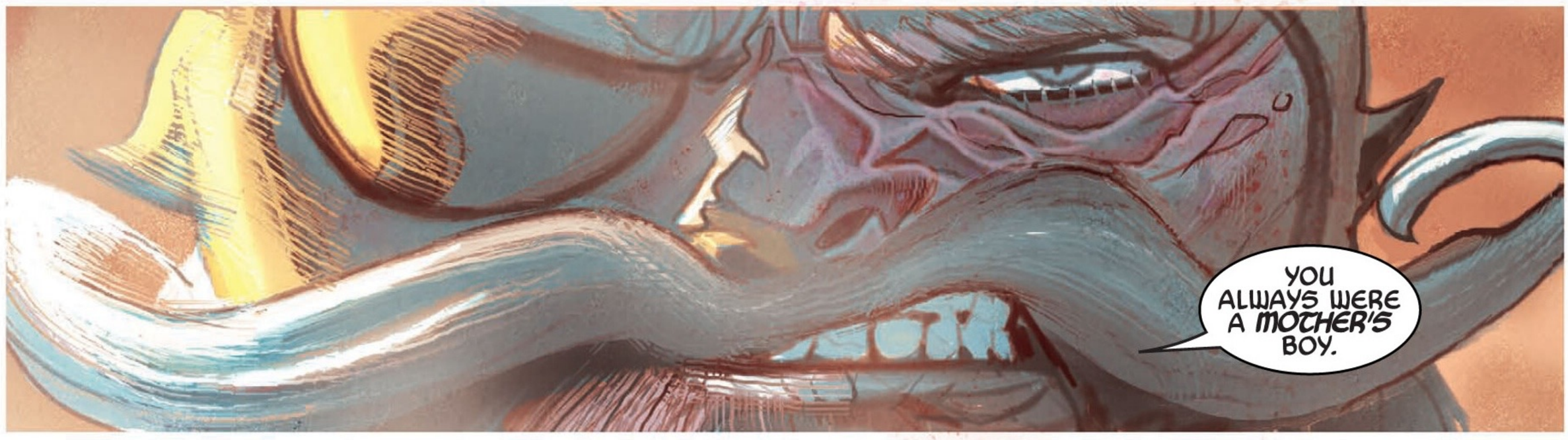
I'LL TELL YOU A SECRET ABOUT THE MIGHTY THOR.
WHEN HE WAS A BABY, HE WAS TERRIFIED OF STORMS.
KRAKKAKOOM!
I FIRST CALLED HIM THE GOD OF THUNDER OUT OF MOCKING CONTEMPT.
BECAUSE HE WAILED SO LOUDLY EVERY TIME IT SPRINKLED RAIN.
THOUGH I SUPPOSE OVER THE YEARS, HE HAS GROWN INTO THE NAME.
SCREWBEARD! I NEED MORE HAMMERS!
WAR LOOMS EVER CLOSER ON THE HORIZON AND I MUST...
SCREWBEARD CAN'T HEAR YOU, BOY. DAMN DWARVES CAN'T HOLD THEIR LIQUOR.
ZZZZZZZZZZ

FATHER. I SEE YOU'RE KEEPING BUSY.
AYE, SHOWED THESE DWARVES HOW TO FORGE. THEN HOW TO DRINK.
WAS MAKING YOU A WEAPON. AROUND HERE SOMEWHERE.
TALK TO THE BOY.


I DO HOPE YOU DIDN'T KILL THE DWARVES. I'M RUNNING LOW ON HAMMERS.
HE LOOKS TIRED. STRETCHED TOO THIN. IN NEED OF HELP.
AYE. I HEARD ABOUT THAT MESS WITH YOUR SISTER.
ZZZ
ZZZZZZ


THAT ONE'S ALWAYS BEEN TROUBLE. YOU TRY TO RAISE THEM RIGHT, BUT WHAT WOULD THEY HAVE YOU DO? PAY THE RANSOM EVERY TIME THEY'RE KIDNAPPED BY ANGELS? HRRPH.
I SHOULD TELL HIM WHAT I KNOW.
SIT. GRAB YOURSELF A DRINK, BOY.

THAT I'VE SENT CUL TO SVARTALFHEIM. THAT MALEKITH HAS BUILT HIS OWN BIFROST AND WILL SURELY USE IT TO INVADE ALL OF--
I CAME FOR HAMMERS.


YOU ALWAYS WERE A MOTHER'S BOY.

SO GOOD TO SEE YOU, FATHER. TELL SCREWBEARD TO SUMMON ME ONCE HE WAKES UP.
DON'T DO THIS.
NOW YOU'VE BOTH LEFT ME FOR MIDGARD! HOW FITTING!

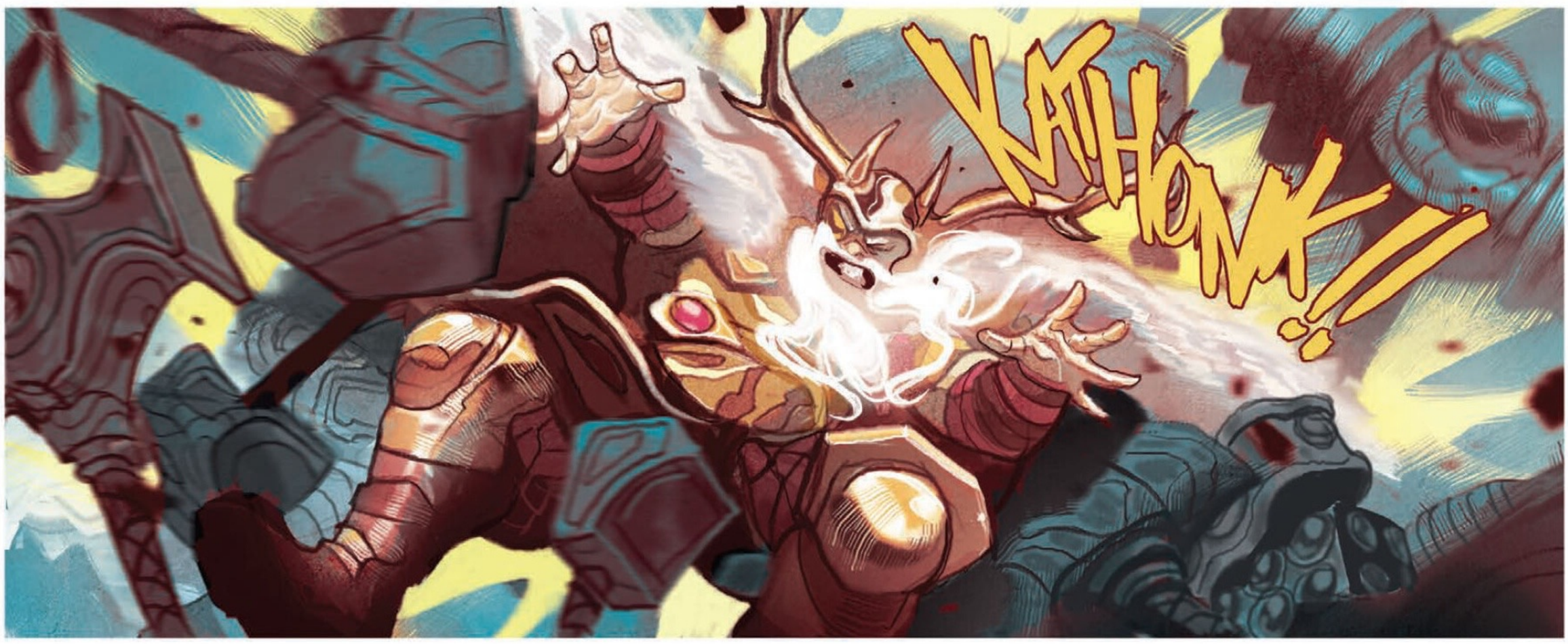
DON'T SAY THESE THINGS. THE WORST THINGS YOU CAN IMAGINE.
BUT ENJOY YOUR MIDGARD WHILE IT LASTS. FOR SOON MALEKITH WILL ENJOY IT TOO. HA!

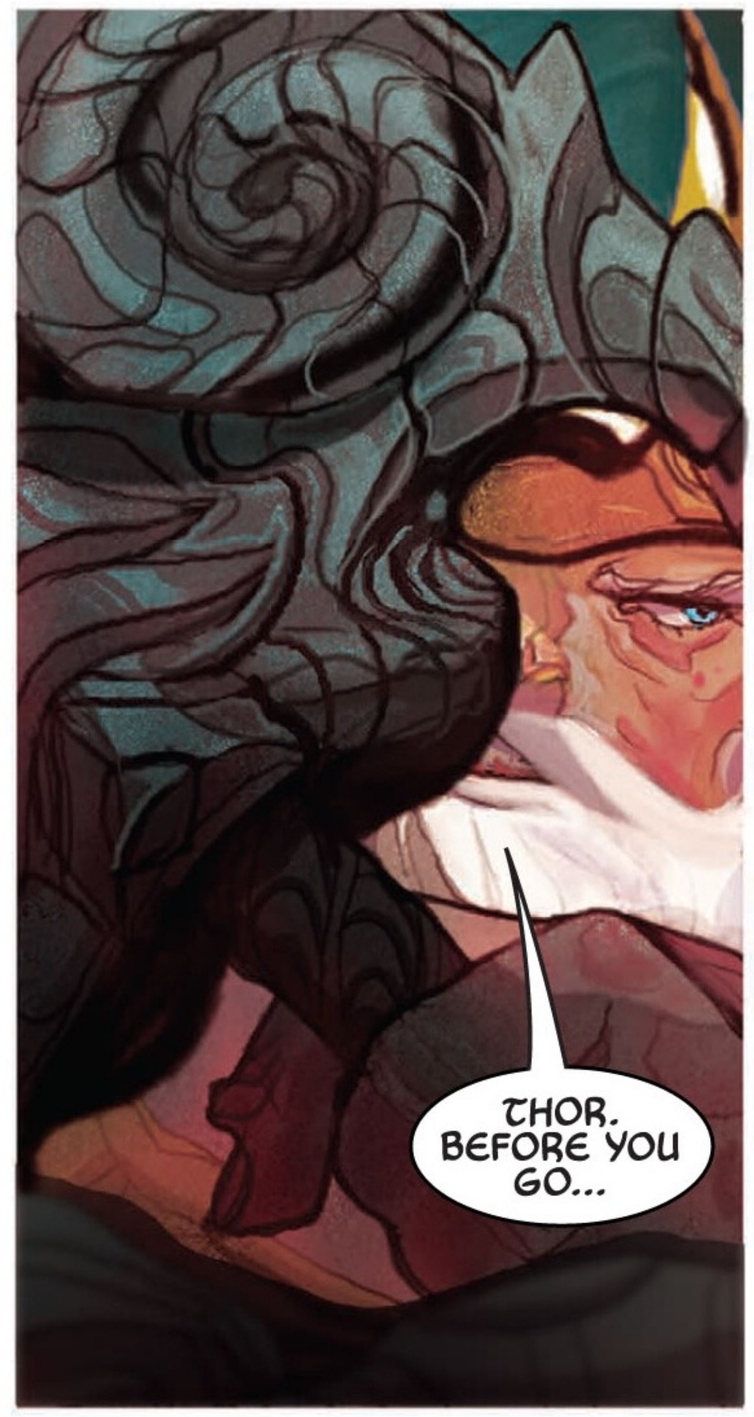
DON'T DRIVE HIM AWAY YET AGAIN.
I TRIED TO GIVE YOU A CHANCE, FATHER. BECAUSE OF WHAT YOU DID FOR JANE FOSTER.
BUT DON'T EVER SPEAK TO ME OF MIDGARD AGAIN. OR OF MY MOTHER.

DON'T BE THE SAME OLD FOOL.
BOY. I AM THE WILL AND THE WORD AND THE... SOMETHING ELSE.
ODIN IS THE ONE WHO SPEAKS WHILE GALAXIES OBEY! DON'T EVER PRESUME TO TELL ME WHAT TO SAY!

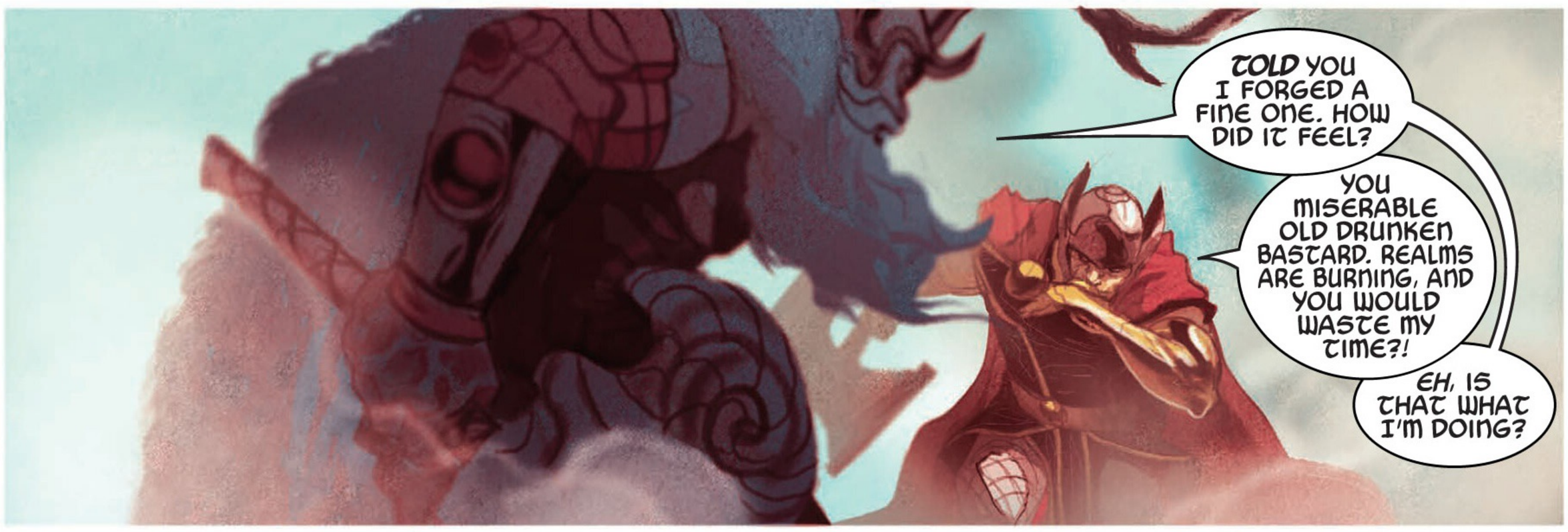
DON'T BE YOUR FATHER.
SAY WHAT YOU WANT, OLD MAN. I JUST WON'T BE HERE TO LISTEN. AND NEITHER WILL ANYONE ELSE.
LIKE HEL! I AM STILL YOUR ALL-FATHER, AND YOU WILL GO WHEN I GIVE YOU LEAVE TO--

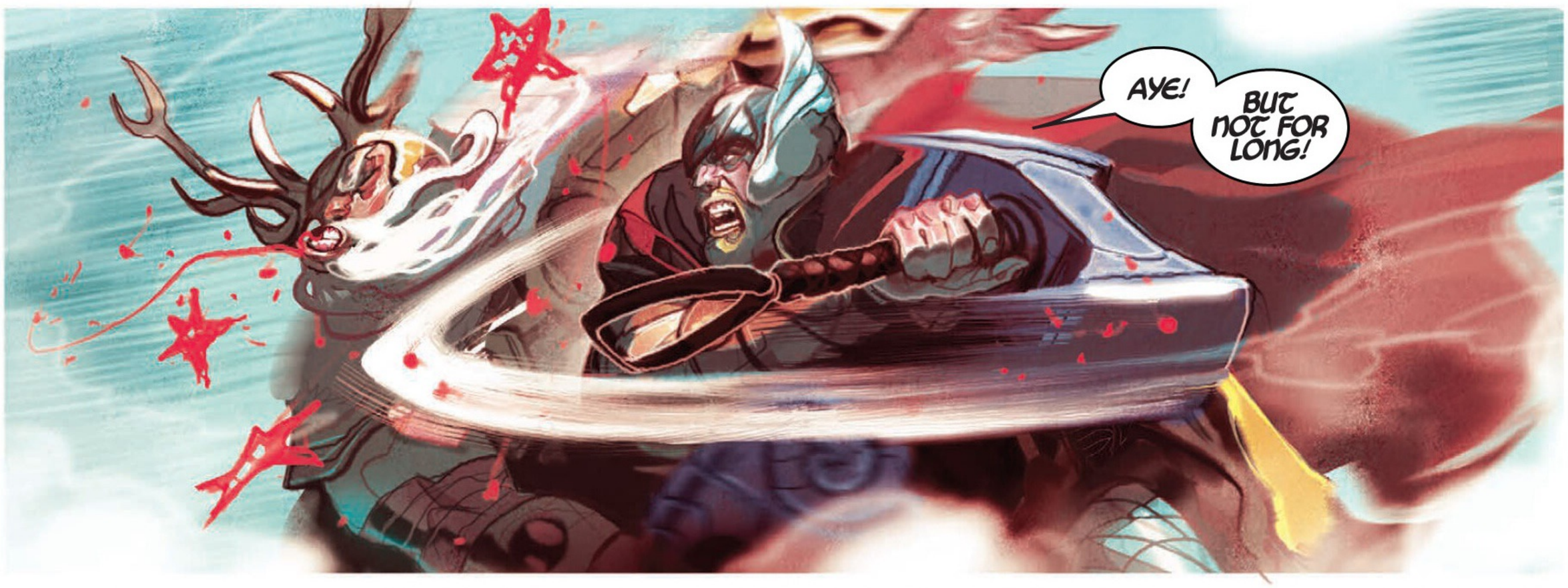
SLAP!
TAKE YOUR HANDS OFF ME!

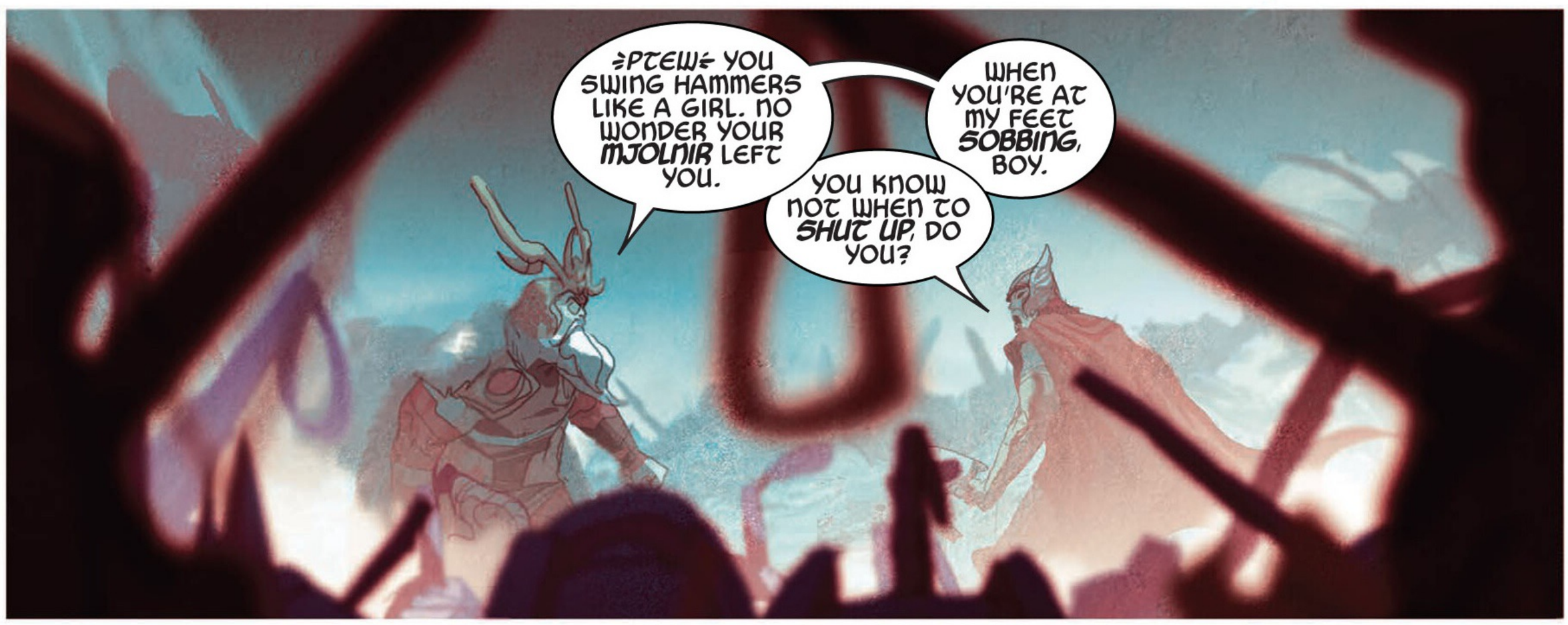




I FOUND THAT *HAMMER* I MADE YOU.


TOLD YOU I FORGED A FINE ONE. HOW DID IT FEEL?
YOU MISERABLE OLD DRUNKEN BASTARD. REALMS ARE BURNING, AND YOU WOULD WASTE MY TIME?!
EH, IS THAT WHAT I'M DOING?


AYE!
BUT NOT FOR LONG!


≈PTEW≈ YOU SWING HAMMERS LIKE A GIRL. NO WONDER YOUR MJOLNIR LEFT YOU.
YOU KNOW NOT WHEN TO SHUT UP, DO YOU?
WHEN YOU'RE AT MY FEET SOBBING, BOY.

THAT WILL NEVER HAPPEN!
IT HAPPENED PLENTY OF TIMES BEFORE!
GAGGGH, I WILL BEAT YOU INTO OBSCURITY!
THUNDER! ALL I HEAR IS THUNDER!
RRRRGGGH!!!

JOTUNHEIM.
FATHERS AND SONS. IN ALL THE LONG, SORDID HISTORY OF THE GODS, HOW MANY HAVE SUFFERED AND DIED...
I ASK YOU, MY KING...
...BECAUSE OF THE TROUBLES BETWEEN FATHERS AND THEIR SONS.
IS THIS JUSTICE YOU SEE BEFORE YOU? IS THIS THE WAY OF THE FROST GIANT?
THAT...IS A FROG. AND NOW I ASK YOU, SIR STONESNOW...
WHY IN THE NAME OF THE MOTHER BLIZZARD HAVE YOU BROUGHT A FROG BEFORE THE THRONE OF LAUFEY? WHY WOULD YOU DARE WASTE THE TIME OF YOUR KING IN THIS HOUR OF WAR?
SPEAK WISELY OR THE ICE BUZZARDS WILL SOON BE SLURPING YOUR BLOODY SLUSH.
I HUMBLY BEG YOUR PARDON, LORD LAUFEY, BUT THIS IS NOT A FROG. THIS IS MY SON.
TRANSFORMED INTO A FROG BY YOUR SON, THE PRINCE OF JOTUNHEIM HIMSELF, WITH HIS FOUL ASGARDIAN MAGIC.
LOKI! IS THIS TRUE, BOY?!
DOES NO ONE IN JOTUNHEIM HAVE A SENSE OF HUMOR?
AYE, FATHER. I CLAIM RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE FROG.

NOT MY MOST ORIGINAL WORK, I KNOW, BUT SIR STONESNOW'S DOLT OF A SON DIDN'T EXACTLY WARRANT MY FINEST EFFORT.
HE DARES SLANDER THE PROUD STONESNOW NAME! EVEN AS A FROG MY SON WILL SLAUGHTER THIS LITTLE--
SILENCE!
WHY HAVE YOU DONE THIS RIDICULOUS THING, BOY? OTHER THAN TO FLUMMOX AND EMBARRASS ME?
BELIEVE IT OR NOT, I WAS DEFENDING YOUR NAME, FATHER. THE JUNIOR STONESNOW MOCKED THE THRONE. BY MOCKING ME.
PERHAPS YOU SHOULD IMPLEMENT AN ANTI-BULLYING CAMPAIGN AMONG THE JOTNAR YOUTHS.
HE MOCKED YOU? NO ONE MOCKS THE SON OF THE KING!
WELL, EXCEPT THE KING, OF COURSE.
BUT THIS IS NOT HOW WE HANDLE SUCH MATTERS IN JOTUNHEIM.
OH GOODIE, HERE COMES ANOTHER LESSON IN BEING A JOTUNN.
IF YOU DO NOT WISH TO BE MOCKED AMONG YOUR FATHER'S PEOPLE, THEN YOU MUST STAND UP FOR YOURSELF, LOKI! THE FROST GIANT WAY!
KILL THE FROG.
CROAK
BUT MY LORD--!
HOLD YOUR TONGUE, STONESNOW, OR YOU'LL DIE NEXT!
KILL IT, BOY. NOT WITH WORDS OR MAGIC, BUT WITH YOUR OWN TWO TINY HANDS.
'TIS A FROG. SURELY EVEN YOU CAN FIND THE STRENGTH TO MURDER IT.

NO, FATHER. I WILL NOT.
AYE, I EXPECTED AS MUCH.
MY SON!
YOU WILL NOT. ALWAYS YOU WILL NOT.
YOU WILL NOT OBEY YOUR FATHER. YOU WILL NOT LEAVE BEHIND THE WRETCHED LESSONS OF YOUR ASGARDIAN KIDNAPPERS. YOU WILL NOT EMBRACE THE WAYS OF THE JOTUNN.
GUUGH!
YOU ALSO WILL NOT SIT THE THRONE OF JOTUNHEIM, LOKI. NOT EVER. NO MATTER IF YOU BEAR MY NAME.
AND YOU WILL NOT BE MY SON, NOT IN THIS LIFETIME OR ANY OTHER.
BUT YOU WILL GET OUT OF MY SIGHT.
GENERALS! DOUBLE THE TRAINING FOR THE TROOPS! I WANT EVERY GIANT IN JOTUNHEIM READY TO LAY WASTE TO MIDGARD WITH HIS BARE FRIGID HANDS! THE HOUR OF INVASION IS ALMOST HERE!
HEH. TOUGH AUDIENCE.

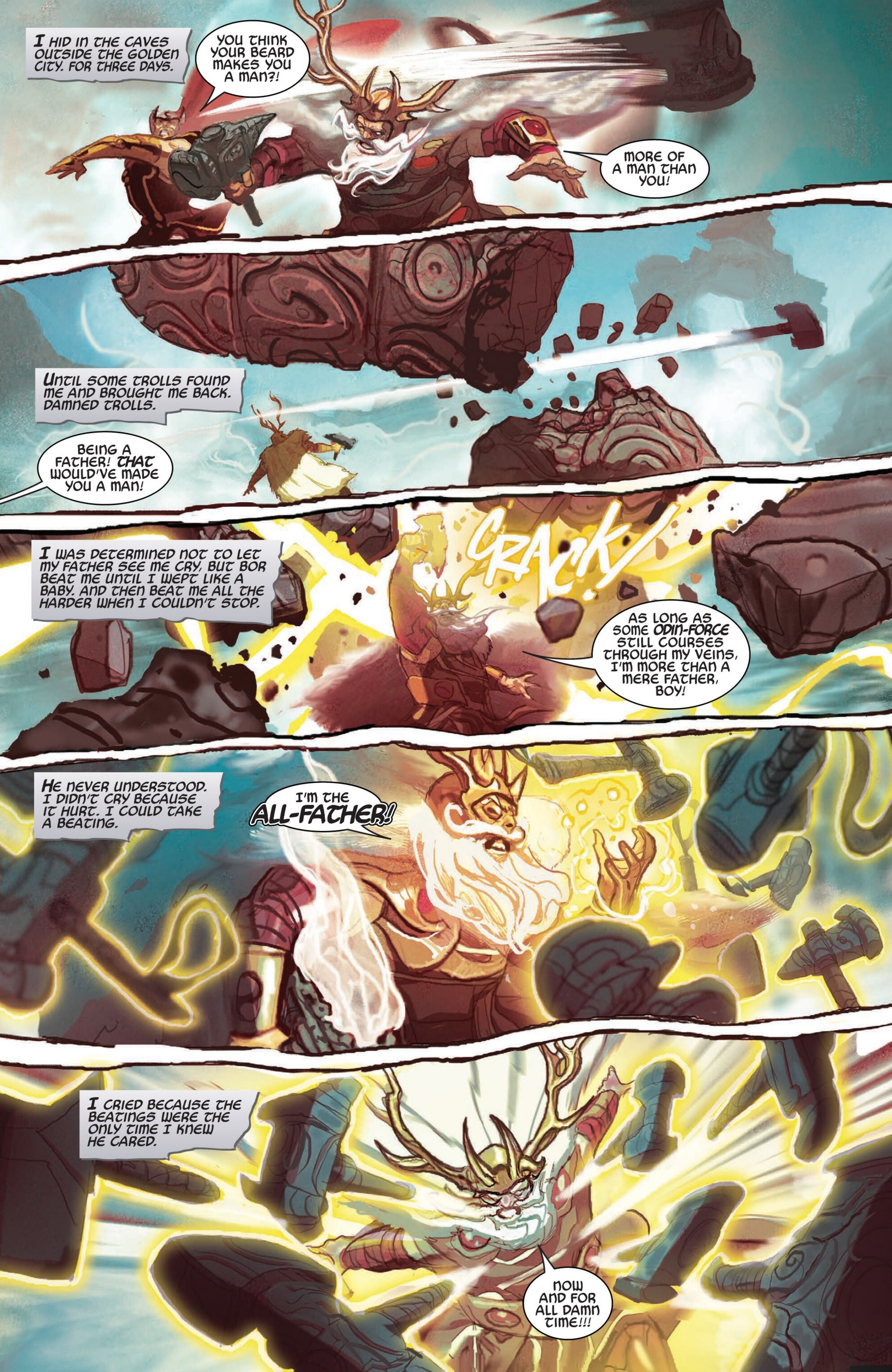
I FOR ONE QUITE LIKED THE FROG JOKE.
MALEKITH. WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE? DON'T YOU HAVE THE MURDER OF MILLIONS TO PLAN?
HA, INDEED I DO.
BUT I WANTED TO WELCOME YOU BACK. AND TELL YOU TO YOUR FACE HOW MUCH I'VE MISSED YOU AND YOUR LIES THESE LAST FEW WEEKS.

HOW VERY KIND AND NOT AT ALL THREATENING OF YOU.
I HEAR YOU'VE BEEN QUITE A BUSY GOD OF LATE, LOKI. CHASING AFTER CELESTIALS AND SHINY STONES AND FLAMING WOLVERINES.
I DO HOPE YOU'RE NOW READY TO FOCUS ON THE MONUMENTAL TASK AT HAND. FOR THE FATEFUL HOUR OF THE WAR OF THE REALMS IS FINALLY NIGH.
OH, BELIEVE ME, MALEKITH, WHEN YOU INVADE MIDGARD...
...I'LL BE THERE.

YES...THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT I'M WORRIED ABOUT.
FOLLOW HIM WHEREVER HE GOES.
AND SEE THAT HIS NEXT LIE IS HIS LAST.
AND THEN BY ALL MEANS ONE OF YOU TAKE THE HONOR OF BRINGING WORD OF LOKI'S GRISLY DEMISE...

"...DIRECTLY TO HIS BELOVED FATHER."
FATHER! I RODE A BILGESNIPE!
HMPH. DOESN'T COUNT AS RIDING IF YOU'RE NOT CHARGING INTO BATTLE, THOR.
FATHER! I SLAYED A TROLL!
HMPH. JUST ONE?
FATHER, I MADE WAR ON THE FROST GIANTS!
HMPH. THEY'RE NOTHING SINCE I KILLED THEIR KING, LAUFEY.
FATHER, I DID IT! I'M FINALLY WORTHY!
HMPH. WHERE DID YOU FIND THAT OLD THING?

HRRRRGGHH!!!
CRACK!
GRRRRGGGH!!!
THERE GO TWO MORE HAMMERS YOU'VE RUINED, BOY! YOU'VE DEVELOPED QUITE THE KNACK FOR THAT!
YOU HEARTLESS BASTARD! I'M GOING TO SMASH THE NEXT HAMMER ACROSS YOUR STUPID FACE!
HA! AT LEAST I CAN GROW A DAMN BEARD!
UUUGH!
HNNNGH!
I WAS STILL A BOY, WITHOUT MY FIRST WHISKER, THE FIRST TIME I TRIED TO RUN AWAY FROM HOME.


I HID IN THE CAVES OUTSIDE THE GOLDEN CITY. FOR THREE DAYS.
YOU THINK YOUR BEARD MAKES YOU A MAN?!
MORE OF A MAN THAN YOU!
UNTIL SOME TROLLS FOUND ME AND BROUGHT ME BACK. DAMNED TROLLS.
BEING A FATHER! THAT WOULD'VE MADE YOU A MAN!
I WAS DETERMINED NOT TO LET MY FATHER SEE ME CRY, BUT BOR BEAT ME UNTIL I WEPT LIKE A BABY. AND THEN BEAT ME ALL THE HARDER WHEN I COULDN'T STOP.
CRACK
AS LONG AS SOME ODIN-FORCE STILL COURSES THROUGH MY VEINS, I'M MORE THAN A MERE FATHER, BOY!
HE NEVER UNDERSTOOD. I DIDN'T CRY BECAUSE IT HURT. I COULD TAKE A BEATING.
I'M THE ALL-FATHER!
I CRIED BECAUSE THE BEATINGS WERE THE ONLY TIME I KNEW HE CARED.
NOW AND FOR ALL DAMN TIME!!!

YOU'RE JUST A THING THAT DRIPPED OUT OF MY LOINS!
GAAAGHH!!!
I LOVE MY SON.
I LOVE HIS FERVOR. HIS MOXIE. HIS HEL-BE-DAMNED SPIRIT.
I. AM NOTHING. OF YOU!!!
I LOVE THE LIGHTNING IN HIS HEART.
I AM MY OWN GOD!
I LOVE THE MIGHTY THOR.
AND YOU CAN GO STRAIGHT TO HEL!
GAAAGH!!!
CRACK!
HERE, LET ME SHOW YOU THE WAY!
I JUST WISH TO THE GODS I KNEW HOW TO TELL HIM.

THIS...WAS ONCE THE HALL WHERE HE WAS BORN. OR SO I WAS TOLD.
I WASN'T THERE WHEN THE BOY WAS BORN. OR IF I WAS, I WAS TOO DAMNED DRUNK TO REMEMBER. HAVE I SAID THAT BEFORE?
I WATCHED HIM GROW UP AND BECOME A BETTER GOD THAN ME. AND RESENTED HIM FOR IT.
EVEN AS A BOY HE WAS MORE BELOVED. AND I CALLED HIM ARROGANT AND TRIED TO SHAME HIM. I CANNOT FEEL MY FACE.
MY SON IS GOING TO KILL ME NOW AND I WILL DIE WITHOUT EVER HAVING TOLD HIM ANYTHING THAT TRULY MATTERED.
KILL YOU! RRRRRGGGH!!!
I ALWAYS KNEW IT WOULD END LIKE THIS.
HEH. DO IT, BOY.
AND I'LL FINALLY BE PROUD OF YOU.

THOR. OH MY SON. WHAT HAVE I MADE OF THEE?

WHAT GRAND AND GLORIOUS THING WOULD YOU BE WITHOUT ME?

THOR! STOP THIS MADNESS!

PERHAPS SOMEDAY WE'LL FIND OUT.

BALDER?

HE'S HAD ENOUGH. LEAVE FATHER BE.

"FATHER"?

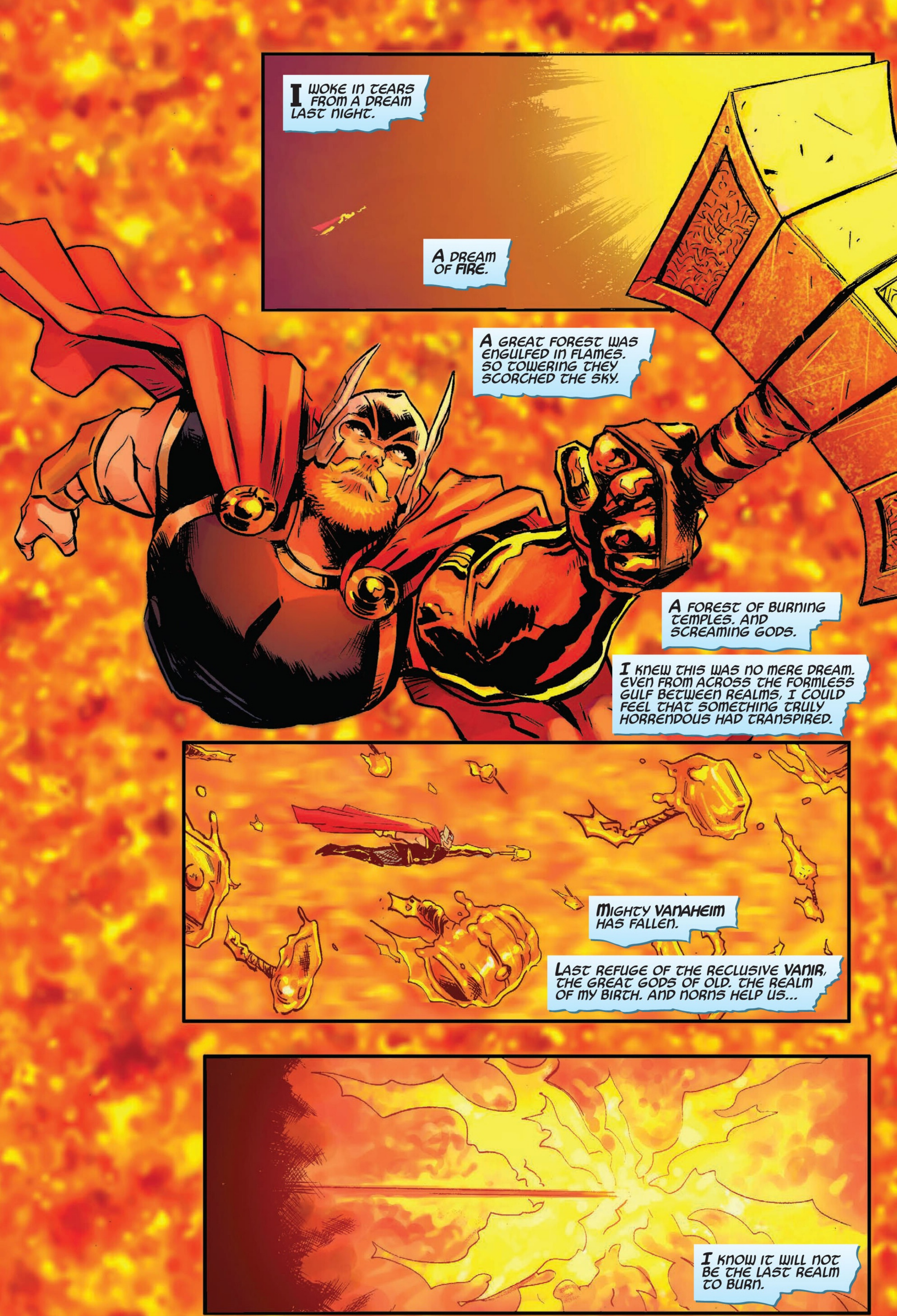
CALL HIM YOUR FATHER IF YOU WISH.

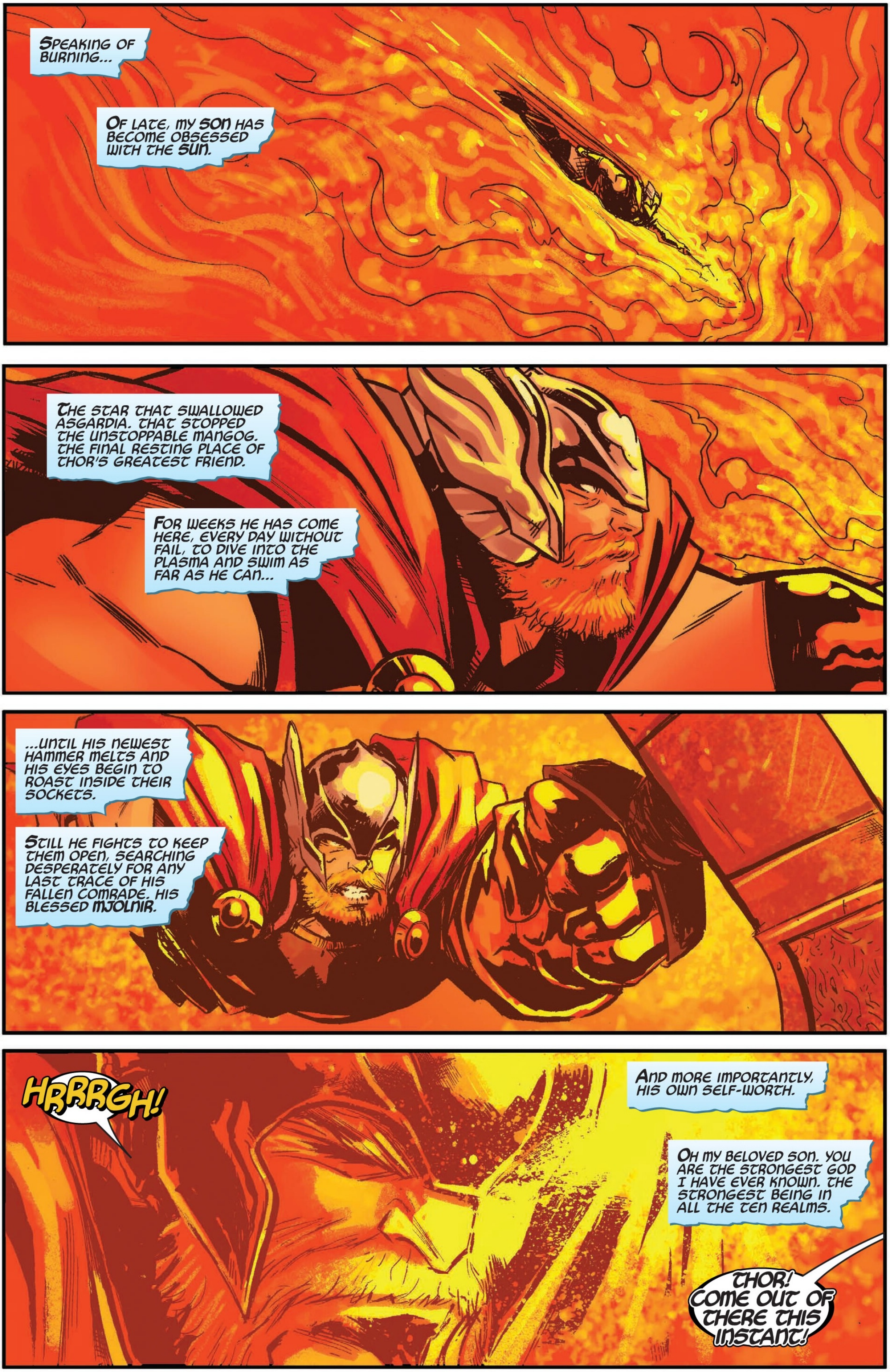
HE'S NOTHING TO ME.
THERE'S A VICIOUS IRONY AT WORK HERE. CAN YOU SEE IT?
THE NORNS ARE TOO CRUEL. ESPECIALLY TO THE GODS.
HE WAS GOING TO KILL HIM, LADY FREYJA. IF I HADN'T BEEN THERE...
SPEAK NO MORE OF ODIN IN MY PRESENCE. JUST TELL ME, MY SON...WHERE DO I FIND YOUR BROTHER?
IF THERE'S ONE THING THOR NEEDS NOW...IT'S HIS ALL-MOTHER.
WHO KNEW THERE WOULD COME A DAY WHEN THE GOD WHO CREATED LIFE ITSELF...WOULD REALIZE HE'D LIVED TOO LONG?
I...AM NOT SURE WHY I HAVE ASKED YOU HERE.
OH, I THINK I KNOW.

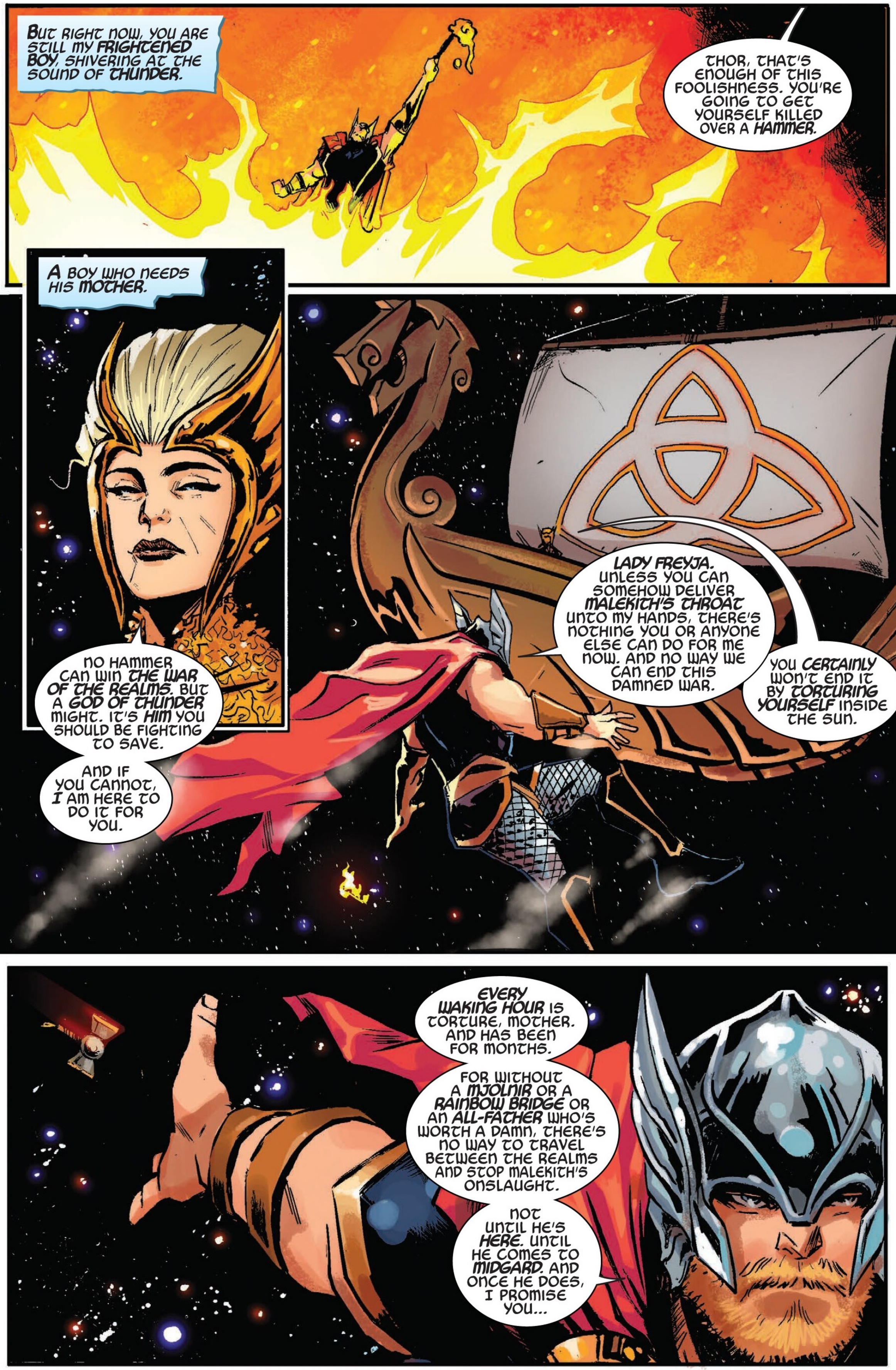
BELIEVE ME, I KNOW ROCK BOTTOM WHEN I SEE IT. I'VE BEEN THERE.
TELL ME WHEN IT STARTED.
I INVENTED MEAD.
OKAY. THIS IS GONNA TAKE A WHILE.
MY NAME IS ODIN BORSON. ALL-FATHER OF ASGARD.
BUT LET ME NOT BE REMEMBERED AS SUCH.
AS THE WORST ALL-FATHER WHO EVER SAT THE THRONE OF THE REALM ETERNAL.
LET ME BE REMEMBERED SIMPLY AS A FATHER.
OF THE GREATEST GOD WHO EVER LIVED.
EVEN IF THE ONLY THING I EVER TRULY TAUGHT THE BOY...
...WAS NOT TO BE LIKE ME.

THOR #11

The Eve of War


I WOKE IN TEARS FROM A DREAM LAST NIGHT.
A DREAM OF FIRE.
A GREAT FOREST WAS ENGULFED IN FLAMES. SO TOWERING THEY SCORCHED THE SKY.
A FOREST OF BURNING TEMPLES. AND SCREAMING GODS.
I KNEW THIS WAS NO MERE DREAM. EVEN FROM ACROSS THE FORMLESS GULF BETWEEN REALMS, I COULD FEEL THAT SOMETHING TRULY HORRENDOUS HAD TRANSPIRED.
MIGHTY VANAHEIM HAS FALLEN.
LAST REFUGE OF THE RECLUSIVE VANIR, THE GREAT GODS OF OLD. THE REALM OF MY BIRTH. AND NORNS HELP US...
I KNOW IT WILL NOT BE THE LAST REALM TO BURN.

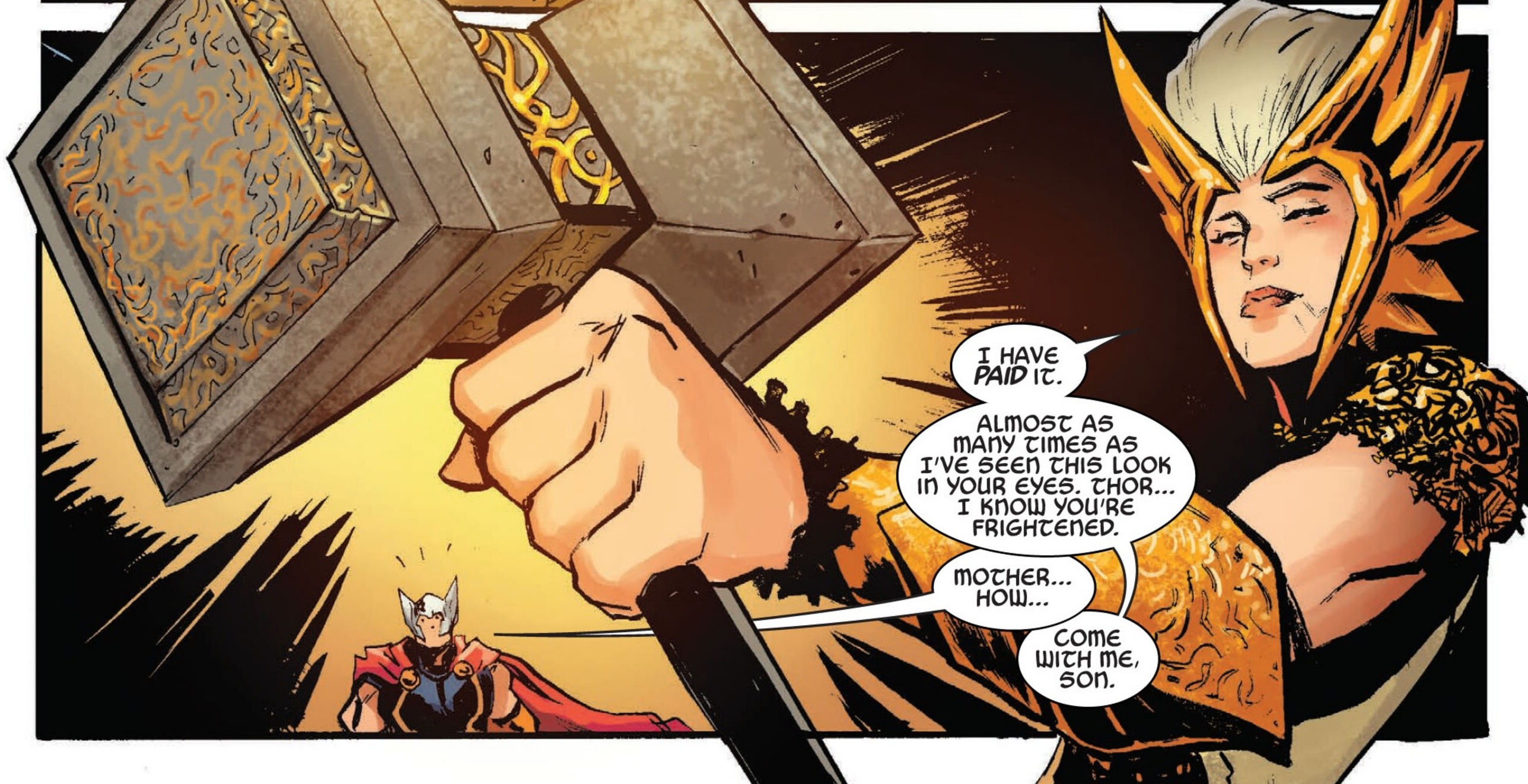

SPEAKING OF BURNING...
OF LATE, MY SON HAS BECOME OBSESSED WITH THE SUN.
THE STAR THAT SWALLOWED ASGARDIA. THAT STOPPED THE UNSTOPPABLE MANGOG. THE FINAL RESTING PLACE OF THOR'S GREATEST FRIEND.
FOR WEEKS HE HAS COME HERE, EVERY DAY WITHOUT FAIL, TO DIVE INTO THE PLASMA AND SWIM AS FAR AS HE CAN...
...UNTIL HIS NEWEST HAMMER MELTS AND HIS EYES BEGIN TO ROAST INSIDE THEIR SOCKETS.
STILL HE FIGHTS TO KEEP THEM OPEN, SEARCHING DESPERATELY FOR ANY LAST TRACE OF HIS FALLEN COMRADE. HIS BLESSED MJOLNIR.
HRRRGH!
AND MORE IMPORTANTLY, HIS OWN SELF-WORTH.
OH MY BELOVED SON. YOU ARE THE STRONGEST GOD I HAVE EVER KNOWN. THE STRONGEST BEING IN ALL THE TEN REALMS.
THOR! COME OUT OF THERE THIS INSTANT!


BUT RIGHT NOW, YOU ARE STILL MY FRIGHTENED BOY, SHIVERING AT THE SOUND OF THUNDER.
THOR, THAT'S ENOUGH OF THIS FOOLISHNESS. YOU'RE GOING TO GET YOURSELF KILLED OVER A HAMMER.
A BOY WHO NEEDS HIS MOTHER.
NO HAMMER CAN WIN THE WAR OF THE REALMS. BUT A GOD OF THUNDER MIGHT. IT'S HIM YOU SHOULD BE FIGHTING TO SAVE.
AND IF YOU CANNOT, I AM HERE TO DO IT FOR YOU.
LADY FREYJA. UNLESS YOU CAN SOMEHOW DELIVER MALEKITH'S THROAT UNTO MY HANDS, THERE'S NOTHING YOU OR ANYONE ELSE CAN DO FOR ME NOW. AND NO WAY WE CAN END THIS DAMNED WAR.
YOU CERTAINLY WON'T END IT BY TORTURING YOURSELF INSIDE THE SUN.
EVERY WAKING HOUR IS TORTURE, MOTHER. AND HAS BEEN FOR MONTHS.
FOR WITHOUT A MJOLNIR OR A RAINBOW BRIDGE OR AN ALL-FATHER WHO'S WORTH A DAMN, THERE'S NO WAY TO TRAVEL BETWEEN THE REALMS AND STOP MALEKITH'S ONSLAUGHT.
NOT UNTIL HE'S HERE. UNTIL HE COMES TO MIDGARD. AND ONCE HE DOES, I PROMISE YOU...

...THOR WILL BE READY.
UNTIL THEN, WE NEED ALL THE WEAPONS WE CAN GATHER. SO IF THERE'S ANYTHING LEFT OF MJOLNIR INSIDE THE SUN, I INTEND TO--
OH THOR, PLEASE, STOP THIS. I BEG YOU.

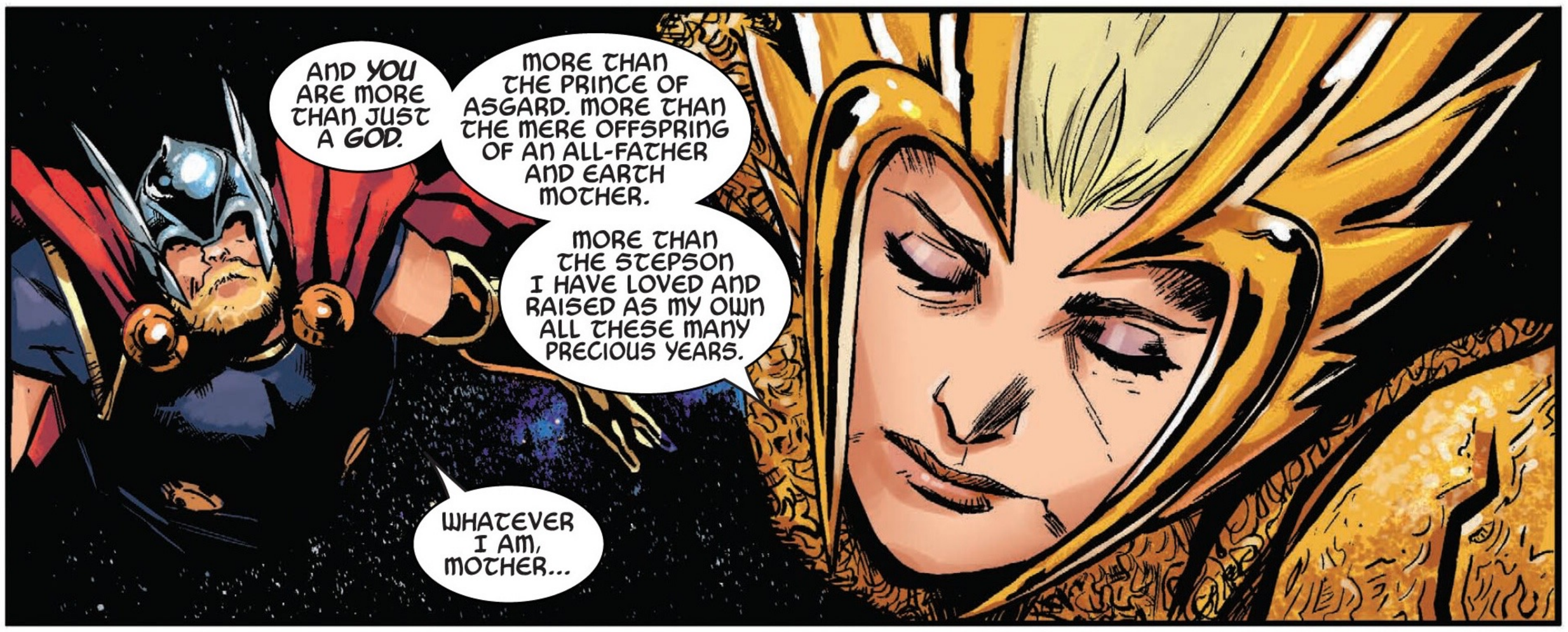
NO HAMMER IS WORTH YOUR SUFFERING.
I'VE BEEN TELLING YOU THAT FOR YEARS. NOW YOU MUST FINALLY LISTEN, FOR ALL OUR SAKES.
YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND, MOTHER. YOU CAN'T UNDERSTAND. WHAT IT MEANS TO ME. HOW I NEED IT.
MY SON.

I AM THE ALL-MOTHER OF ASGARD. AND I HAVE BEEN MARRIED TO YOUR FATHER FOR LONGER THAN THIS LITTLE STAR HERE HAS BEEN TWINKLING.
I KNOW THE PRICE OF GREAT POWER.


I HAVE PAID IT.
ALMOST AS MANY TIMES AS I'VE SEEN THIS LOOK IN YOUR EYES. THOR... I KNOW YOU'RE FRIGHTENED.
MOTHER... HOW...
COME WITH ME, SON.

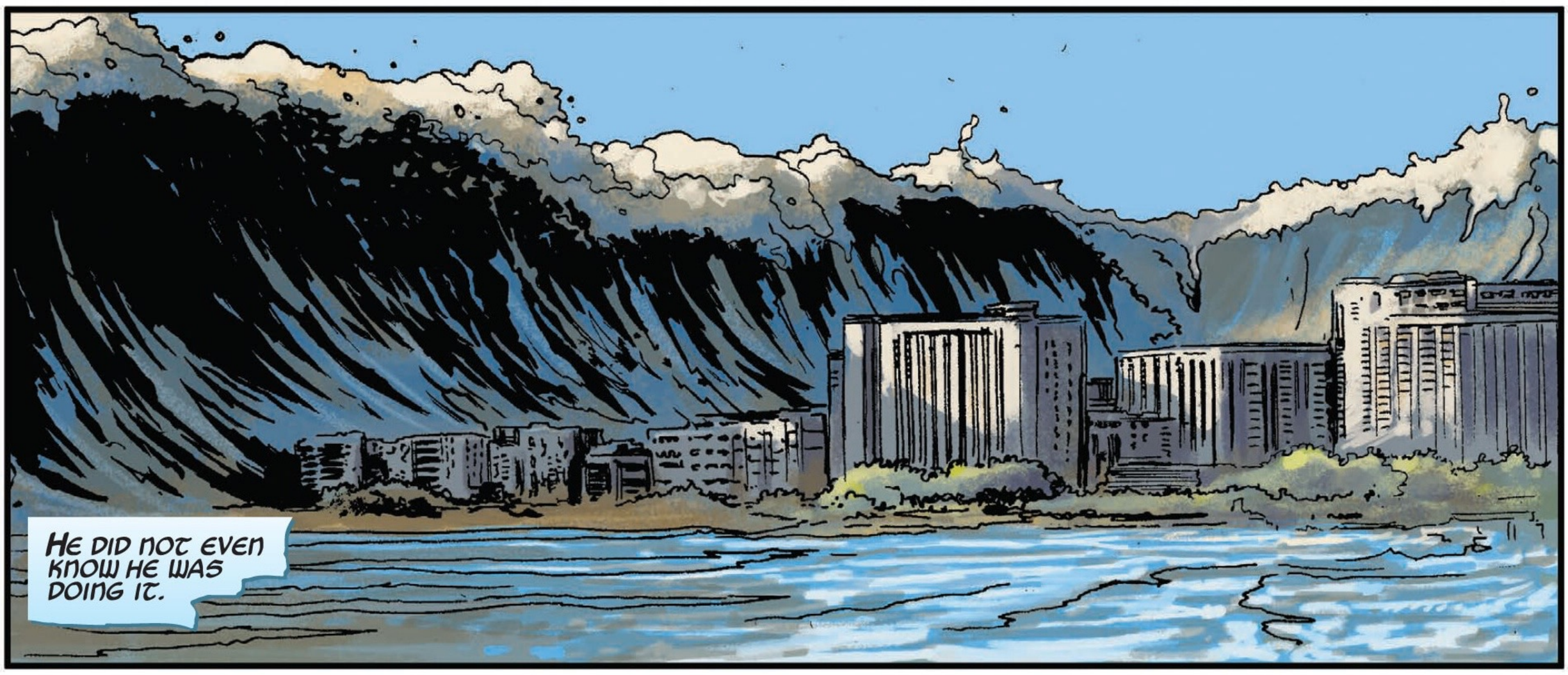
"AND TRY TO KEEP UP."
GODS, IT HAS BEEN TOO LONG.
TOO LONG SINCE *WHAT?* MOTHER, YOU'VE WIELDED A HAMMER *BEFORE?*
A STORY FOR ANOTHER TIME, PERHAPS. WE WERE TALKING ABOUT *YOU*, MY SON. TELL ME...
DO YOU REMEMBER WHEN YOU WERE A CHILD AND THE SOUND OF THUNDER OVER ASGARD WOULD LEAVE YOU *SHIVERING* UNCONTROLLABLY?

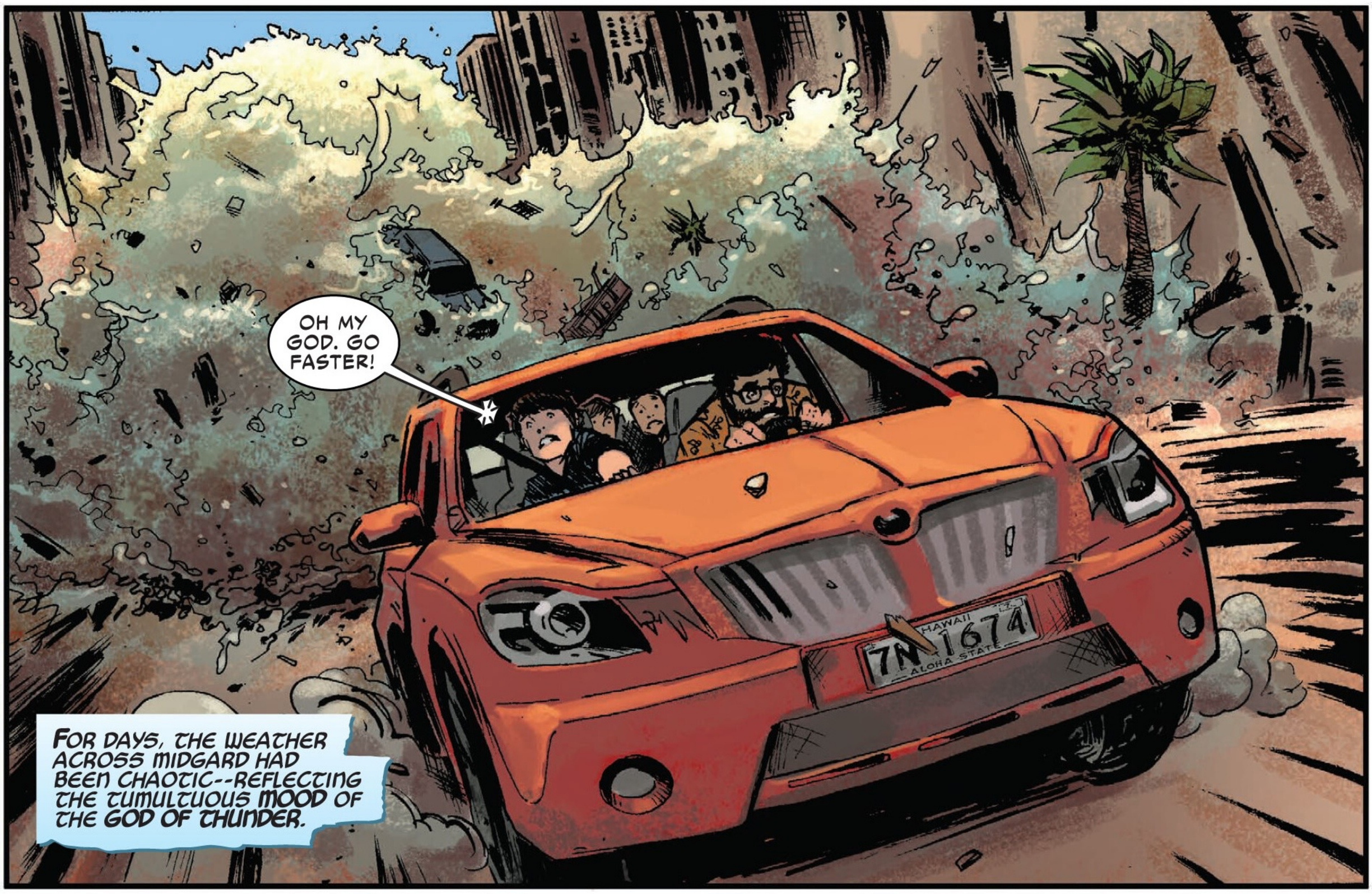
HRPH. THIS IS YOUR IDEA OF HELPING?
YOU DIDN'T NEED A HAMMER TO CONQUER YOUR FEARS THEN. INSTEAD YOU CONQUERED THE THUNDER ITSELF.
NO STORM THAT EVER RAGED WAS A MATCH FOR THE URU WILL OF THOR.
THE WAR OF THE REALMS IS FAR MORE THAN A STORM, MOTHER.
AYE.

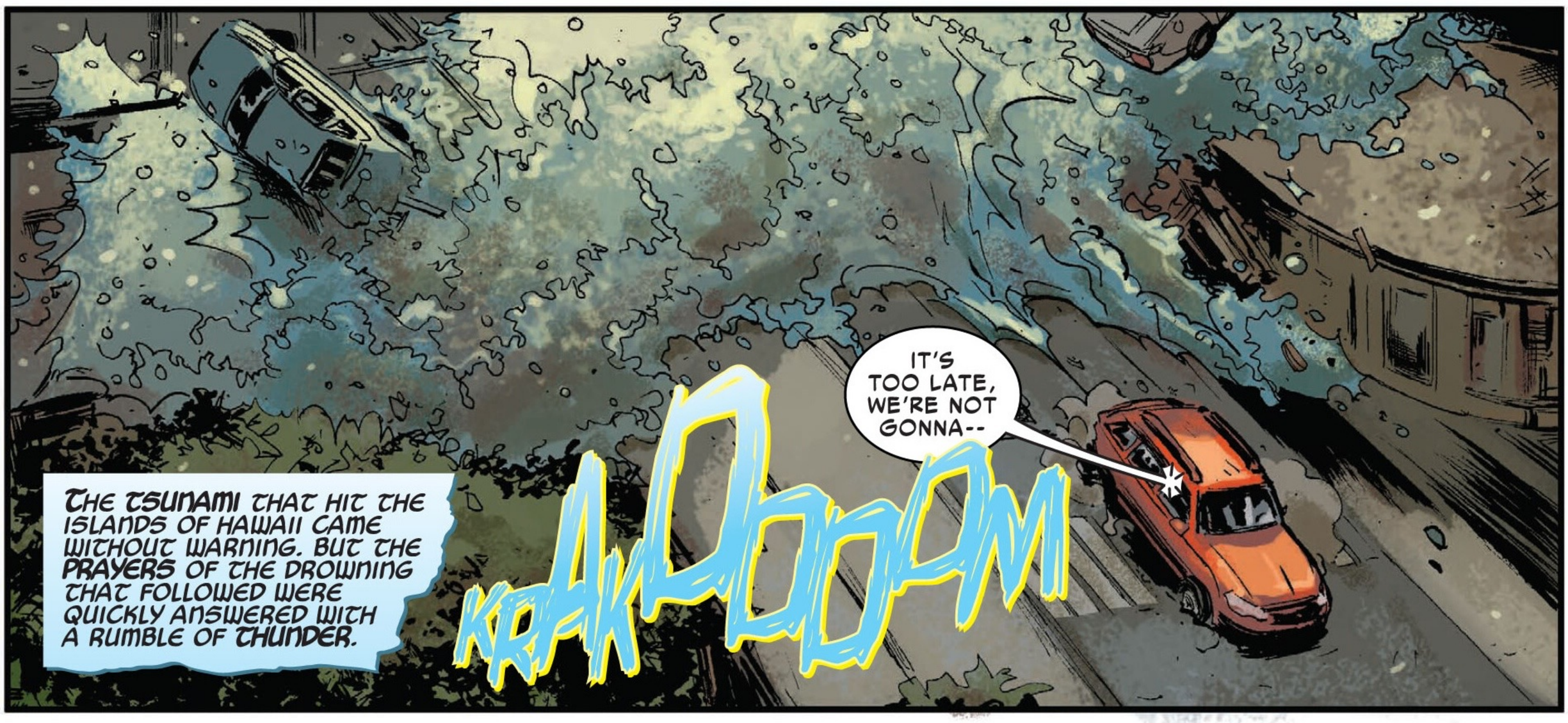

AND YOU ARE MORE THAN JUST A GOD.
MORE THAN THE PRINCE OF ASGARD. MORE THAN THE MERE OFFSPRING OF AN ALL-FATHER AND EARTH MOTHER.
MORE THAN THE STEPSON I HAVE LOVED AND RAISED AS MY OWN ALL THESE MANY PRECIOUS YEARS.
WHATEVER I AM, MOTHER...

...IT'S STILL NOT ENOUGH. NOT AGAINST MALEKITH'S ARMY. NOT WITHOUT MJOLNIR.
MY SON. YOU ARE SO MUCH MORE THAN ENOUGH. FOR ANY WAR. ANY WOULD-BE DESTROYER.
FOR YOU ALREADY WIELD YOUR GREATEST WEAPON. ALWAYS HAVE AND ALWAYS WILL.

IT'S TIME YOU REMEMBERED WHAT THAT IS.


He did not even know he was doing it.


OH MY GOD. GO FASTER!
HAWAII
7N 1674
ALOHA STATE
For days, the weather across Midgard had been chaotic--reflecting the tumultuous mood of the God of Thunder.


IT'S TOO LATE, WE'RE NOT GONNA--
KRAKOOOM
The tsunami that hit the islands of Hawaii came without warning. But the prayers of the drowning that followed were quickly answered with a rumble of thunder.

I STILL MANAGE TO BE EVEN LOUDER. I'VE HAD YEARS OF PRACTICE YELLING OVER THUNDER.
WHOA.
TRY TO REMAIN CALM! THIS WILL ALL BE OVER IN A MOMENT!
AS THE WATER ROARS WITH THE UNBRIDLED FURY OF THE SEA, TEARING BUILDINGS ASUNDER IN THE BLINK OF AN EYE, AND ALL HOPE SEEMS UTTERLY LOST...I SEE THE MAGIC BEGIN TO HAPPEN.
YOU HAVE MY WORD AS A GODDESS!
AND MORE IMPORTANTLY...
KRAKKA-KRRRRR
I SEE THOR'S GREATEST WEAPON COME TO LIFE.
...AS A MOTHER.
'TIS NOT THE MIGHTY LIGHTNING THAT SPLITS THE SKY. OR THE GODLY STRENGTH IT TAKES TO MAKE WATERS RECEDE.
'TIS NOT THE WONDROUS HAMMERS HE HOLDS IN HIS MIGHTY HANDS.

'TIS THE **HEART** THAT BEATS INSIDE HIS CHEST.

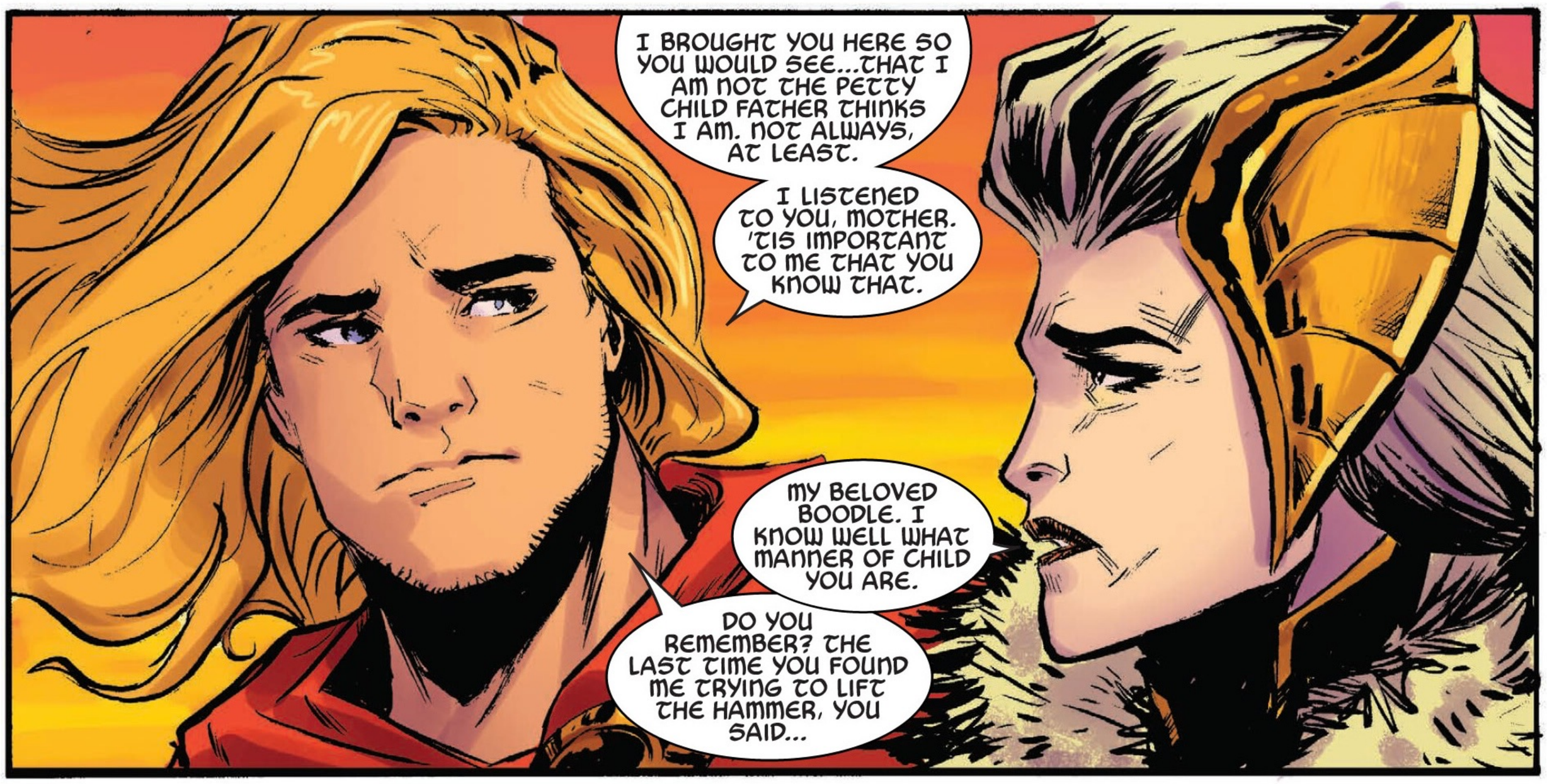
NOTHING IN ALL THE REALMS IS STRONGER THAN THE HEART OF **THOR**.

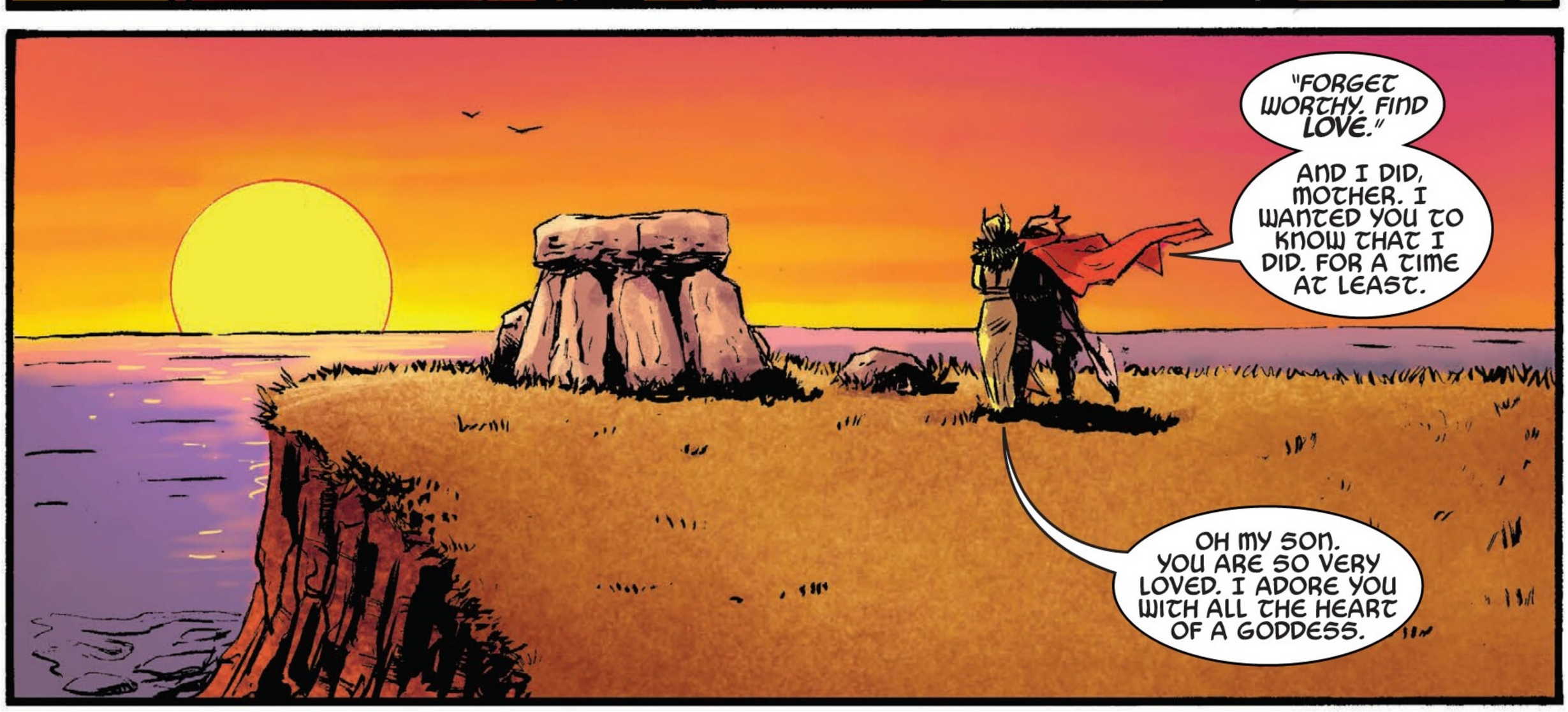
THIS WAY! TO THE SAFETY OF DRY GROUND!

THIS WAY TO LIFE!

...FOR A VERY LONG TIME.
MANY YEARS AGO.
MIDGARD.
HER NAME WAS ERIKA THE RED. FIERCEST VIKING WHO EVER LIVED.

SHE'S IN VALHALLA WITH THE VALKYRIES NOW. PERHAPS SOMEDAY, I'LL SEE HER AGAIN.
I AM SO DEEPLY SORRY, MY SON. SHE MUST HAVE BEEN QUITE AN AMAZING WOMAN. I WISH I COULD HAVE MET HER IN LIFE.
AYE. I WISH THAT AS WELL, LADY FREYJA.


I BROUGHT YOU HERE SO YOU WOULD SEE...THAT I AM NOT THE PETTY CHILD FATHER THINKS I AM. NOT ALWAYS, AT LEAST.
I LISTENED TO YOU, MOTHER. 'TIS IMPORTANT TO ME THAT YOU KNOW THAT.
MY BELOVED BOODLE. I KNOW WELL WHAT MANNER OF CHILD YOU ARE.
DO YOU REMEMBER? THE LAST TIME YOU FOUND ME TRYING TO LIFT THE HAMMER, YOU SAID...


"FORGET WORTHY. FIND LOVE."
AND I DID, MOTHER. I WANTED YOU TO KNOW THAT I DID. FOR A TIME AT LEAST.
OH MY SON. YOU ARE SO VERY LOVED. I ADORE YOU WITH ALL THE HEART OF A GODDESS.

"FROM NOW UNTIL THE END OF TIME."

UNTOLD EONS FROM NOW.
THE ASGARD AT THE END OF EVERYTHING.

HE'S NOT DEAD. DON'T EVEN THINK IT.

I WASN'T, FRIGG.

I WAS.

WELL HE'S NOT. HE'S THOR. HE'LL OUTLIVE THE STARS.

HE ALREADY HAS. MOST OF THEM ARE DYING TOO, REMEMBER?

THE UNIVERSE ITSELF IS BREATHING ITS LAST. AND NOT EVEN ALL-FATHER THOR CAN SAVE IT.

STOP SAYING THAT ABOUT POP-POP, ELLISIV! HE'S THE STRONGEST GRANDFATHER EVER! HE SAVED MIDGARD ALL BY HIMSELF!

HE DID, ATLI. AND DEFEATED THE MOST POWERFUL DOCTOR DOOM WHO EVER LIVED. OUR ALL-GRANDFATHER HAS EARNED HIS REST.

WAR.

GRANDFATHER! HE IS ALIVE!

IS HE? HE STILL LOOKS DEAD.

WAR IS COMING. THE WAR OF THE REALMS.

THE WAR OF THE REALMS? BUT THAT'S ANCIENT HISTORY. HE MUST BE DELIRIOUS.

WAR. SO MANY WILL FALL. AND MIDGARD... MIDGARD WILL NEED...

THIS IS THE *EVE OF WAR!* IT'S COMING FOR US ALL!

GODS, HE'S *STRONG* FOR AN INVALID!

VOLSTAGG, PLEASE CALM DOWN! YOU'RE STILL INJURED, YOU NEED REST!

THE *WAR THOR* KNOWS. THE THUNDER *CALLS* ME. CALLS *ALL* ITS CHILDREN. SO LOUD IT'S GOING TO BURST MY EARS!

THESE ARE *ELVEN* SEDATIVES, THEY SHOULD--

CAN'T YOU HEAR IT, LADY JANE?

CAN'T YOU...

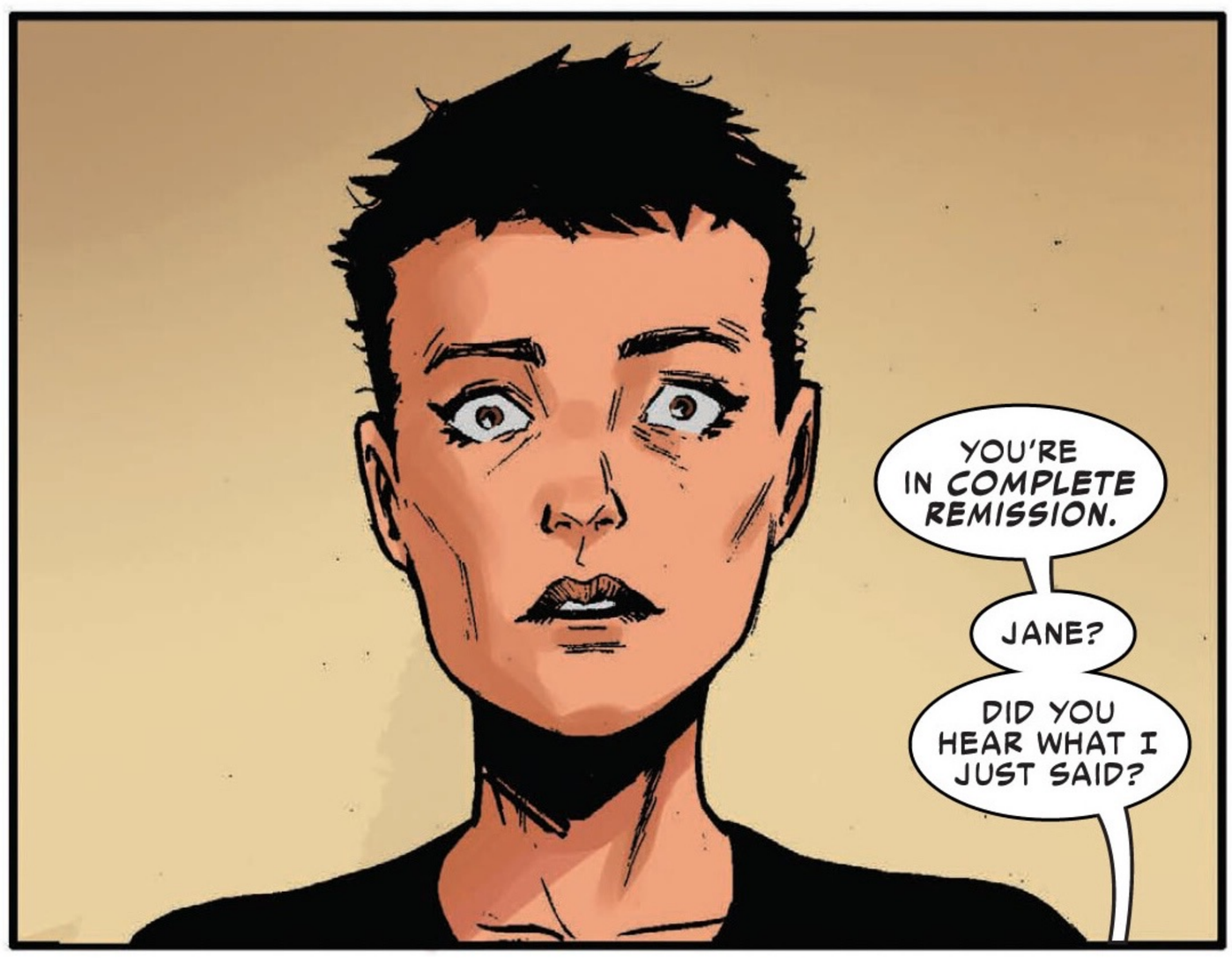
YES. I CAN, MY FRIEND.

JUST...NEED MY *HAMMER.* BROKEN HAMMER ON...

...ASGARD.

RIGHT...

"...DON'T WE ALL."
HOW DO YOU FEEL, JANE?
McCARTHY MEDICAL INSTITUTE
MARIA WHEELOCK CANCER CENTER
HONESTLY, LIKE I HAVEN'T FELT IN A VERY LONG TIME, DOC. LIKE I'M ACTUALLY GETTING *BETTER*...
YOU'RE NOT JUST GETTING BETTER...
edical Record
FOSTER, JANE



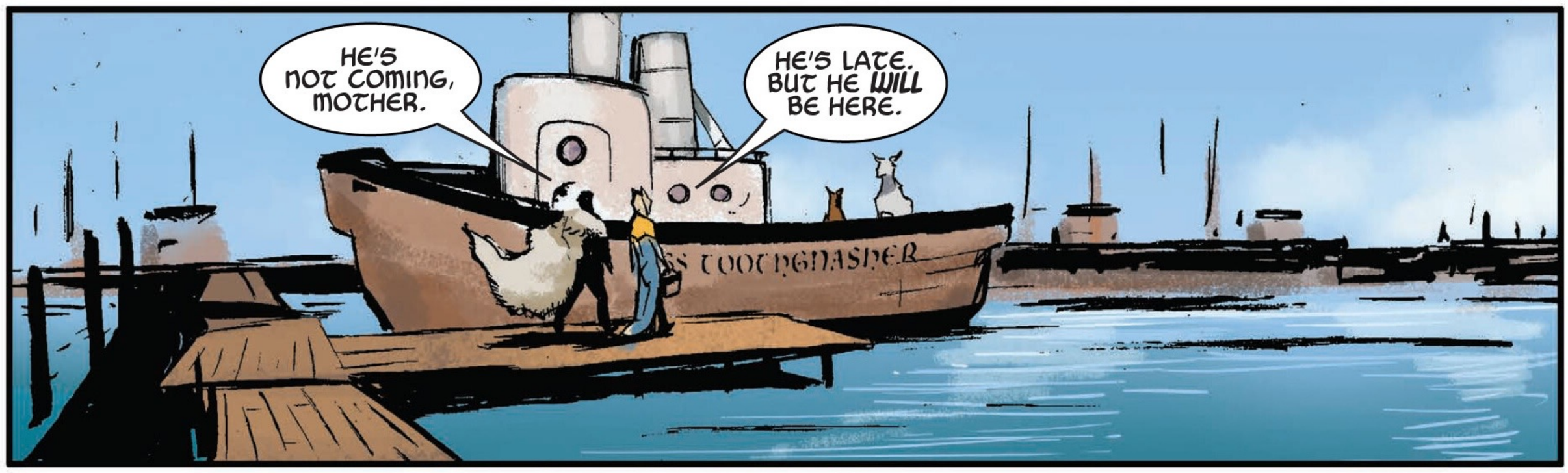
YOU HEAR ABOUT VANAHEIM?
KLANG

AYE. I HEARD. PROTECT YOUR FLANK.
I KNOW YOU HAVE A LOT OF FRIENDS THERE AMONG THE VANIR. I'M SORRY, LADY SIF. DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA... IF THEY'RE...
THEY'RE ALL DEAD.

AS FAR AS I'M CONCERNED. THEY HAVE TO BE. SINCE NONE OF THEM CAN HELP US IN THE FIGHT TO COME.
FOCUS ON THAT, BRUNNHILDE. ON THE TRAINING. WE MUST BE READY.

I'M A VALKYRIE. IT'S MY JOB TO CARE ABOUT THE DEAD.
WELL, THEN YOU'RE IN LUCK, VALKYRIE.

FOR THESE STREETS WILL SOON BE LITTERED WITH THEM.


HE'S NOT COMING, MOTHER.
HE'S LATE. BUT HE WILL BE HERE.

THOR VOWED THAT HE WOULD COME WHEN HE WAS FINISHED REGAINING CONTROL OF MIDGARD'S WEATHER.
I MADE ALL HIS FAVORITES. MUTTON AND OXTAILS AND LAMB SHANKS...
THORI HERE. CAN THORI EAT?
BAH?
MOTHER...

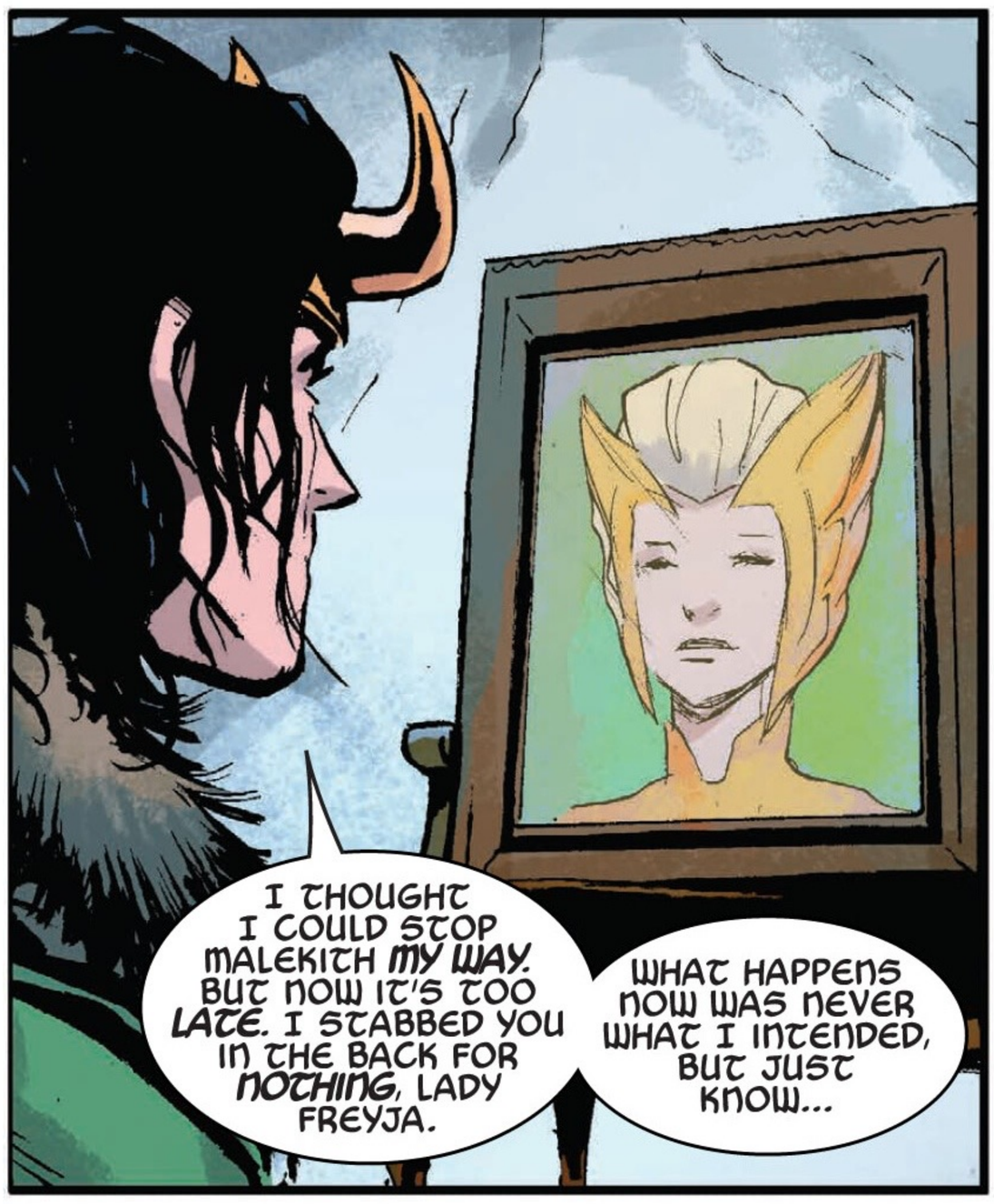
BY THE GRACE OF THOR WE WILL BE SAVED. I STILL BELIEVE THAT WITH ALL MY HEART. BUT IF IT COMES TO IT...
...MY OWN GRACE IS SOMETHING TO BE RECKONED WITH AS WELL.
HE'LL BE HERE, BALDER. WE HAVEN'T LOST HIM.
HE'S NOT HIS FATHER.

"NOT YET."

JOTUNHEIM.
REALM OF GIANTS.
I'M NOT MY FATHER.

THAT MUCH IS CLEAR. IF I *WERE*...IF I WERE THAT GIANT AND POWERFUL...I COULD END THIS WAR MYSELF IN ONE BLOODY EVENING.

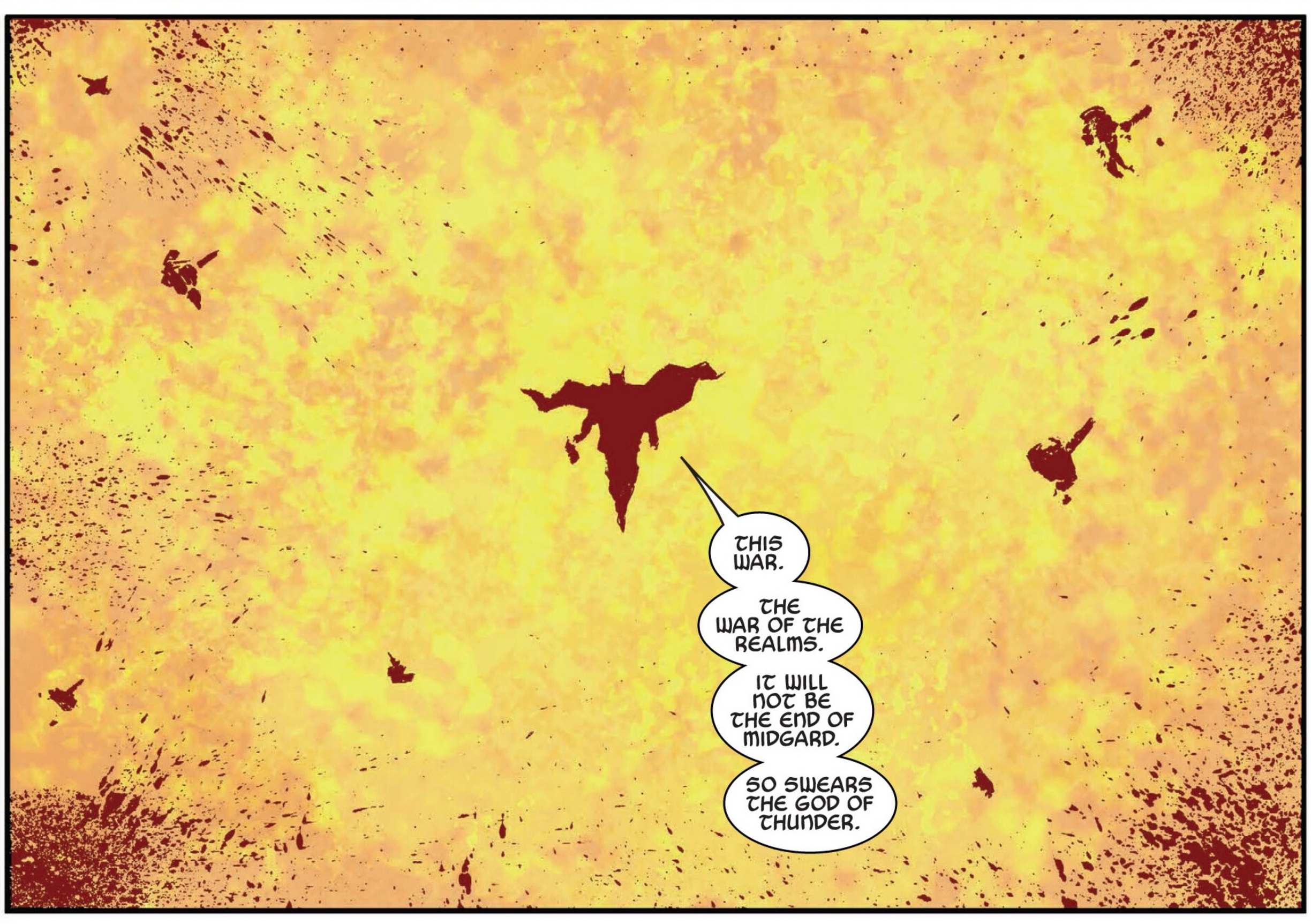
BUT I AM JUST *ONE LOKI*. AND WHAT HAS THAT EVER GOTTEN ME?
A COZY LITTLE MOUSE HOLE IN MY FATHER'S FRIGID CASTLE.
I'M SORRY. I TRULY AM.


I THOUGHT I COULD STOP MALEKITH *MY WAY*. BUT NOW IT'S TOO *LATE*. I STABBED YOU IN THE BACK FOR *NOTHING*, LADY FREYJA.
WHAT HAPPENS NOW WAS NEVER WHAT I INTENDED, BUT JUST KNOW...

...IT'S MOST ASSUREDLY WHAT I *DESERVE*.

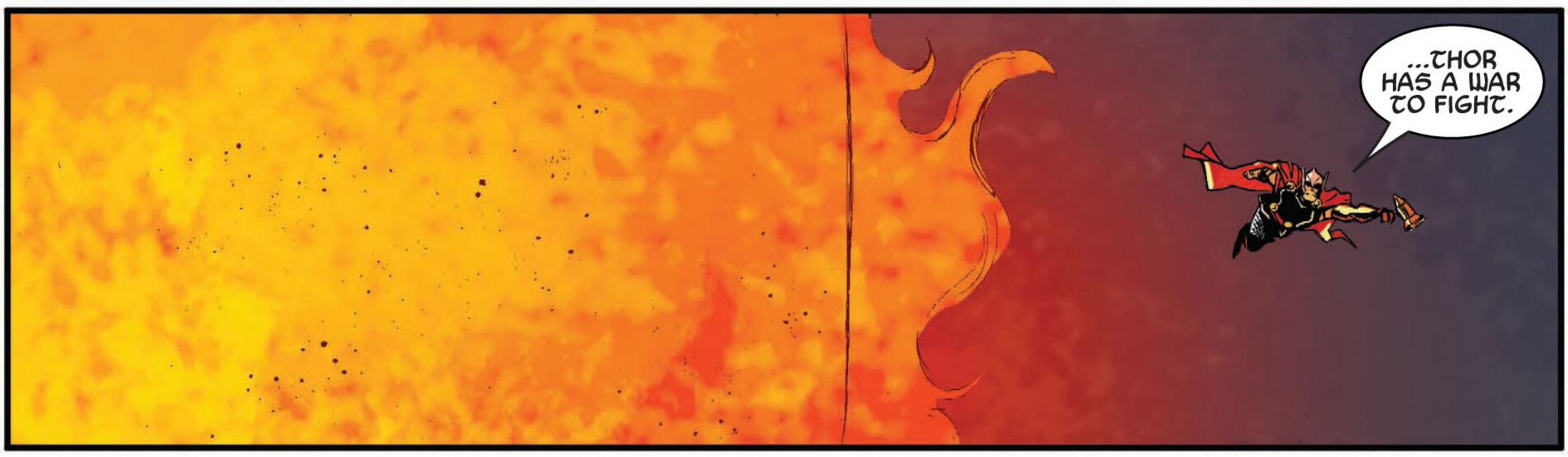
SVARTALFHEIM.
REALM OF DARK ELVES.
WAR...IS OUR NATURAL STATE.
ELVES, GIANTS, GOBLINS, MEN. ALL OF US.
WAR IS THE BLOODY COCOON WE NEED TO BECOME OUR TRUE MURDEROUS SELVES.
TODAY BRINGS THE FINAL STEP OF THAT BEAUTIFUL BECOMING.
WHEN WE PASS THROUGH THIS PORTAL... WE MARCH TO DESTINY!
TO IMMORTALITY!
TO THE GREATEST WAR THE REALMS HAVE EVER KNOWN!
WE MARCH...
...TO MIDGARD.

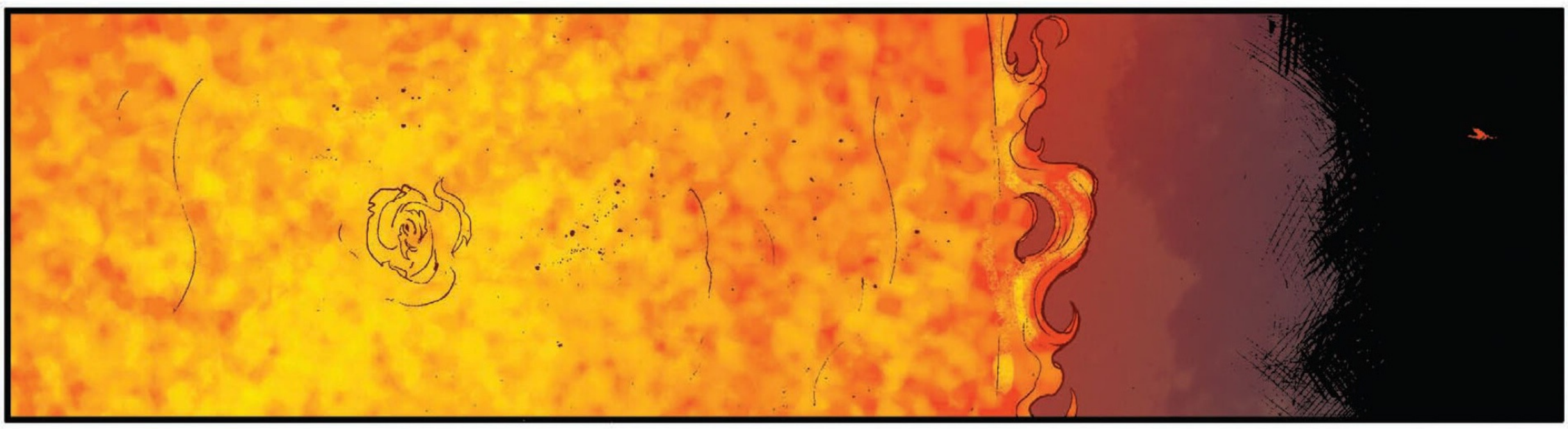
TO WAR!
STEP LIVELY, MY BEAUTIES!


THIS WAR.
THE WAR OF THE REALMS.
IT WILL NOT BE THE END OF MIDGARD.
SO SWEARS THE GOD OF THUNDER.

EVEN IF IT BE THE END OF ME.
IF THAT HAPPENS...
...I WILL JOIN YOU IN FIRE, MJOLNIR.

AND WE'LL BE REUNITED AT LAST, MY FRIEND.
UNTIL THEN...


...THOR HAS A WAR TO FIGHT.



WAR OF THE REALMS #1

The Last Realm Standing

In the beginning, there was only darkness.

The great unending nothingness of the yawning void.

Then from the south came roaring fire, and from the north swirling ice and mist.
And where the two forces clashed in the heart of the void, **life** was born.
Asgard
where once dwelt the gods
The realm of angels
heven
Ljosalfgard
alfheim
Realm of the light elves
Vanaheim
Home of the Vanir, wise gods of old
Yggdrasil
Nidavellir
Land of the dwarves
Hreidmar's hol
Elves and giants. Dwarves and goblins. Gods and men.
Jotunheim
here be giants
Utgard
And **realms** were made for each of them. Ten in total.
The realm of mortals
Midgard
Inferno hall
Muspelheim
where fire was born
Each with its own place along the **world tree**. Each with its own wonders and terrors.
Niffleheim
Svartalfheim
The dark faerie realm
The frozen underworld
This is the story of those ten realms.
Ten realms
And of the one mighty **war** that ravaged them all.

THE WAR OF THE REALMS

MALEKITH'S FORCES

MALEKITH

LOKI
Thor's brother

ULIK
Lord of the Trolls

KURSE
Malekith's enforcer

LAUFEY
King of the Frost Giants, Loki's biological father

SINDR
Queen of Muspelheim, daughter of Surtur

QUEEN OF HEVEN
Ruler of the warrior Angels

THE ENCHANTRESS
Asgardian sorceress

DARIO AGGER
Shapeshifting CEO

ASGARDIANS

THOR

ODIN
Thor's father, All-Father of Asgard

FREYJA
Thor's mother, All-Mother of Asgard

THORI
Thor's Dog

SIF

HILDEGARDE

HEROES OF MIDGARD

SPIDER-MAN

JANE FOSTER
Former Thor

PUNISHER

DAREDEVIL

CAPTAIN AMERICA

BLACK PANTHER

SHE-HULK

IRON MAN

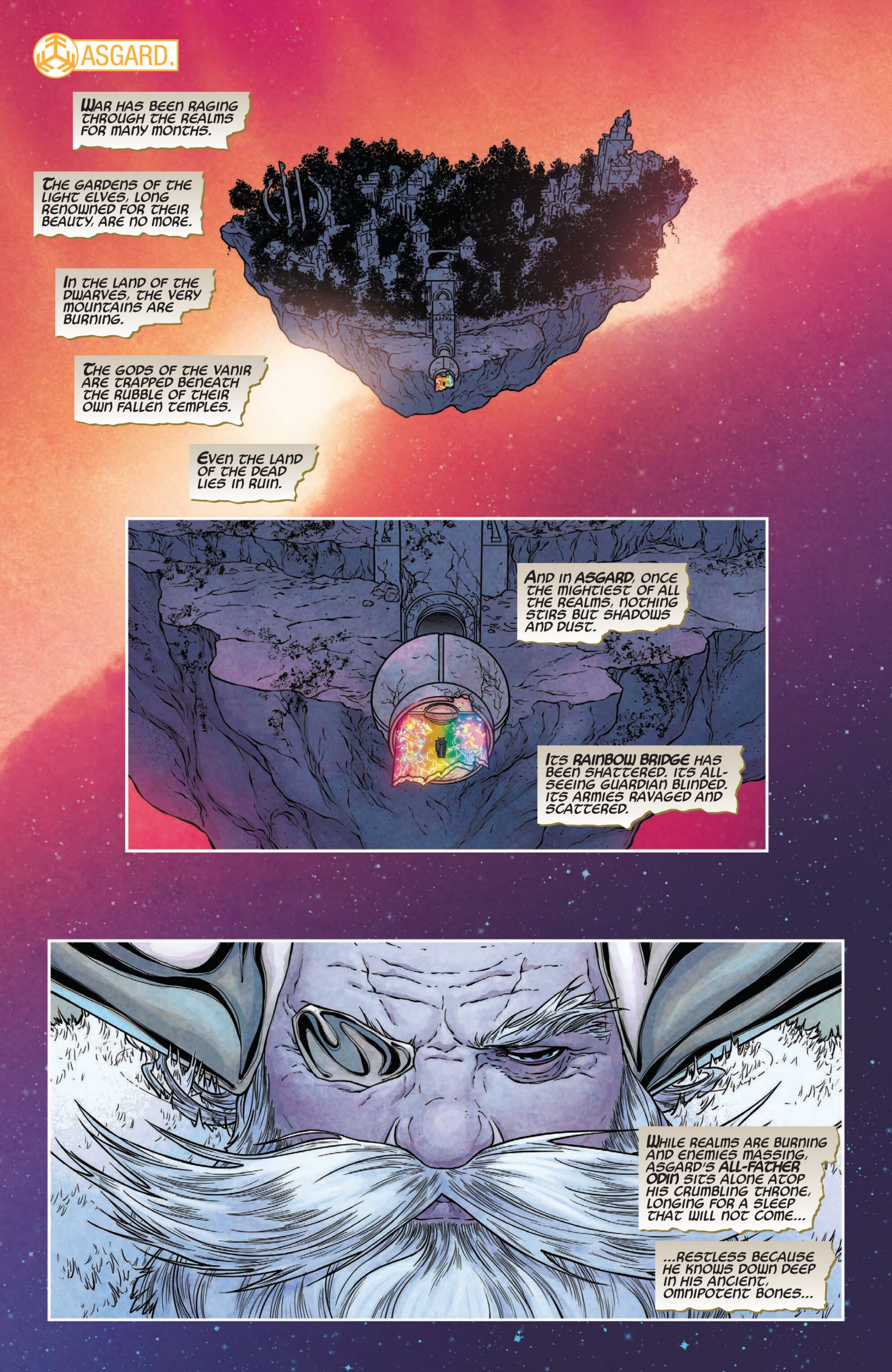
CAPTAIN MARVEL

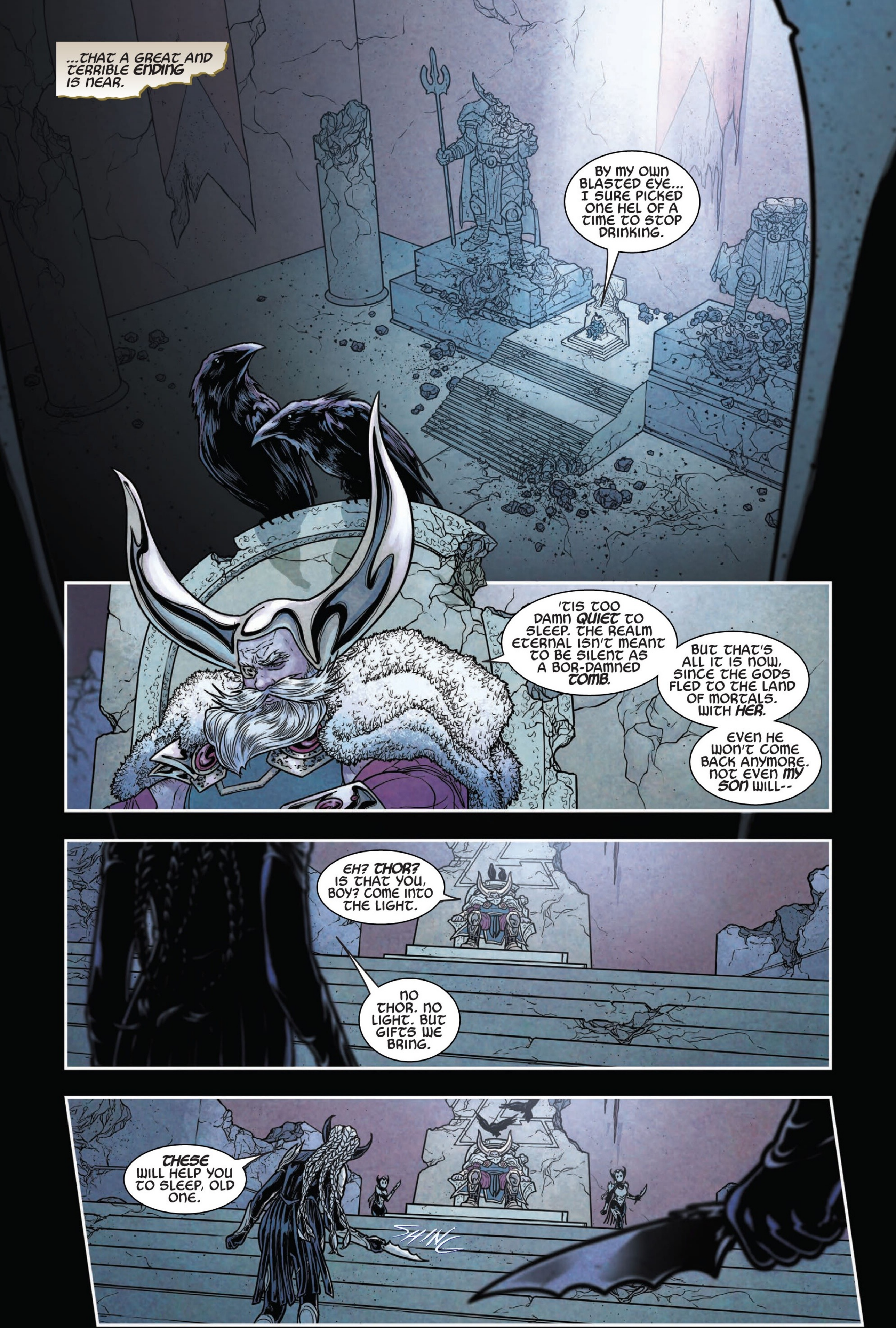
BLADE

GHOST RIDER

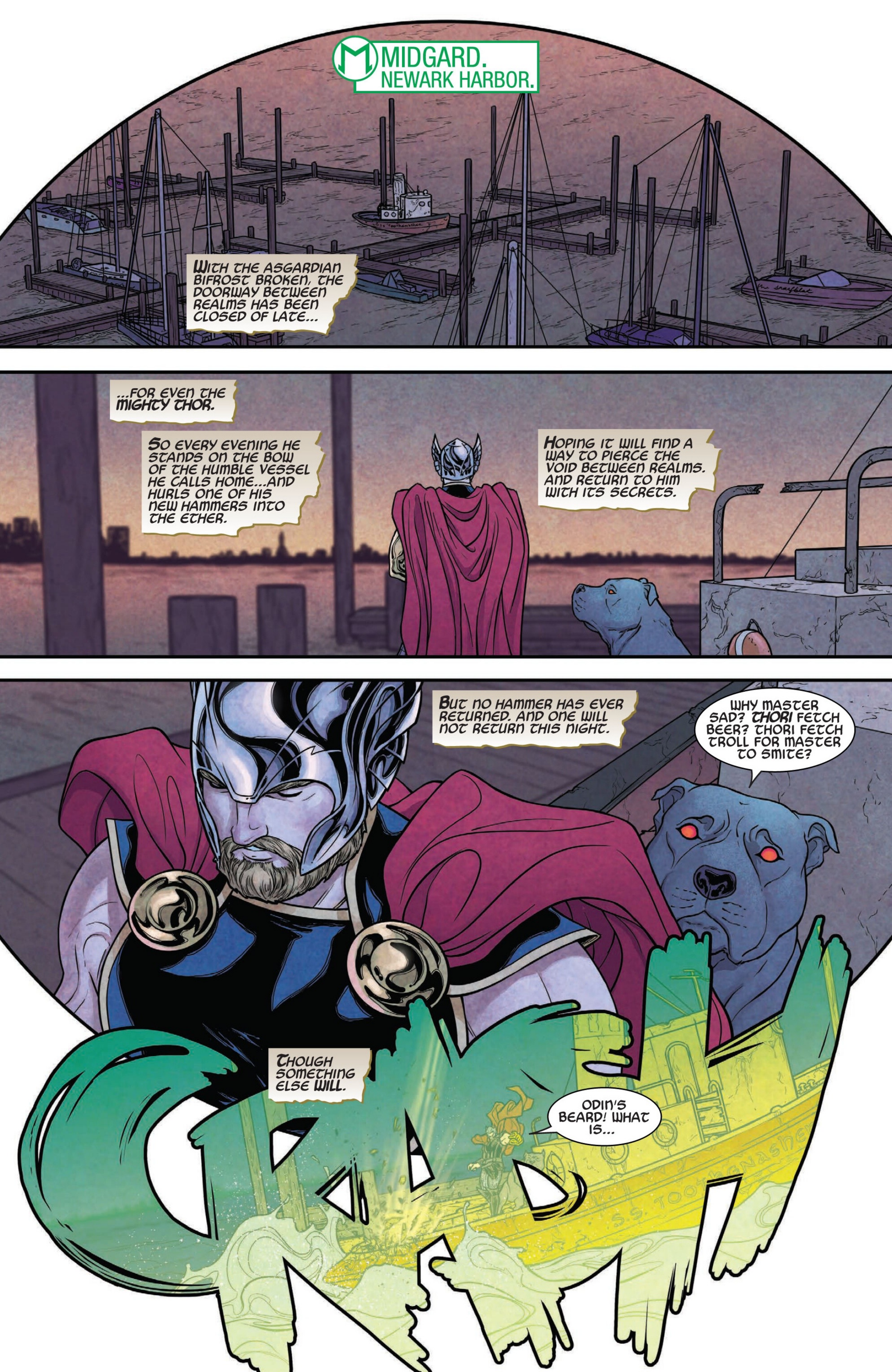
DOCTOR STRANGE

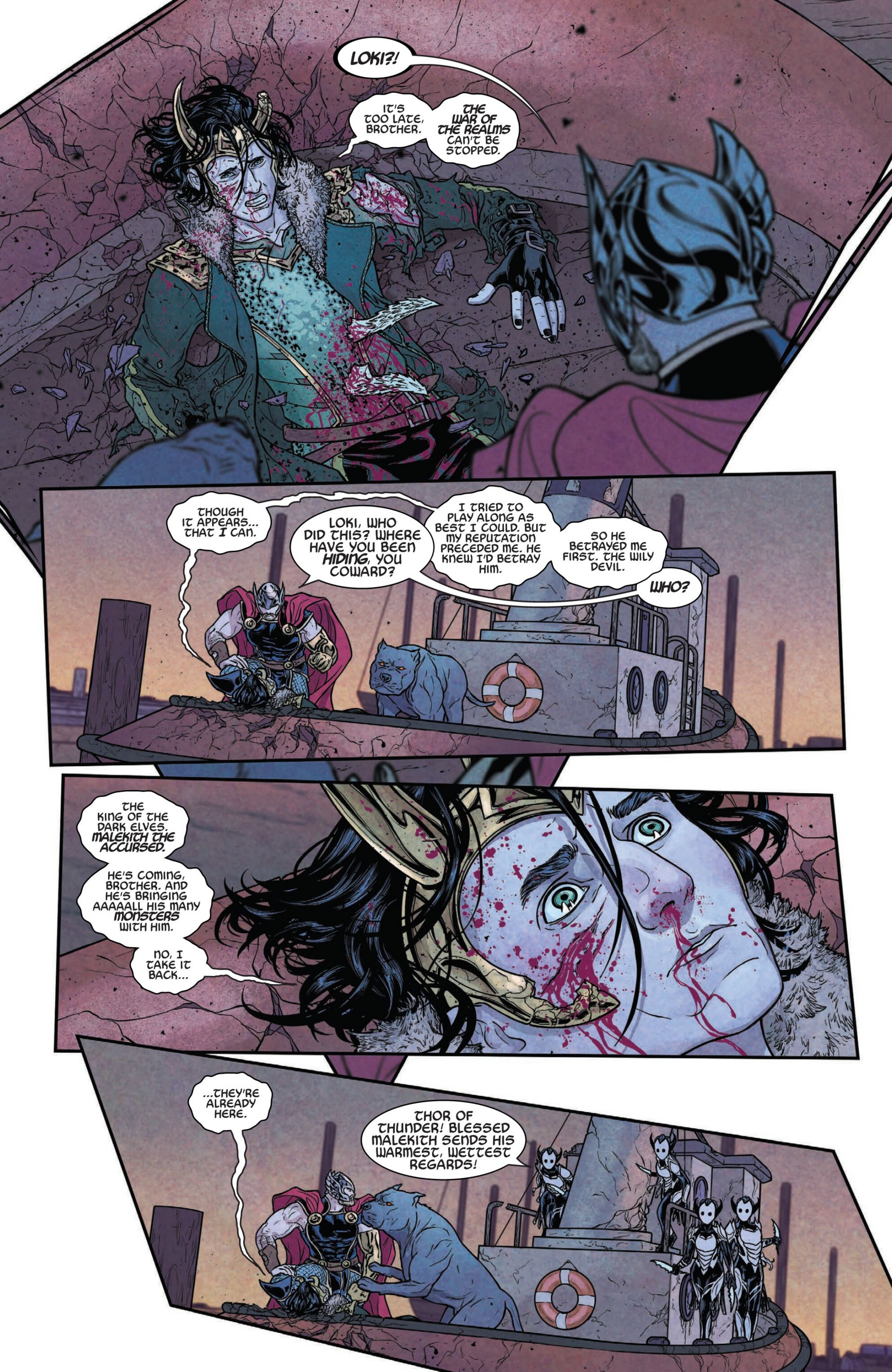
WOLVERINE

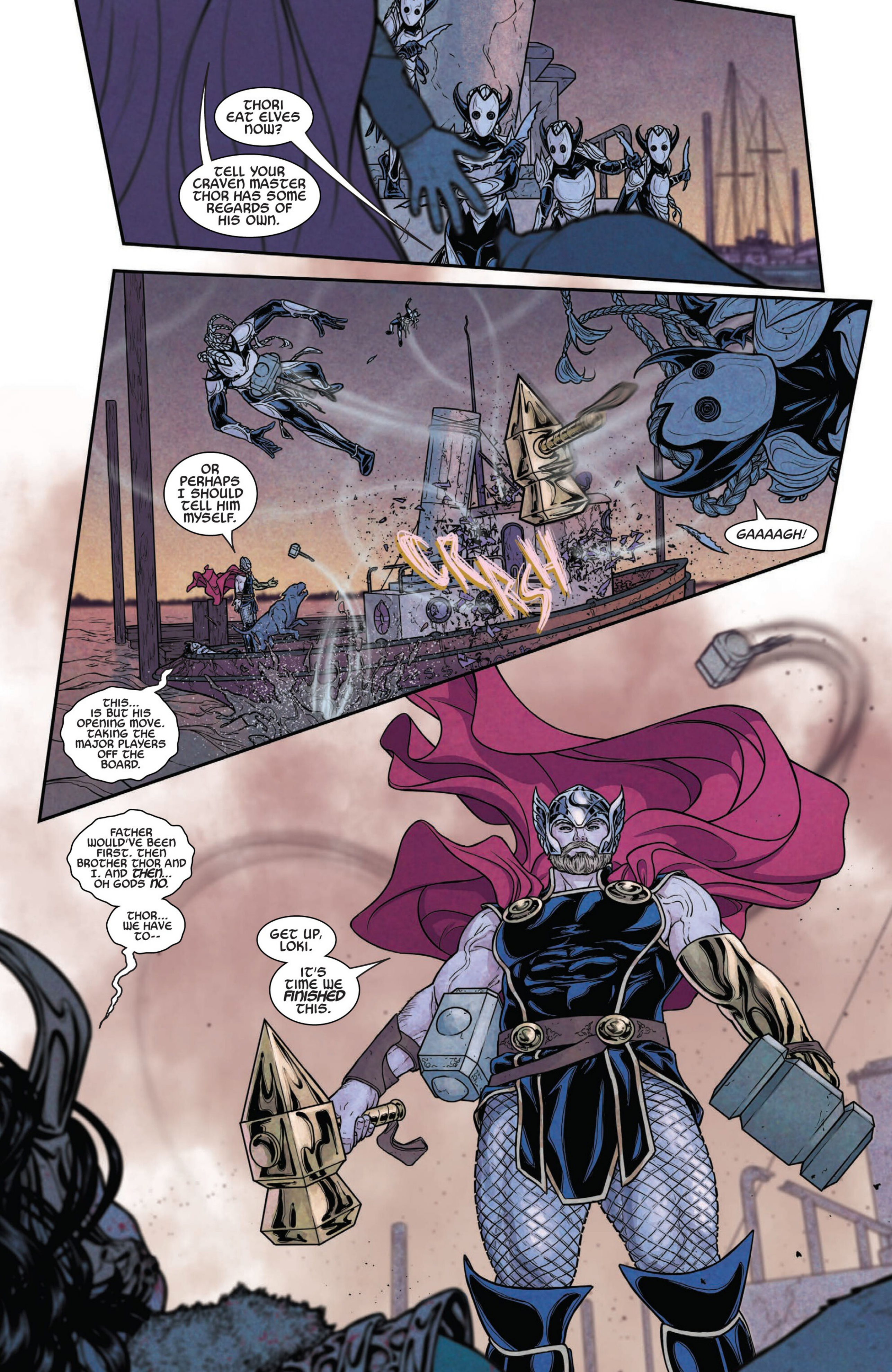

ASGARD.
WAR HAS BEEN RAGING THROUGH THE REALMS FOR MANY MONTHS.
THE GARDENS OF THE LIGHT ELVES, LONG RENOWNED FOR THEIR BEAUTY, ARE NO MORE.
IN THE LAND OF THE DWARVES, THE VERY MOUNTAINS ARE BURNING.
THE GODS OF THE VANIR ARE TRAPPED BENEATH THE RUBBLE OF THEIR OWN FALLEN TEMPLES.
EVEN THE LAND OF THE DEAD LIES IN RUIN.
AND IN ASGARD, ONCE THE MIGHTIEST OF ALL THE REALMS, NOTHING STIRS BUT SHADOWS AND DUST.
ITS RAINBOW BRIDGE HAS BEEN SHATTERED. ITS ALL-SEEING GUARDIAN BLINDED. ITS ARMIES RAVAGED AND SCATTERED.
WHILE REALMS ARE BURNING AND ENEMIES MASSING, ASGARD'S ALL-FATHER ODIN SITS ALONE ATOP HIS CRUMBLING THRONE, LONGING FOR A SLEEP THAT WILL NOT COME...
...RESTLESS BECAUSE HE KNOWS DOWN DEEP IN HIS ANCIENT, OMNIPOTENT BONES...


...THAT A GREAT AND TERRIBLE ENDING IS NEAR.
BY MY OWN BLASTED EYE... I SURE PICKED ONE HEL OF A TIME TO STOP DRINKING.
'TIS TOO DAMN QUIET TO SLEEP. THE REALM ETERNAL ISN'T MEANT TO BE SILENT AS A BOR-DAMNED TOMB.
BUT THAT'S ALL IT IS NOW, SINCE THE GODS FLED TO THE LAND OF MORTALS. WITH HER.
EVEN HE WON'T COME BACK ANYMORE. NOT EVEN MY SON WILL--
EH? THOR? IS THAT YOU, BOY? COME INTO THE LIGHT.
NO THOR. NO LIGHT. BUT GIFTS WE BRING.
THESE WILL HELP YOU TO SLEEP, OLD ONE.
SHING

ASSASSINS!
HOW DARE YOU DARK ELVES DEFILE THE HALLS OF THE GODS! I WILL PAINT THESE WALLS WITH YOUR BITTER BLACK BLOOD, YOU--
GAGGGH!!!
THE KING OF SVARTALFHEIM BIDS YOU THE GOODEST OF NIGHTS, ODIN ONE-EYE!
MAY YOUR ALL-DREAMS BE FILLED WITH MANY SCREAMS!
SHUNK
SHUNK SHUNK SHUNK
GRRAAARRRGGGHH!!!


MIDGARD.
NEWARK HARBOR.
WITH THE ASGARDIAN BIFROST BROKEN, THE DOORWAY BETWEEN REALMS HAS BEEN CLOSED OF LATE...
...FOR EVEN THE MIGHTY THOR.
SO EVERY EVENING HE STANDS ON THE BOW OF THE HUMBLE VESSEL HE CALLS HOME...AND HURLS ONE OF HIS NEW HAMMERS INTO THE ETHER.
HOPING IT WILL FIND A WAY TO PIERCE THE VOID BETWEEN REALMS. AND RETURN TO HIM WITH ITS SECRETS.
BUT NO HAMMER HAS EVER RETURNED. AND ONE WILL NOT RETURN THIS NIGHT.
WHY MASTER SAD? THORI FETCH BEER? THORI FETCH TROLL FOR MASTER TO SMITE?
THOUGH SOMETHING ELSE WILL.
ODIN'S BEARD! WHAT IS...


LOKI?!
IT'S TOO LATE, BROTHER.
THE WAR OF THE REALMS CAN'T BE STOPPED.
THOUGH IT APPEARS... THAT I CAN.
LOKI, WHO DID THIS? WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN HIDING, YOU COWARD?
I TRIED TO PLAY ALONG AS BEST I COULD. BUT MY REPUTATION PRECEDED ME. HE KNEW I'D BETRAY HIM.
SO HE BETRAYED ME FIRST. THE WILY DEVIL.
WHO?
THE KING OF THE DARK ELVES. MALEKITH THE ACCURSED.
HE'S COMING, BROTHER. AND HE'S BRINGING AAAAALL HIS MANY MONSTERS WITH HIM.
NO, I TAKE IT BACK...
...THEY'RE ALREADY HERE.
THOR OF THUNDER! BLESSED MALEKITH SENDS HIS WARMEST, WETTEST REGARDS!


THOR! EAT ELVES NOW?
TELL YOUR CRAVEN MASTER THOR HAS SOME REGARDS OF HIS OWN.
OR PERHAPS I SHOULD TELL HIM MYSELF.
GAAAAGH!
CRASH
THIS... IS BUT HIS OPENING MOVE. TAKING THE MAJOR PLAYERS OFF THE BOARD.
FATHER WOULD'VE BEEN FIRST. THEN BROTHER THOR AND I. AND THEN... OH GODS NO.
THOR... WE HAVE TO--
GET UP, LOKI.
IT'S TIME WE FINISHED THIS.

TAKE ME TO MALEKITH.

YOU KNOW I CANNOT DO THAT. WITH THE BIFROST IN PIECES, WE ARE CUT OFF FROM--

I KNOW MALEKITH HAS HIS OWN HIDDEN BIFROST. THAT'S HOW HE MOVES HIS ASSASSINS BETWEEN THE REALMS. AND I KNOW *YOU* CAN ACCESS IT.

NOT... WITHOUT GREAT RISK. AND I AM *BLEEDING* HERE, BROTHER.

PLEASE, HELP ME FIRST, AND THEN PERHAPS WE CAN...

sniff sniff

MASTER? THORI THINK...

HHHK.

TAKE ME TO MALEKITH. *NOW.*

OR I WILL RIP THOSE TINY DAGGERS FROM YOUR BELLY...

...AND BURY A FEW LARGE *HAMMERS* IN THEIR PLACE.

YOU MAKE... A CONVINCING ARGUMENT.

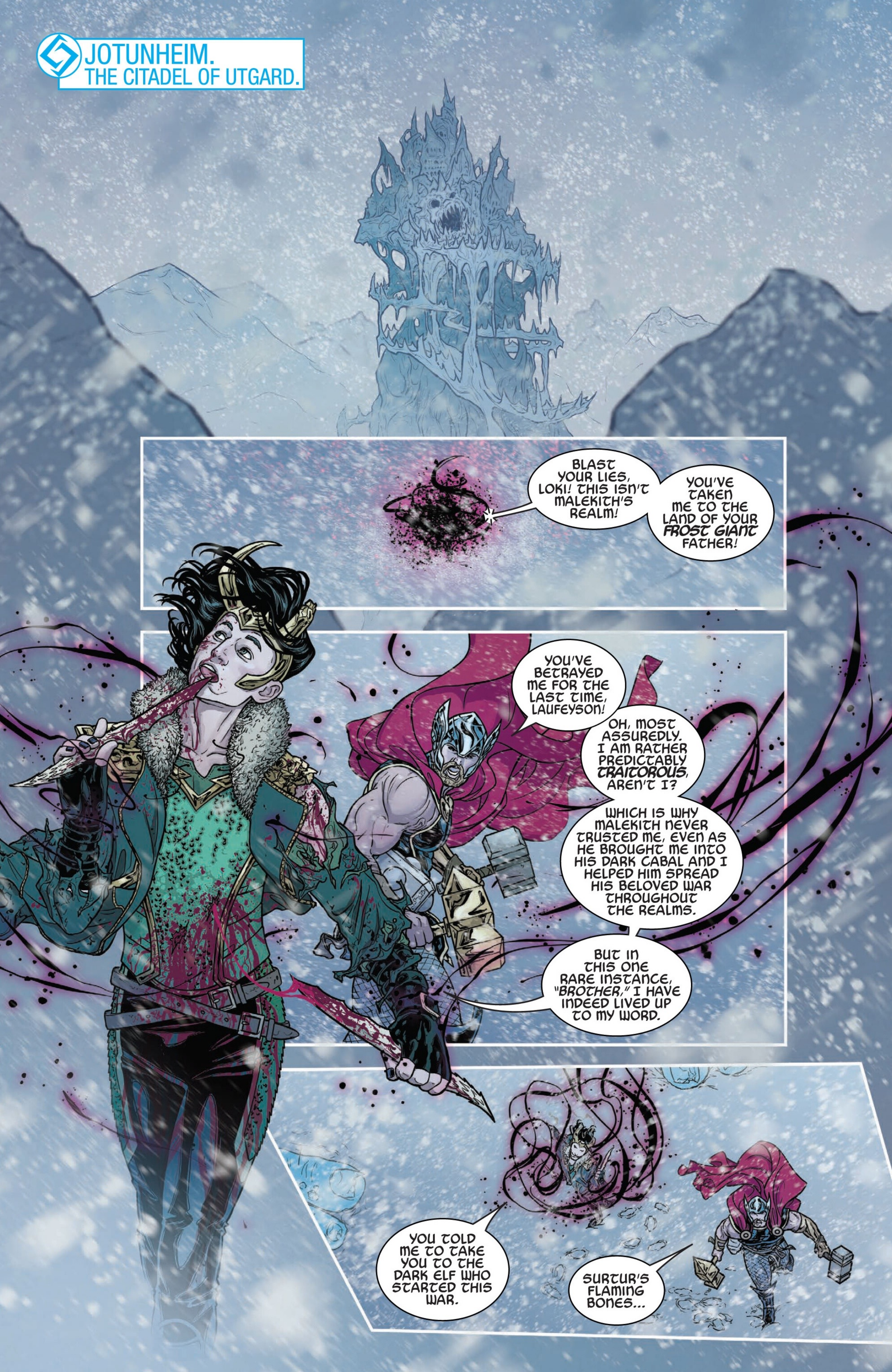
VERY WELL, THOR. I WILL TAKE YOU TO MALEKITH.

THORI, GO TO THE MOUNTAIN AND ALERT THE *AVENGERS.*

BUT MASTER, *WAIT...*

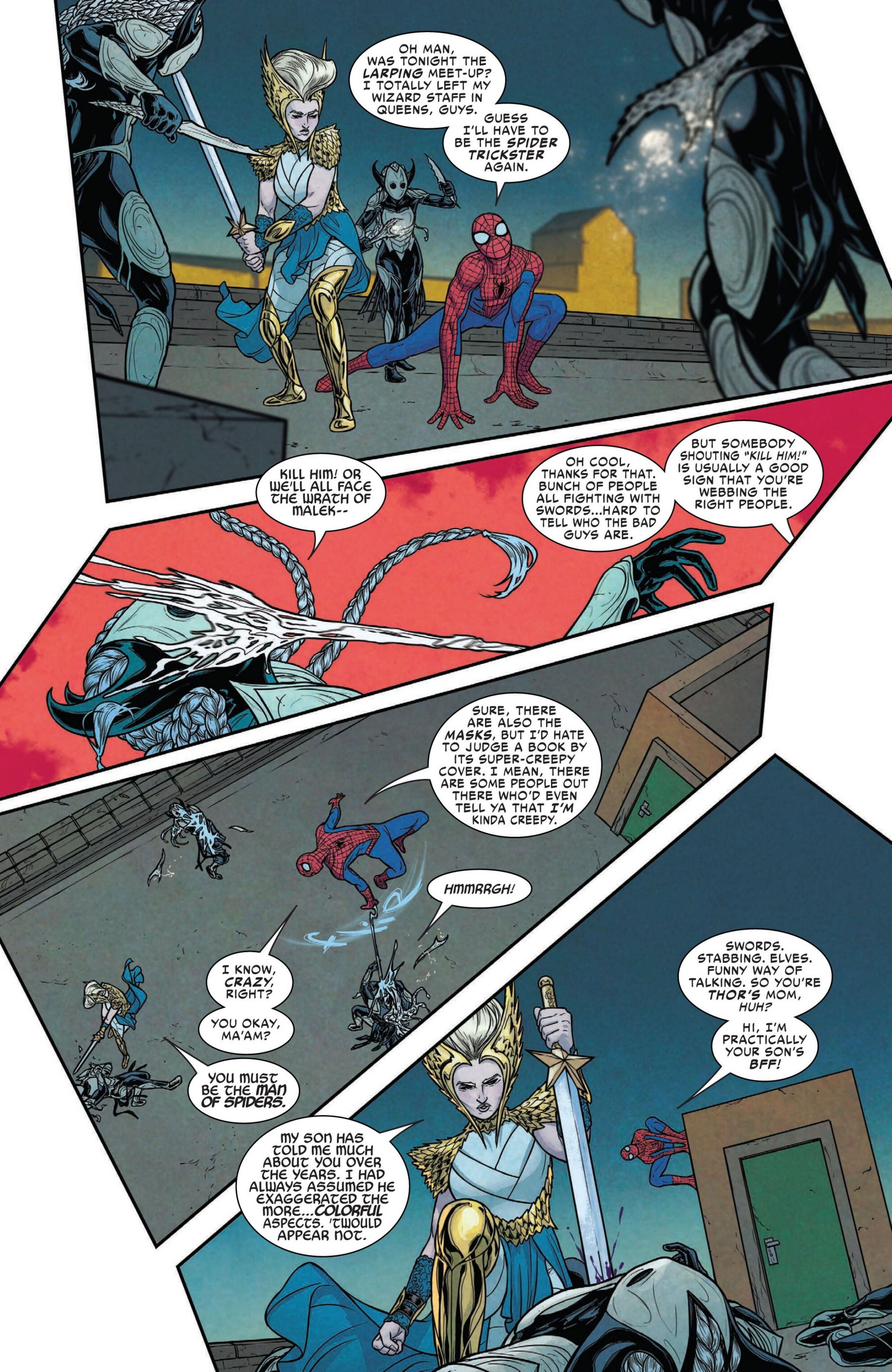
...THAT NOT...

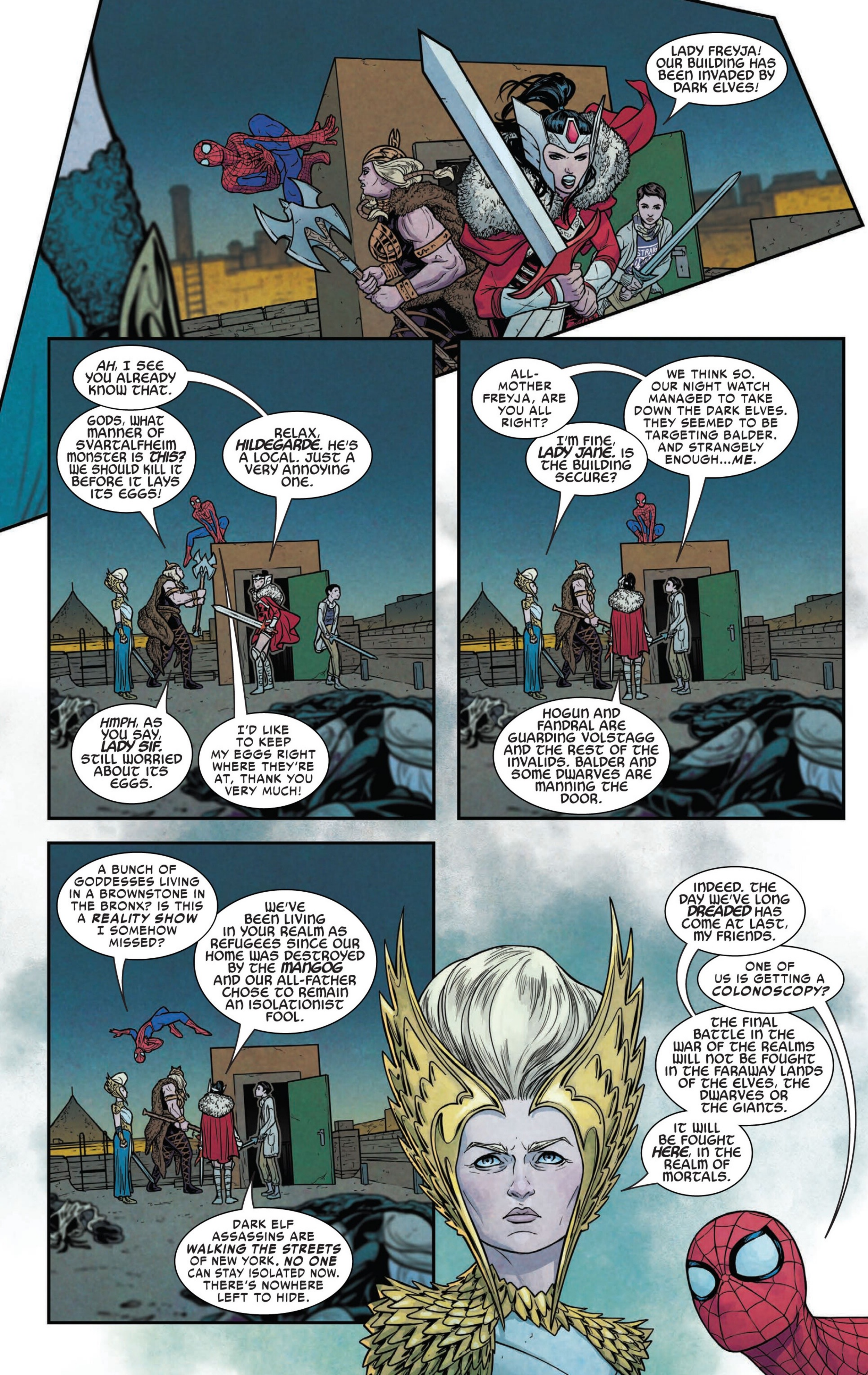
MASTER?


JOTUNHEIM.
THE CITADEL OF UTGARD.
BLAST YOUR LIES, LOKI! THIS ISN'T MALEKITH'S REALM!
YOU'VE TAKEN ME TO THE LAND OF YOUR FROST GIANT FATHER!
YOU'VE BETRAYED ME FOR THE LAST TIME, LAUFEYSON!
OH, MOST ASSUREDLY. I AM RATHER PREDICTABLY TRAITOROUS, AREN'T I?
WHICH IS WHY MALEKITH NEVER TRUSTED ME, EVEN AS HE BROUGHT ME INTO HIS DARK CABAL AND I HELPED HIM SPREAD HIS BELOVED WAR THROUGHOUT THE REALMS.
BUT IN THIS ONE RARE INSTANCE, "BROTHER," I HAVE INDEED LIVED UP TO MY WORD.
YOU TOLD ME TO TAKE YOU TO THE DARK ELF WHO STARTED THIS WAR.
SURTUR'S FLAMING BONES...

AND SO I HAVE.
MALEKITH!
INDEED. I AM MALEKITH THE WAR MESSIAH. COME TO SPREAD MY HOLY GOSPEL OF HOSTILITY ACROSS EVERY BLOODY ROOT AND BURNING BRANCH OF THE WORLD TREE.
AND BEHOLD, I COME NOT ALONE.
YOU THINK A FEW MEASLY FROST GIANTS WILL STOP ME FROM BLUDGEONING YOU INTO OBLIVION, MALEKITH?
THIS WAR OF YOURS ENDS NOW, ELF!
SHUNK
HEH. OH YE OF LITTLE FAITH. I ASSURE YOU, GOD OF THUNDER, FOR SO MANY OF YOUR DEAREST FRIENDS...MY WAR HAS JUST BEGUN.

MIDGARD.
THE BRONX.
WOW. YOU KNOW, I JUST REALIZED...IT'S BEEN ALMOST A WHOLE ENTIRE DAY SINCE ANYBODY TRIED TO MURDER ME!
THAT HASN'T HAPPENED SINCE I WAS 12!
PLUS JONAH HAD LARYNGITIS ALL DAY! THAT OLD LADY I SAVED FROM MUGGERS GAVE ME A COUPON FOR A FREE BURRITO! THIS IS EVEN THE FIRST TIME IN HOURS I'VE TALKED TO MYSELF OUT LOUD!
YEP, ALL IN ALL, IT'S BEEN A PRETTY AMAZING DAY FOR YOUR FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD SPIDER-MAN.
WHICH DEFINITELY MEANS...WAIT FOR IT...
THERE IT IS! SPIDER-SENSE GOING NUCLEAR! IT'S NICE TO SEE MY LUCK STILL HOLDS!
MALEKITH SENDS MANY DEEPEST REGARDS, LADY FREYJA!
COME THEN, YOU DEVILS, AND WE'LL SEE HOW DEEP I CAN BURY MY REGARDS IN YOUR GULLETS!

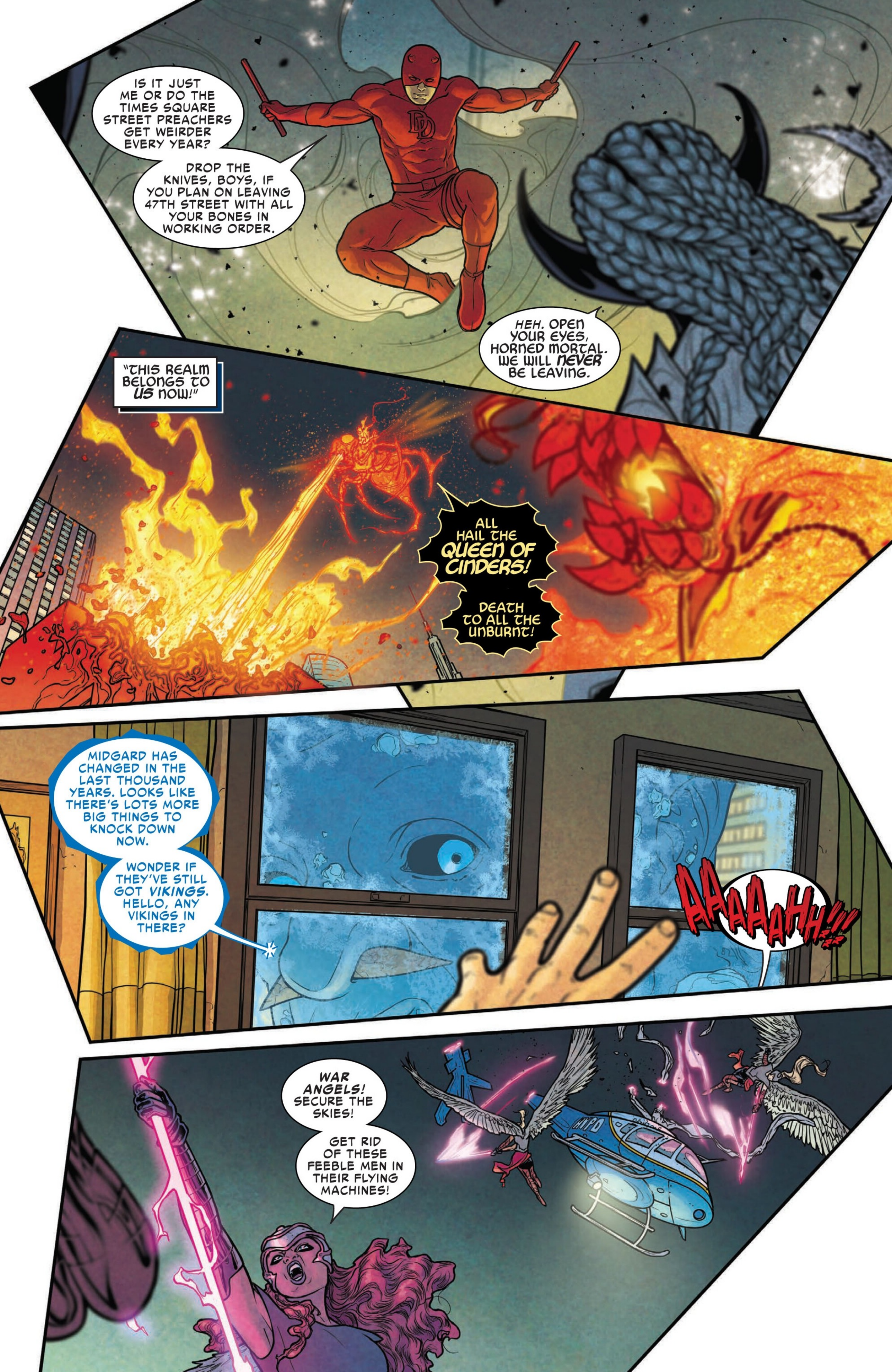

OH MAN, WAS TONIGHT THE LARPING MEET-UP? I TOTALLY LEFT MY WIZARD STAFF IN QUEENS, GUYS.
GUESS I'LL HAVE TO BE THE SPIDER TRICKSTER AGAIN.
KILL HIM! OR WE'LL ALL FACE THE WRATH OF MALEK--
OH COOL, THANKS FOR THAT. BUNCH OF PEOPLE ALL FIGHTING WITH SWORDS...HARD TO TELL WHO THE BAD GUYS ARE.
BUT SOMEBODY SHOUTING "KILL HIM!" IS USUALLY A GOOD SIGN THAT YOU'RE WEBBING THE RIGHT PEOPLE.
SURE, THERE ARE ALSO THE MASKS, BUT I'D HATE TO JUDGE A BOOK BY ITS SUPER-CREEPY COVER. I MEAN, THERE ARE SOME PEOPLE OUT THERE WHO'D EVEN TELL YA THAT I'M KINDA CREEPY.
HMMRRGH!
I KNOW, CRAZY, RIGHT?
YOU OKAY, MA'AM?
YOU MUST BE THE MAN OF SPIDERS.
SWORDS. STABBING. ELVES. FUNNY WAY OF TALKING. SO YOU'RE THOR'S MOM, HUH?
HI, I'M PRACTICALLY YOUR SON'S BFF!
MY SON HAS TOLD ME MUCH ABOUT YOU OVER THE YEARS. I HAD ALWAYS ASSUMED HE EXAGGERATED THE MORE...COLORFUL ASPECTS. 'TWOULD APPEAR NOT.

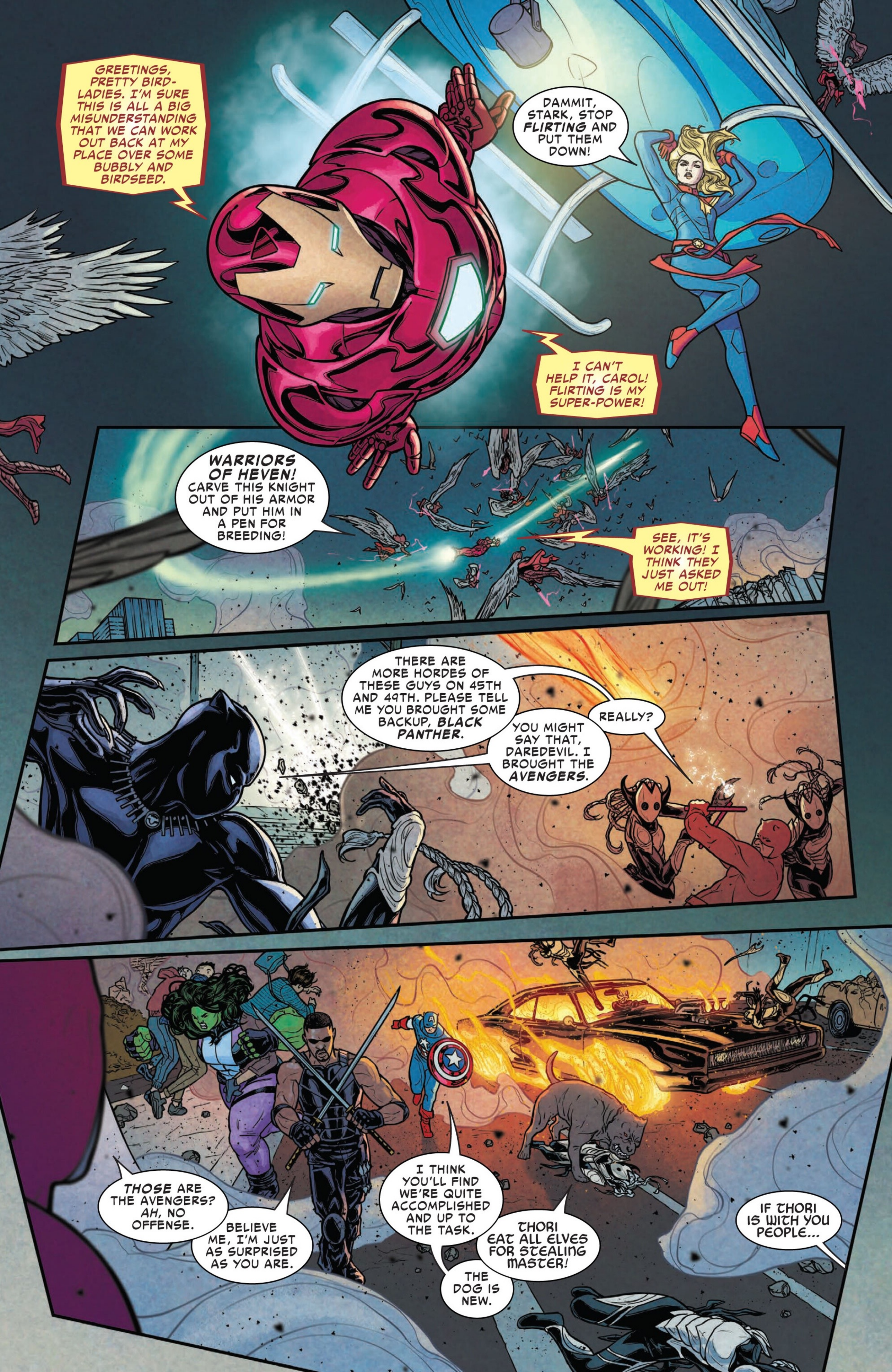

LADY FREYJA! OUR BUILDING HAS BEEN INVADED BY DARK ELVES!
AH, I SEE YOU ALREADY KNOW THAT.
GODS, WHAT MANNER OF SVARTALFHEIM MONSTER IS THIS? WE SHOULD KILL IT BEFORE IT LAYS ITS EGGS!
RELAX, HILDEGARDE. HE'S A LOCAL. JUST A VERY ANNOYING ONE.
HMPH, AS YOU SAY, LADY SIF. STILL WORRIED ABOUT ITS EGGS.
I'D LIKE TO KEEP MY EGGS RIGHT WHERE THEY'RE AT, THANK YOU VERY MUCH!
ALL-MOTHER FREYJA, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
I'M FINE, LADY JANE. IS THE BUILDING SECURE?
WE THINK SO. OUR NIGHT WATCH MANAGED TO TAKE DOWN THE DARK ELVES. THEY SEEMED TO BE TARGETING BALDER. AND STRANGELY ENOUGH...ME.
HOGUN AND FANDRAL ARE GUARDING VOLSTAGG AND THE REST OF THE INVALIDS. BALDER AND SOME DWARVES ARE MANNING THE DOOR.
A BUNCH OF GODDESSES LIVING IN A BROWNSTONE IN THE BRONX? IS THIS A REALITY SHOW I SOMEHOW MISSED?
WE'VE BEEN LIVING IN YOUR REALM AS REFUGEES SINCE OUR HOME WAS DESTROYED BY THE MANGOG AND OUR ALL-FATHER CHOSE TO REMAIN AN ISOLATIONIST FOOL.
DARK ELF ASSASSINS ARE WALKING THE STREETS OF NEW YORK. NO ONE CAN STAY ISOLATED NOW. THERE'S NOWHERE LEFT TO HIDE.
INDEED. THE DAY WE'VE LONG DREADED HAS COME AT LAST, MY FRIENDS.
ONE OF US IS GETTING A COLONOSCOPY?
THE FINAL BATTLE IN THE WAR OF THE REALMS WILL NOT BE FOUGHT IN THE FARAWAY LANDS OF THE ELVES, THE DWARVES OR THE GIANTS.
IT WILL BE FOUGHT HERE, IN THE REALM OF MORTALS.

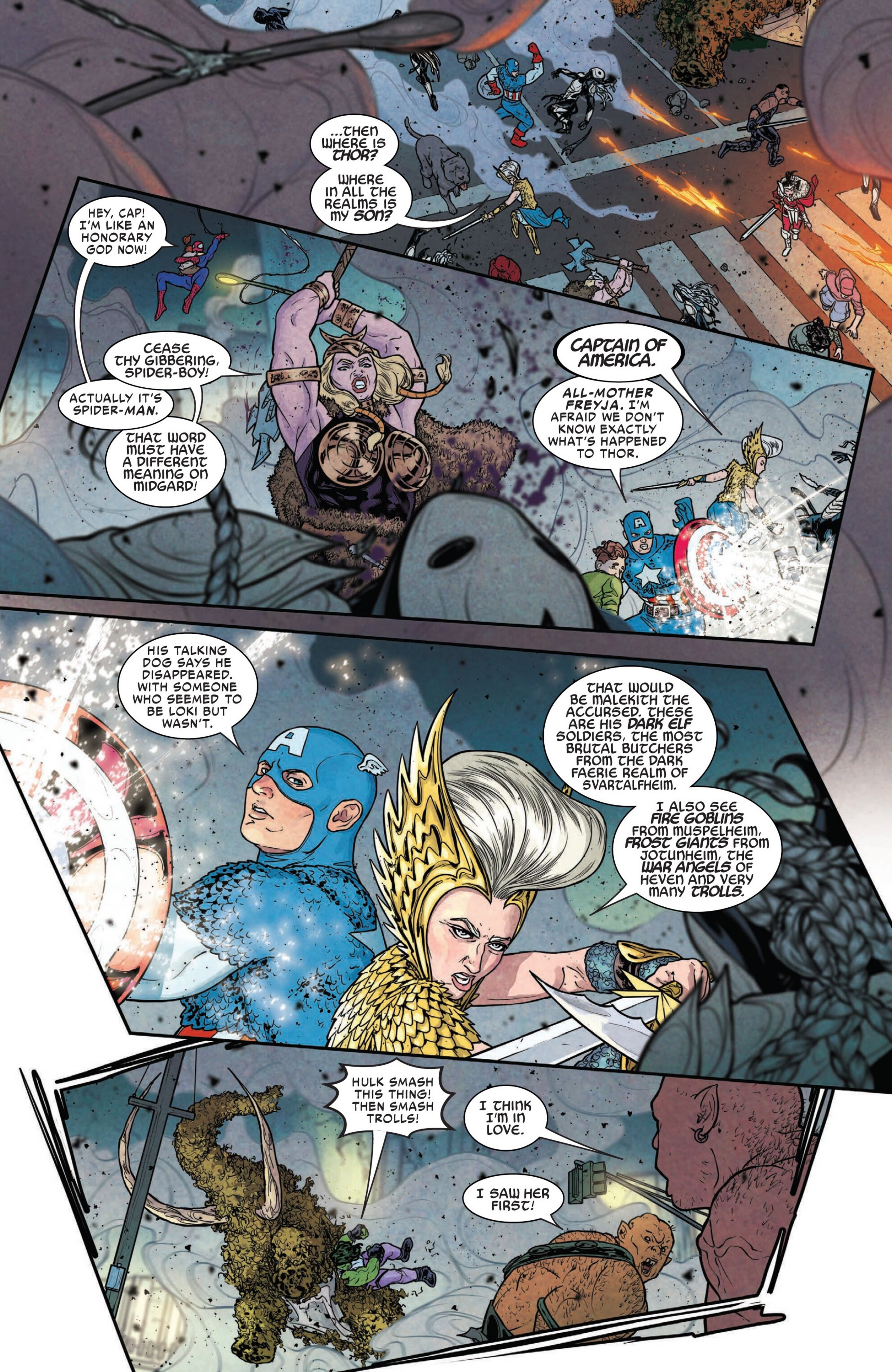
"GODS HELP THEM ALL."
IN GREENWICH VILLAGE, INSIDE THE MYSTICAL SANCTUM SANCTORUM OF EARTH'S SORCERER SUPREME, A CRYSTAL BALL SUDDENLY GLOWS RED-HOT AND SCREAMS IN A VOICE THAT SOUNDS EERILY HUMAN.
AND THE MASTER OF THE MYSTIC ARTS BEGINS HURRIEDLY CASTING SPELLS.
EVERY EXTRADIMENSIONAL ALARM BELL ON YANCY STREET IS RINGING. DAREDEVIL CAN HEAR THEM, EVEN FROM BLOCKS AWAY IN HELL'S KITCHEN.
AND THE MAN WITHOUT FEAR STIFLES A SHUDDER.
BEER
IN A WESTCHESTER TAVERN, OLD ADAMANTIUM BONES BEGIN ACHING IN AN ALL-TOO-FAMILIAR WAY. AND ONE LAST ROUND IS ORDERED.
WHILE ON A MIDTOWN ROOFTOP, THE PUNISHER'S EARS MAY BE DEAF TO THE BLUBBERING PLEAS OF THE MURDERER AT HIS FEET, BUT HIS EYES SPY A SUDDEN FLASH OF LIGHT ALONG THE STREET BELOW.
AND JUST LIKE THAT...

...THE WAR OF WARS COMES TO MIDGARD.
M&N
NY CAB

HOLY CRAP! WE'RE BEING INVADED BY THE LORD OF THE RINGS! RUN FOR YOUR--
BLAM
RUNNING'S FOR SOMEONE WHO'S ABOUT TO DIE.
BLAM
JUST WISH I'D BROUGHT A BIGGER GUN.
RRRGGGHH!!!
GROVEL BEFORE YOUR NEW TROLL MASTERS, SQUISHY MORTALS!
BOW OR BE BROKEN!
HOWARD FOR PRESIDENT
THE KING OF THE DARK ELVES SENDS REGARDS TO EACH AND EVERY ALL OF YOU!
PREPARE TO RECEIVE HIS MOST BLOODIEST OF BLESSINGS!

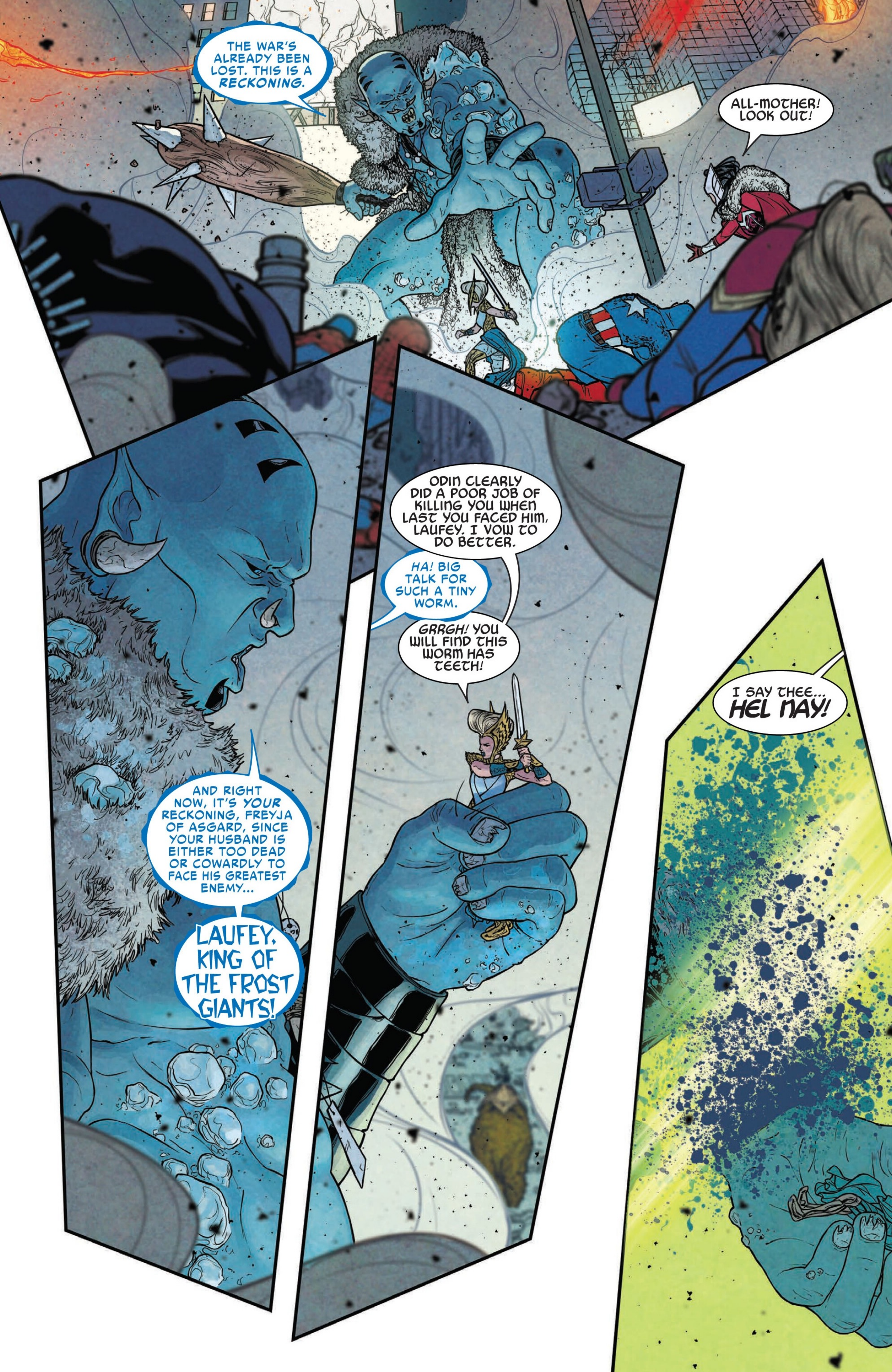

IS IT JUST ME OR DO THE TIMES SQUARE STREET PREACHERS GET WEIRDER EVERY YEAR?
DROP THE KNIVES, BOYS, IF YOU PLAN ON LEAVING 47TH STREET WITH ALL YOUR BONES IN WORKING ORDER.
HEH. OPEN YOUR EYES, HORNED MORTAL. WE WILL NEVER BE LEAVING.
"THIS REALM BELONGS TO US NOW!"
ALL HAIL THE QUEEN OF CINDERS!
DEATH TO ALL THE UNBURNT!
MIDGARD HAS CHANGED IN THE LAST THOUSAND YEARS. LOOKS LIKE THERE'S LOTS MORE BIG THINGS TO KNOCK DOWN NOW.
WONDER IF THEY'VE STILL GOT VIKINGS. HELLO, ANY VIKINGS IN THERE?
AAAAAHH!!!
WAR ANGELS! SECURE THE SKIES!
GET RID OF THESE FEEBLE MEN IN THEIR FLYING MACHINES!
NYPD


GREETINGS, PRETTY BIRD-LADIES. I'M SURE THIS IS ALL A BIG MISUNDERSTANDING THAT WE CAN WORK OUT BACK AT MY PLACE OVER SOME BUBBLY AND BIRDSEED.
DAMMIT, STARK, STOP FLIRTING AND PUT THEM DOWN!
I CAN'T HELP IT, CAROL! FLIRTING IS MY SUPER-POWER!
WARRIORS OF HEVEN! CARVE THIS KNIGHT OUT OF HIS ARMOR AND PUT HIM IN A PEN FOR BREEDING!
SEE, IT'S WORKING! I THINK THEY JUST ASKED ME OUT!
THERE ARE MORE HORDES OF THESE GUYS ON 45TH AND 49TH. PLEASE TELL ME YOU BROUGHT SOME BACKUP, BLACK PANTHER.
YOU MIGHT SAY THAT, DAREDEVIL. I BROUGHT THE AVENGERS.
REALLY?
THOSE ARE THE AVENGERS? AH, NO OFFENSE.
BELIEVE ME, I'M JUST AS SURPRISED AS YOU ARE.
I THINK YOU'LL FIND WE'RE QUITE ACCOMPLISHED AND UP TO THE TASK.
THE DOG IS NEW.
THORI EAT ALL ELVES FOR STEALING MASTER!
IF THORI IS WITH YOU PEOPLE...


...THEN WHERE IS THOR?
WHERE IN ALL THE REALMS IS MY SON?
HEY, CAP! I'M LIKE AN HONORARY GOD NOW!
CEASE THY GIBBERING, SPIDER-BOY!
ACTUALLY IT'S SPIDER-MAN.
THAT WORD MUST HAVE A DIFFERENT MEANING ON MIDGARD!
CAPTAIN OF AMERICA.
ALL-MOTHER FREYJA. I'M AFRAID WE DON'T KNOW EXACTLY WHAT'S HAPPENED TO THOR.
HIS TALKING DOG SAYS HE DISAPPEARED. WITH SOMEONE WHO SEEMED TO BE LOKI BUT WASN'T.
THAT WOULD BE MALEKITH THE ACCURSED. THESE ARE HIS DARK ELF SOLDIERS, THE MOST BRUTAL BUTCHERS FROM THE DARK FAERIE REALM OF SVARTALFHEIM.
I ALSO SEE FIRE GOBLINS FROM MUSPELHEIM, FROST GIANTS FROM JOTUNHEIM, THE WAR ANGELS OF HEVEN AND VERY MANY TROLLS.
HULK SMASH THIS THING! THEN SMASH TROLLS!
I THINK I'M IN LOVE.
I SAW HER FIRST!

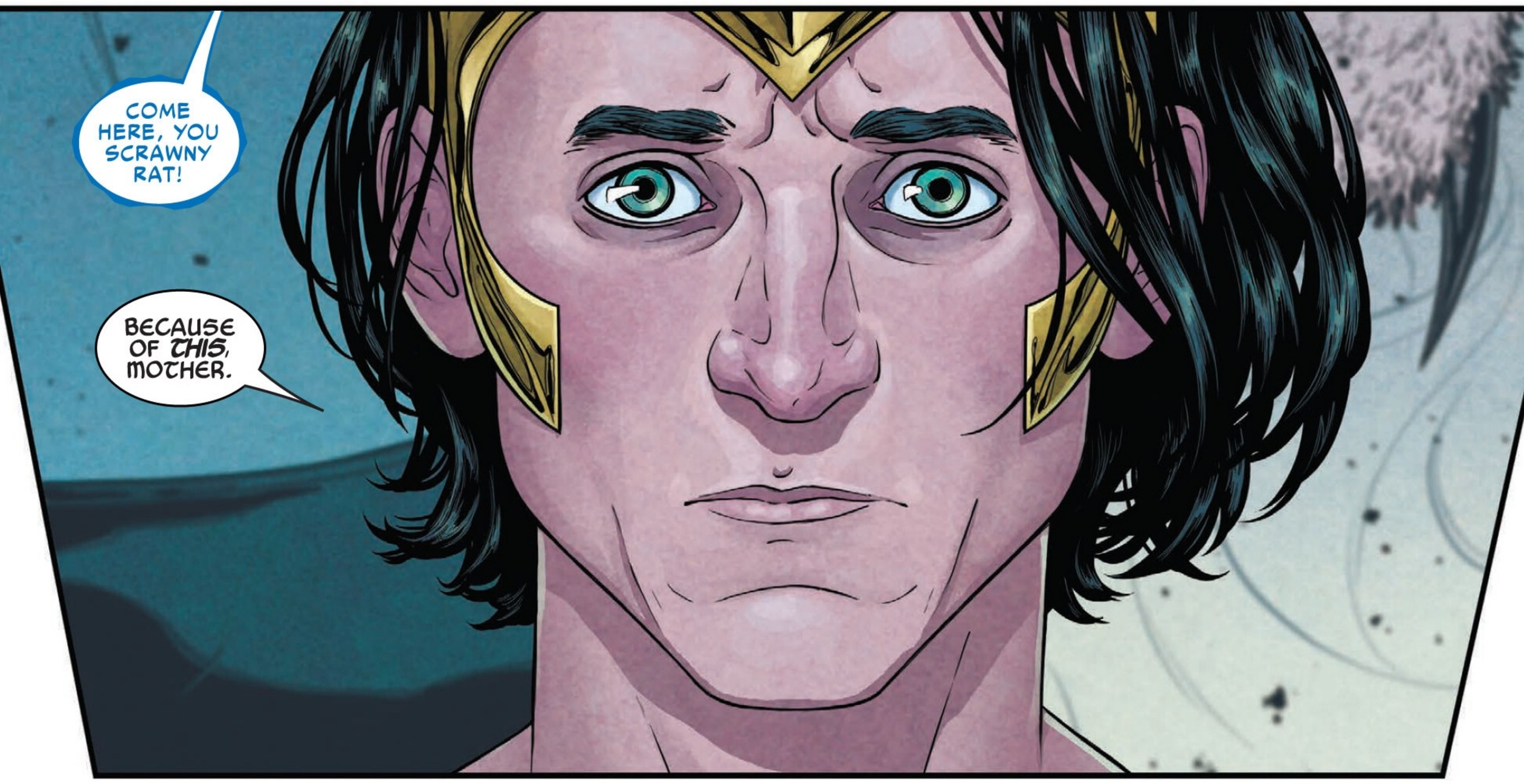
MALEKITH HAS BROUGHT ALL HIS DARK ARMIES HERE TO MIDGARD. ALL THE WORST MONSTERS THE TEN REALMS HAVE TO OFFER.
YOU WILL NEED SOME ARMIES OF YOUR OWN, CAPTAIN AMERICA. AND WE WILL HAVE TO FIND MY SO--
ARMIES? HEH.
NO, I DON'T THINK YOU'LL BE NEEDING THOSE. THEY WOULDN'T DO YOU MUCH GOOD ANYWAY.
YMIR'S BLOODY BONES.
ALL YOU PEOPLE WILL NEED IS A NICE STURDY STICK AND A LITTLE WHITE FLAG.
TO WAVE IN SURRENDER.
FOR BEHOLD, THE NEW LORDS OF MIDGARD HAVE COME!
SURRENDER YOUR REALM PEACEFULLY, YE MORTALS AND HAS-BEEN GODS, OR WE WILL PRY IT FROM YOUR GRUBBY LITTLE--
GAGGGH!

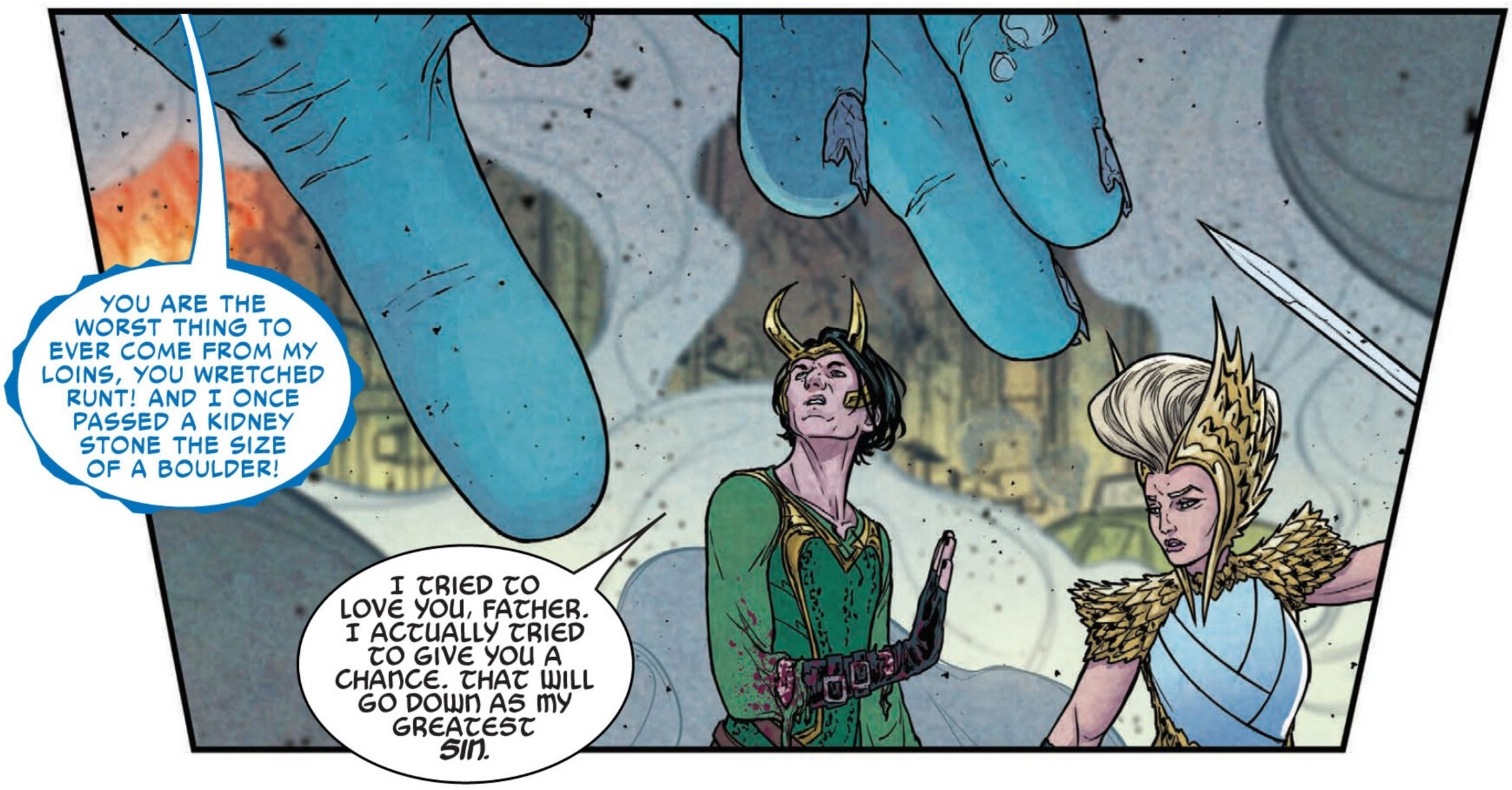
YOU WANT THESE HANDS, MALEKITH? BELIEVE ME, YOU'RE GOING TO GET THEM!
AVENGERS ASSEMBLE!
FOR MIDGARD!
NEW YORK IS FOR LOVERS!
HA! YOU TINY LITTLE SCRAPS OF MEAT ACTUALLY THINK THIS IS STILL A WAR?


THE WAR'S ALREADY BEEN LOST. THIS IS A RECKONING.
ALL-MOTHER! LOOK OUT!
ODIN CLEARLY DID A POOR JOB OF KILLING YOU WHEN LAST YOU FACED HIM, LAUFEY. I VOW TO DO BETTER.
HA! BIG TALK FOR SUCH A TINY WORM.
GRRGH! YOU WILL FIND THIS WORM HAS TEETH!
AND RIGHT NOW, IT'S YOUR RECKONING, FREYJA OF ASGARD, SINCE YOUR HUSBAND IS EITHER TOO DEAD OR COWARDLY TO FACE HIS GREATEST ENEMY...
LAUFEY, KING OF THE FROST GIANTS!
I SAY THEE... HEL NAY!

YOU!
HELLO, DADDY.
I'M SURE THERE'S A JOKE TO BE MADE HERE ABOUT YOU NEVER LAYING A HAND ON MY MOTHER AGAIN.
BUT I FIND I'M NOT REALLY IN A JOKING MOOD.
LOKI, I WILL REND YOU LIMB FROM TINY LIMB, YOU--
UUGH!
LET ME.
GUUGH!
I'VE SEEN SWAMP DRAGONS AND FIRESHARKS AND A SEA OF SQUIRMING MAGGOTS...BUT LOKI, VALIANT DEFENDER OF MOTHERS?
HA! THAT'S A NEW ONE, EVEN FOR ME.

ISN'T THAT THE SAME MOTHER YOU ONCE STABBED IN THE BACK? JUST LIKE YOU'VE NOW DONE TO ME?
YOU SENT YOUR ASSASSINS TO KILL ME, MALEKITH! I TURNED THEM ALL INTO TOADS, BY THE WAY!
AH, LOKI, WE COULD'VE MADE SUCH BEAUTIFUL MADNESS TOGETHER. BUT ALAS, YOU ARE WHAT YOU ARE. AND THE AGE OF GODS IS AT AN END!
WHEN IT ENDS, IT'LL BE BECAUSE LOKI WILLED IT! NOT SOME ELF WHO RIDES A FLYING PUSSYCAT!
IT'S A SVARTALFHEIM BOG TIGER, YOU DWARF-BRAINED SON OF A--
AHEM.
GENERALLY I'D BE FINE LETTING YOU TWO SCHMUCKS MYSTICALLY MURDER EACH OTHER'S FACES ALL THE LIVELONG DAY.
BUT IT APPEARS YOU'VE BROUGHT A WAR ALONG WITH YOU. AND WE'RE ALREADY FULL UP WITH THOSE HERE.
SO I'M GOING TO HAVE TO ASK YOU BOTH TO PLEASE LEAVE THIS DIMENSIONAL PLAIN.
LOKI, YOU ARE DETERMINED TO NOT BE WELCOME IN ANY REALM, AREN'T YOU?
SAVE THE MATERNAL ADVICE, LADY FREYJA. THERE ISN'T TIME.
LISTEN TO ME CAREFULLY.
THOR IS TRAPPED IN JOTUNHEIM. IF HE'S NOT ALREADY DEAD, HE'S YOUR ONLY HOPE. WITHOUT THOR, YOU CANNOT STOP MALEKITH.
IT WILL TAKE MORE THAN YOU LOPPING YOUR FATHER'S HAND OFF TO MAKE ME TRUST YOU AGAIN, LOKI. WHY IN ALL THE REALMS SHOULD I BELIEVE YOU?
BECAUSE...


COME HERE, YOU SCRAWNY RAT!
BECAUSE OF THIS, MOTHER.


YOU ARE THE WORST THING TO EVER COME FROM MY LOINS, YOU WRETCHED RUNT! AND I ONCE PASSED A KIDNEY STONE THE SIZE OF A BOULDER!
I TRIED TO LOVE YOU, FATHER. I ACTUALLY TRIED TO GIVE YOU A CHANCE. THAT WILL GO DOWN AS MY GREATEST SIN.

JUST AS I AM YOURS.
FACE IT, OH MIGHTY KING OF THE FROST GIANTS, FATHERING ME WAS THE ONLY NOTEWORTHY THING YOU'VE EVER DONE.
YOU ARE INDEED MY ONE GREAT SHAME, LOKI. BUT I AM A FROST GIANT. THE ICY BLOOD OF YMIR HIMSELF RUNS THROUGH MY HUMONGOUS VEINS.
AND WHERE I COME FROM, THE BLIZZARDS DON'T ALLOW FOR SHAME OR WEAKNESS. THEY SCOUR IT OUT.

THEY CONSUME IT!
NOOOOOO!!!
OH WOW. I KNOW I'M NEW HERE, BUT THAT WAS SUPER GROSS, RIGHT? I THINK I MIGHT THROW UP.
AIM YOUR FLAMING PUKE AT THE BAD GUYS, GHOST RIDER.
WE FIGHT THROUGH THEM TOGETHER. HOLD NOTHING BACK.
I'M BLADE. I WASN'T PLANNING ON HOLDING BACK.
FOR REAL. THAT GIANT JUST ATE HIS OWN SON. THIS IS A WHOLE OTHER BALLGAME HERE, PEOPLE.

THIS IS WAR!
AND WOULDN'T YOU KNOW IT, JUST WHEN WE COULD REALLY USE A THOR, WE GO FROM HAVING LIKE EIGHT OF THEM AROUND...
"...TO NOT A THOR IN SIGHT."
IS THAT ALL YOU'VE GOT, MALEKITH?!
SEND MORE GIANTS!!!

THOR HAS ENOUGH HAMMERS FOR EVERY KNAVE IN JOTUNHEIM!
YOU HEAR ME, YOU FROST-BRAINED BASTARDS?! KEEP COMING AND I'LL FLOOD THIS ENTIRE REALM WITH YOUR BLOOD!!!
THE GOD OF THUNDER WILL BE THE DOOM OF YOU ALL!!!

THOR #12

The War of the Lokis

A WIZARD NAMED ELDRED. THE MAN WHO TAUGHT ME MAGIC.

THE FIRST MAN I EVER KILLED.

SURTUR'S BONES. I HOPE I DIDN'T DO THIS.

YOU DIDN'T.

I DID.

OH BLOODY HEL.

ELDRED HAD BEEN LOCKED IN THE DUNGEON FOR SO LONG THAT EVEN HE'D FORGOTTEN WHAT OFFENSE HE'D ONCE GIVEN THE ALL-FATHER TO WARRANT HIS JAILING.

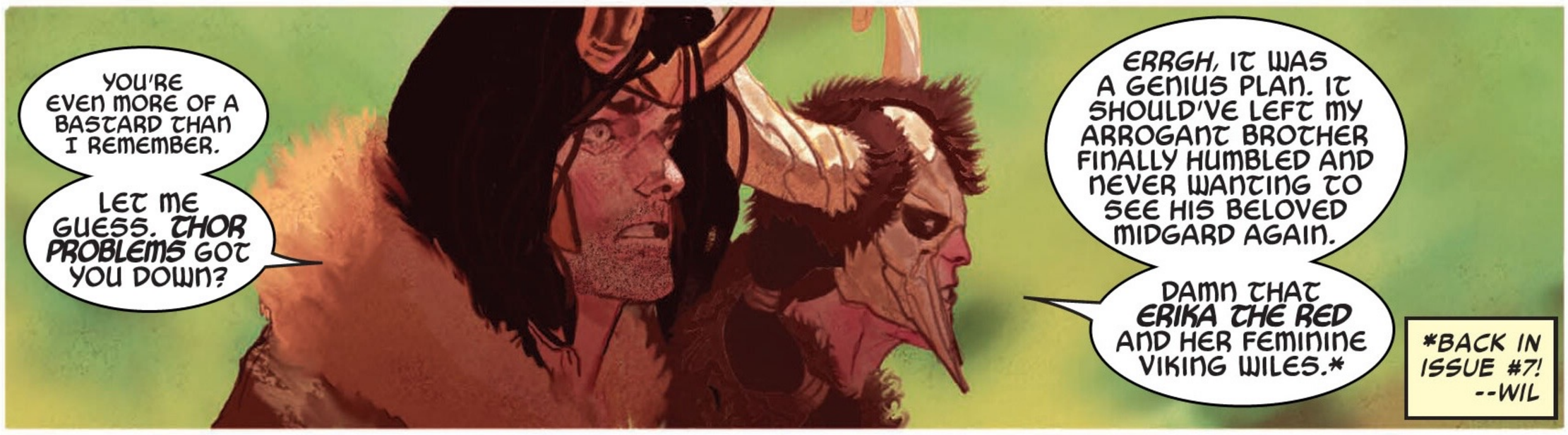
ALL HE COULD REMEMBER... WERE HIS MAGIC TRICKS.

THIS MORNING'S EVEN WORSE THAN I THOUGHT. WHAT DO YOU WANT, YOU CHEAP VIKING CONJURER?

HEH. YOU DON'T MUCH LIKE BEING CONFRONTED WITH WHO YOU REALLY ARE, DO YOU, LOKI?

BUT HOW DO YOU THINK I FEEL, HAVING TO SEE MYSELF LOOKING SO VERY OLD AND CLEAN AND...BOUGIE?

ELDRED WOULD SHOW ME ONE TRICK FOR EVERY LOAF OF BREAD OR CUP OF SOUP I COULD SMUGGLE FROM THE KITCHEN.
BOUGIE I LIKE, BUT CAREFUL WHO YOU CALL OLD, BOY. I KNOW SPELLS YOU WON'T LEARN FOR A HUNDRED YEARS.
AND I KNOW PLENTY YOU'VE NO DOUBT FORGOTTEN. LIKE THE ONES THAT MAKE DARK ELVES GO TO WAR.
I WAS JUST A BOY...BUT ALREADY DEVIOUS ENOUGH TO KNOW NOT TO FILL ELDRED'S BELLY TOO FULL, LEST HE REGAIN ALL HIS STRENGTH AND MAKE HIS ESCAPE.
YOU CREATED THIS WAR?
AYE. NOT BAD FOR AN AFTERNOON'S WORK, EH? IT'S CERTAINLY DONE THE JOB IT WAS MEANT TO DO.
WHICH WAS WHAT EXACTLY? NEEDLESSLY SLAUGHTER THOUSANDS?
BECAUSE WITHOUT ELDRED, THERE WOULD'VE BEEN NO MORE MAGIC TRICKS.
AND WITHOUT MAGIC IN MY LIFE...THAT LIFE WOULD'VE ENDED A LONG TIME AGO.
MAKE ME SMILE. HA!


YOU'RE EVEN MORE OF A BASTARD THAN I REMEMBER.
LET ME GUESS. THOR PROBLEMS GOT YOU DOWN?
ERRGH, IT WAS A GENIUS PLAN. IT SHOULD'VE LEFT MY ARROGANT BROTHER FINALLY HUMBLED AND NEVER WANTING TO SEE HIS BELOVED MIDGARD AGAIN.
DAMN THAT ERIKA THE RED AND HER FEMININE VIKING WILES.*
*BACK IN ISSUE #7! --WIL

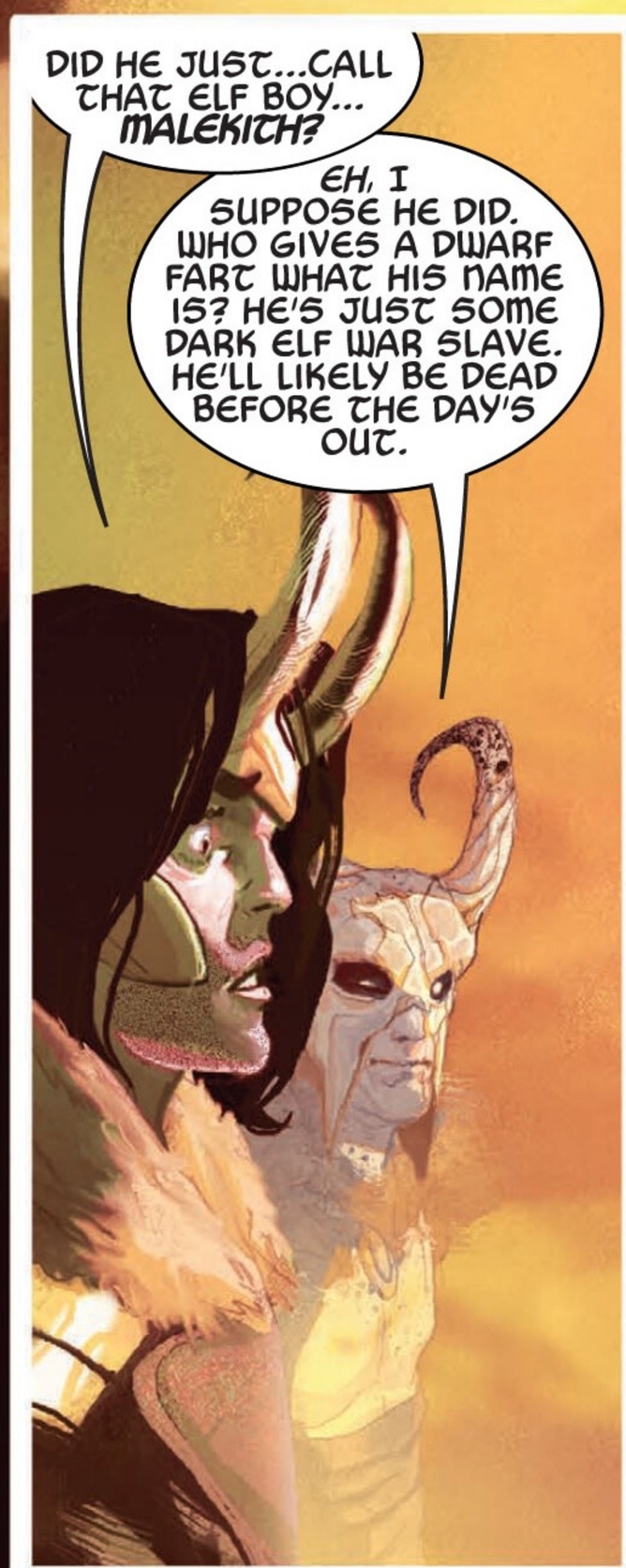
SO YOU SPARKED A WAR BETWEEN THE DARK ELVES AND THE TROLLS JUST TO TAKE YOUR MIND OFF ANOTHER FAILED PLOT AGAINST THOR?
GODS, HOW I'VE GROWN. AT LEAST I HOPE I HAVE.
I VAGUELY REMEMBER THIS WAR, BUT NOT THIS MEETING. WHICH MEANS THIS IS SOME SORT OF CONFUSING TIME-TRAVEL NONSENSE.

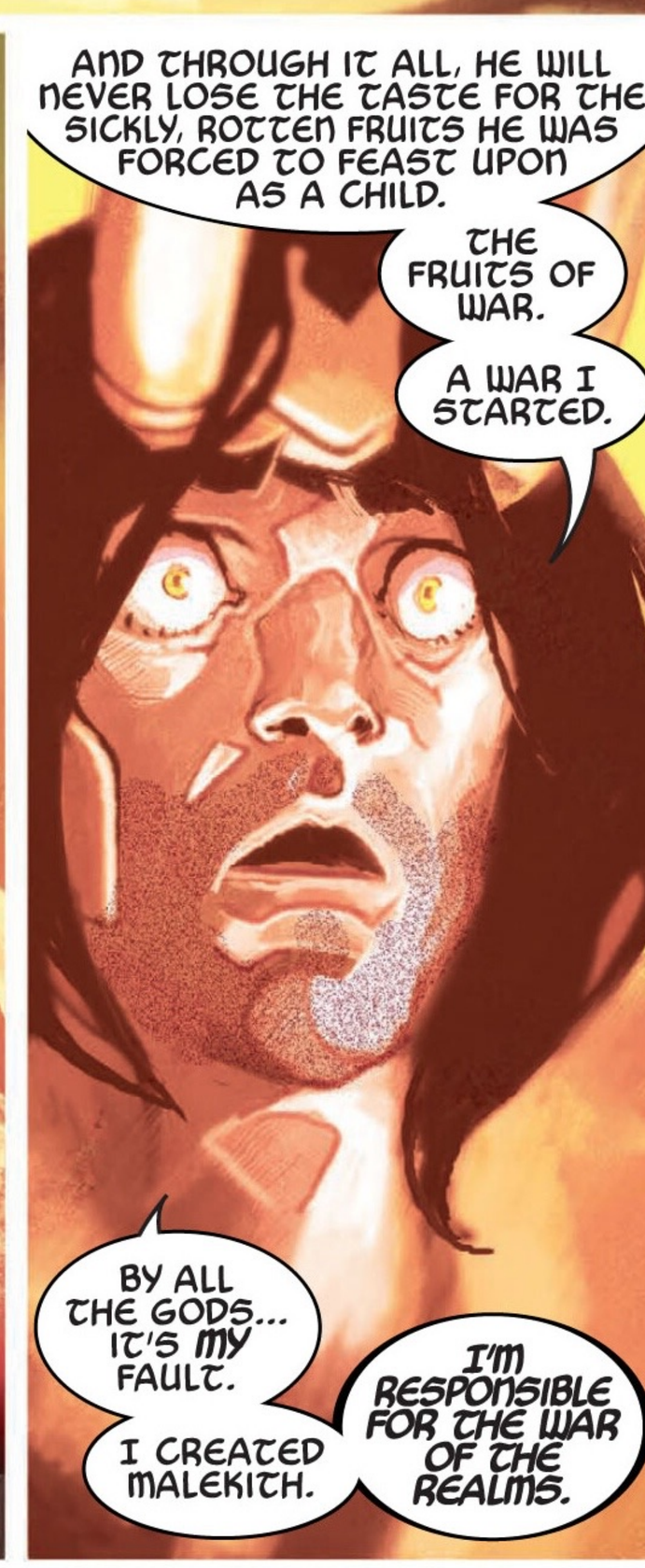
BUT WHY CAN'T I REMEMBER HOW I CAME TO TRAVEL HERE? OR WHAT I WAS DOING IN MY OWN TIME BEFORE I--
LOOK OUT--
ZOOOOM

--CORPSE BURNER AT WORK HERE.

MALEKITH! MOVE YOUR MAGGOTY BEHIND! GIVE OUR BOYS A PROPER *BURNING*. LEAVE THE STINKING TROLLS TO ROT.

YES, SIR, MASTER UNDERTAKER.





HEH. DON'T GO GETTING TOO FULL OF YOURSELF. THE DARK ELVES HAVE ALWAYS BEEN WAGING ONE WAR OR ANOTHER. IT DIDN'T EXACTLY TAKE MUCH OF A PUSH TO GET THEM TO START THIS ONE FOR MY AMUSEMENT.
THOUGH I AM RATHER PROUD OF THE LEVEL OF DEPRAVITY I WAS ABLE TO INSPIRE...
I MUST STOP THIS!

MALEKITH! YOU DON'T HAVE TO DO THIS! YOU DON'T HAVE TO LIVE THIS LIFE!
I'LL TAKE YOU AWAY FROM THIS! AS FAR FROM WAR AS WE CAN POSSIBLY--

WHAT... WHY AM I INCORPOREAL? WHY CAN'T I...
HA HA HA!

YOU! WHAT DID YOU DO TO ME?
NO, THE QUESTION IS, WHAT DID YOU DO TO ME. DON'T YOU EVEN REMEMBER, YOU OLD FOOL?

"YOU WENT AND GOT US *KILLED*."

I...REMEMBER. THE WAR OF THE REALMS WAS RAGING ON MIDGARD. I SAVED MOTHER.

HRRPH. THAT ASGARDIAN SOW FREYJA IS *NOT* OUR *MOTHER*.

AND I...I WAS *EATEN* BY *LAUFEY*.

WELL, YOU ALWAYS WANTED TO BE CLOSE TO YOUR *FATHER*. NOW YOU'RE AS CLOSE AS IT GETS. YOU'RE SLIDING DOWN HIS GULLET AS WE SPEAK.

I'M... *DEAD*. AND THIS...

THIS IS MY *HEL*, ISN'T IT? *YOU* ARE MY HEL.

YOU THINK HEL FOR LOKI IS BEING FORCED TO SPEND TIME WITH LOKI? HEH. I SEE YOUR POINT. BUT THIS ISN'T HEL.
THOUGH YOU MIGHT WISH IT WAS BEFORE YOUR VISITS ARE THROUGH.

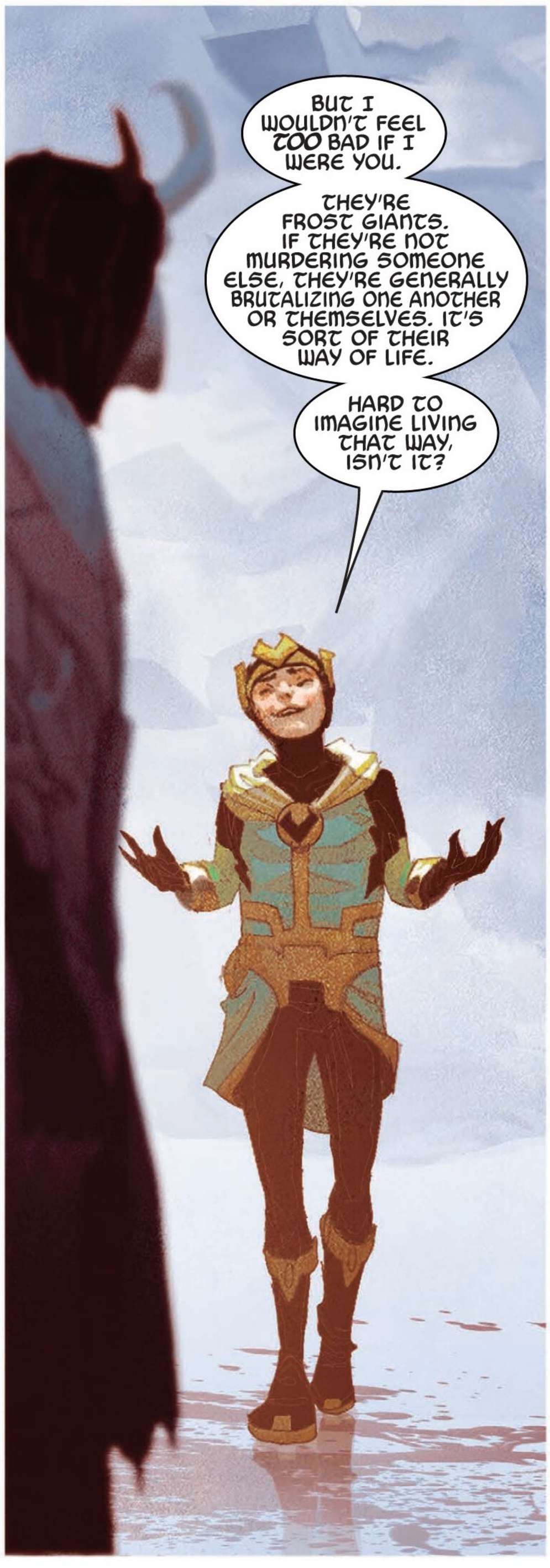
VISITS? THEN THIS IS SOME SORT OF TWISTED GAME? THAT MEANS YOU CAN STOP IT!
DO IT, YOU VILLAIN, OR WE'LL SEE IF MY MAGIC IS MORE CORPOREAL THAN MY FISTS!
HA!

THIS ISN'T A BATTLE YOU CAN WIN, LOKI. THOUGH IT'S NICE TO SEE I'VE STILL GOT A BIT OF FIGHT LEFT IN MY FINAL MOMENTS.
HERE'S HOPING WE GIVE DEAR OLD DAD A FINE CASE OF THE SQUIRTS!
WHA--
NO!

KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK, LITTLE ELF! YOU'VE GOT A REAL TALENT FOR THIS!
WAIT. WHAT ARE YOU DOING? I'M NOT DEAD, YOU IDIOT.
THIS IS A WAR FIELD. THERE ARE ONLY TWO KINDS OF PEOPLE OUT HERE. THOSE WHO ARE FIGHTING.
AND THOSE WHO ARE DEAD.

"AND YOU DON'T LOOK MUCH TO ME LIKE YOU'RE FIGHTING."
RRRGGHH!!!
WHO DID IT?
THE KING DEMANDS TO KNOW!
I WILL SLAY EVERY GIANT IN UTGARD IF NO ONE WILL CLAIM CREDIT FOR THIS AFFRONT!
MY KING, IT WAS NOT US, WE WOULD NEV--
GAAAAGGHH!!!
WHO DARED?!
DONK!
DONK!
DONK!
WHO DARED LEAVE FLOWERS ON LAUFEY'S DOORSTEP?!
I SUPPOSE ICE ROSES WERE A POOR CHOICE ON MY PART.
BUT IN MY DEFENSE, I'D NEVER CELEBRATED FATHER'S DAY BEFORE.

THIS HAPPENED WEEKS AGO. I DIDN'T STOP IT THEN. AND I CAN'T STOP IT NOW EITHER, CAN I?
NO, YOU CAN'T...


BUT I WOULDN'T FEEL TOO BAD IF I WERE YOU.
THEY'RE FROST GIANTS. IF THEY'RE NOT MURDERING SOMEONE ELSE, THEY'RE GENERALLY BRUTALIZING ONE ANOTHER OR THEMSELVES. IT'S SORT OF THEIR WAY OF LIFE.
HARD TO IMAGINE LIVING THAT WAY, ISN'T IT?

I JUST GOT REACQUAINTED WITH THE ANCIENT VIKING VERSION OF MYSELF. NOW I SUPPOSE YOU'RE MEANT TO BE...
THE PRESENT. OR THE PRESENT THAT SHOULD HAVE BEEN, AT LEAST. UNTIL YOU WENT AND HAD OTHER PLANS.
AND HOW DID THOSE WORK OUT FOR YOU, HMM?
THAT'S NOT FAIR.
I DIDN'T WANT THIS. ANY OF THIS.
I NEVER WANTED TO BE THE VILLAIN AGAIN. BUT--
YES, I KNOW. IT'S ALL HER FAULT, ISN'T IT?

"IT'S ALL BECAUSE OF *LADY FREYJA.*

"AND THAT TIME SHE FORCED HERSELF UPON YOUR POISONED DAGGER."*

*MIGHTY THOR #5. --WIL

I...

I DID WHAT I HAD TO DO.

TO *SAVE* HER.

AND GODS HELP ME, I WOULD DO IT AGAIN.

WOULD YOU NOW? YOU'D STAB THE MOTHER WHO LOVED YOU, AND THEN MOVE IN WITH THE FATHER WHO NEVER WANTED YOU AND WILL ULTIMATELY END UP LITERALLY DEVOURING YOU WHOLE?

HMPH. I HAVE TO HAND IT TO YOU, LOKI, WHEN YOU TELL A LIE...

...YOU SURE STICK WITH IT.

AH, HERE WE ARE. HOME SWEET HOME.

YOU TRADED ME AWAY--

ME! SWEET LITTLE LOVABLE ROGUE OF A ***KID LOKI*** WHO EVERY SINGLE PERSON ON TUMBLR COULDN'T WAIT TO MARRY!

--FOR THIS! A MOUSE HOLE IN YOUR FATHER'S CASTLE.

DARK HEARTS

connect 1

THE GAME OF QUESTIONS

POLY

SPIT!

THERE MUST ALWAYS BE A THOR, I'VE HEARD IT SAID. AND I SUPPOSE I MIGHT EVEN AGREE.

BUT IF THOR IS THE ***SWORD*** THAT PROTECTS THE REALMS, LOKI HAS ALWAYS BEEN THE ***SHARPENING STONE.***

IN OTHER WORDS, I DID THE BEST I COULD FOR AS LONG AS I LASTED. NOW TAKE ME THE HEL AWAY FROM THIS WRETCHED PLACE AND LET ME SUFFER AND ***DIE*** IN PEACE.

TAKE YOU AWAY? YOU THINK YOU'RE HERE BECAUSE OF ***ME?***

HEH. BOY, IT'S TRUE, ISN'T IT? I ALWAYS SAVE THE BEST LIES FOR MYSELF.

YOU'RE ***HERE*** BECAUSE OF ***YOU***, LOKI. BUT NOT BECAUSE YOU WANTED TO SAY GOODBYE, OR PLAGIARIZE SOME DICKENS TO TRY AND TEACH YOURSELF A SILLY LESSON OR TWO.

YOU'RE HERE BECAUSE EVEN WHEN YOU'RE DYING... YOU CAN'T HELP BUT ***ADMIRE*** YOURSELF.

IN ALL YOUR DEPRAVITY. AND FAILURE.

AND CHEAP, PATHETIC ***MARTYRDOM.***

THEN CONSIDER MY ***ADMIRATION*** WELL SATISFIED, LITTLE LORD.

AND TELL ME HOW I END THIS.

RIGHT. FUNNY YOU SHOULD MENTION ***ENDINGS...***

SO DIES EGO, LAST OF THE LIVING WORLDS!
AND IN THE LAVA THAT GUSHES FROM HIS VEINS, I AM REBORN!
BEHOLD LOKI THE NECROGOD! LOKI THE ALL-BUTCHER!
BEHOLD... THE END OF EVERYTHING THAT EVER WAS!

NO... THIS CAN'T BE REAL.
HA!
I'M ALREADY DYING.
THIS CAN'T BE WHAT BECOMES OF ME.
THIS IS A LIE. THIS MUST BE...
A LIE?
WHY WOULD I TELL A LIE? THERE'S NO ONE LEFT TO LISTEN.
THIS IS THE END OF TIME, LITTLE LOKI. FOR EVERYTHING.
EXCEPT FOR US.
no.

I WON'T LET IT END LIKE THIS!
I WILL NOT BE THE GREATEST MONSTER WHO EVER LIVED!
GREATEST MONSTER? HA. I AM FAR MORE THAN THAT.
WITH THE POWER OF ALL-BLACK THE NECROSWORD, I AM THE MIGHTIEST LOKI WHO WILL EVER LIVE.
AND YOU ARE NOTHING BUT A ZYGOTE NEXT TO ME.
GAAARGH!
THERE WON'T BE A YOU...IF I NEVER LIVE THAT LONG!
DEFIANT AND SELF-DESTRUCTIVE TO THE END. VINTAGE LOKI.
BUT YOU ARE ONLY HERE BECAUSE I WANTED YOU TO KNOW, TO SEE, THAT NO MATTER HOW MUCH YOU MIGHT ADORE YOURSELF...
YOU ARE NOT THE OMEGA. YOU ARE NOT THE ULTIMATE LOKI.
I AM.
AND I GO NOW TO FINISH OUR WORK.
ONCE AND FOR THOR-DAMNED ALL.

ALL-BROTHER! I'M COMING FOR YOU AT LAST!
FOR OUR FINAL GOODBYE!
no!!!
THIS CANNOT BE REAL.
I AM DYING. I WAS EATEN BY MY FATHER. THIS IS ALL HAPPENING IN MY OWN MIND...

THIS IS ME DOING THIS TO MYSELF. TORTURING MYSELF.
I CAN STOP THIS. ALL OF IT.

JUST HAVE TO CONCENTRATE. AND FEEL... FEEL THE...
AS I WAS SAYING...
AS A BOY, I BECAME QUITE SKILLED IN MAGIC, ALL THANKS TO THE TEACHINGS OF ELDRED, FROM HIS CELL IN ASGARD.

HHHRRRGGGH!!!
IN FACT, I BECAME SO VERY SKILLED, SO CONSUMED WITH THE WAYS OF SORCERY, WITH THE LIMITLESS POWER THAT SUDDENLY COURSED THROUGH ME...
...THAT I FORGOT ELDRED EVEN EXISTED.
BY THE TIME I WENT BACK TO HIS CELL... HE'D STARVED TO DEATH.
IT'S OURS! THE ENTIRE LAND OF NORTH AMERICA!
GO, MY GIANTS! SPILL THEIR MORTAL BLOOD!
FREEZE ANYTHING THAT DARES DRAW A WARM BREATH IN NEW JOTUNHEIM!
I'D KILLED HIM, I TOLD MYSELF. AND THEN I BEGAN TO CRY.
HAHA HA!
BUT THEN A VOICE CAME FROM SOMEWHERE INSIDE ME.
SAYING IT WASN'T MY FAULT. THAT ELDRED WOULD'VE STARVED TO DEATH A LONG TIME AGO IF IT WEREN'T FOR ME. THAT I HADN'T TRULY KILLED HIM.
ARRRGGGH!!!
IT WAS A HARD LIE TO SWALLOW.

BUT EVENTUALLY I CHOKED IT DOWN.
SINCE THEN, THE LIES I TELL MYSELF...HAVE GONE DOWN A LOT EASIER.
WHY AM I STILL ALIVE?!
THIS MUST BE HOW IT ENDS! PLEASE, BY ALL THE GODS...
LOKI MUST DIE!!!

WAR OF THE REALMS #1 VARIANT BY
J. Scott Campbell & Sabine Rich

WAR OF THE REALMS #1 VARIANT BY
Frank Cho & Sabine Rich

WAR OF THE REALMS #1 VARIANT BY
John Tyler Christopher

WAR OF THE REALMS #1 VARIANT BY
Olivier Coipel & Matthew Wilson

WAR OF THE REALMS #2

The Midgard Massacre

GREENWICH VILLAGE.
DOCTOR STRANGE'S SANCTUM SANCTORUM.

RIGHT THIS WAY, NEW YORK! YOU KNOW THE *EVACUATION* PROTOCOLS! C'MON, NO PUSHING! THIS AIN'T JERSEY!

DON'T WORRY, THERE'S PLENTY OF SPACE FOR EVERYBODY! THE SANCTUM'S SAFE ROOM CAN HOLD A COUPLE MILLION FULL-GROWN HUMANS!

MOVE ALONG-- NO STARING AT THE *GHOST DOG!* JUST FOLLOW THE TALKING SNAKES!

HEY, GIRL, WHAT'S UP? YOU EVACUATE HERE OFTEN?

DR. FOSTER, YOU GET YOUR ASGARDIAN REFUGEES LOADED INSIDE?

YES, BATS, BUT THERE'S STILL ANOTHER BOATLOAD FLYING IN FROM THE BRONX.

I'LL KEEP THE DOOR OPEN AS LONG AS I CAN. YOU SHOULD GET BACK INSIDE TOO, DOC.

UH, DR. FOSTER?

JANE FOSTER'S BODY IS NO LONGER RIDDLED WITH CANCER. BUT NOW SHE SUDDENLY FINDS HERSELF FILLED WITH SOMETHING PERHAPS EVEN MORE HARROWING.

A CALLING SHE THOUGHT SHE'D NEVER HEAR AGAIN. SOMETHING THAT SHE KNOWS DEEP INSIDE...

...COULD **KILL** HER A LOT QUICKER THAN CANCER EVER COULD.

GAAGGH!

HE'S JUST ONE MAN! WHY CAN'T YOU USELESS MONGRELS BRING HIM DOWN?!

BECAUSE OF ***IRON!*** ALL ***DARK ELVES*** HAVE A WEAKNESS FOR IRON! AND THIS ONE BOG-DAMNED MORTAL...

...SEEMS TO HAVE AN ***UNENDING*** SUPPLY!

IRON, *HUH?* WONDER IF ***ADAMANTIUM*** HAS THE SAME EFFECT?

HRRGH!

GUESS SO.

SNIKT

WOLVERINE. HEARD YOU WERE ***DEAD.***

NAH. JUST REALLY ***DRUNK*** FOR A LONG TIME.

HOW'VE THINGS BEEN WITH YOU, ***FRANK?***

I'M RELOADED.

RIGHT. GOOD CATCHING UP.

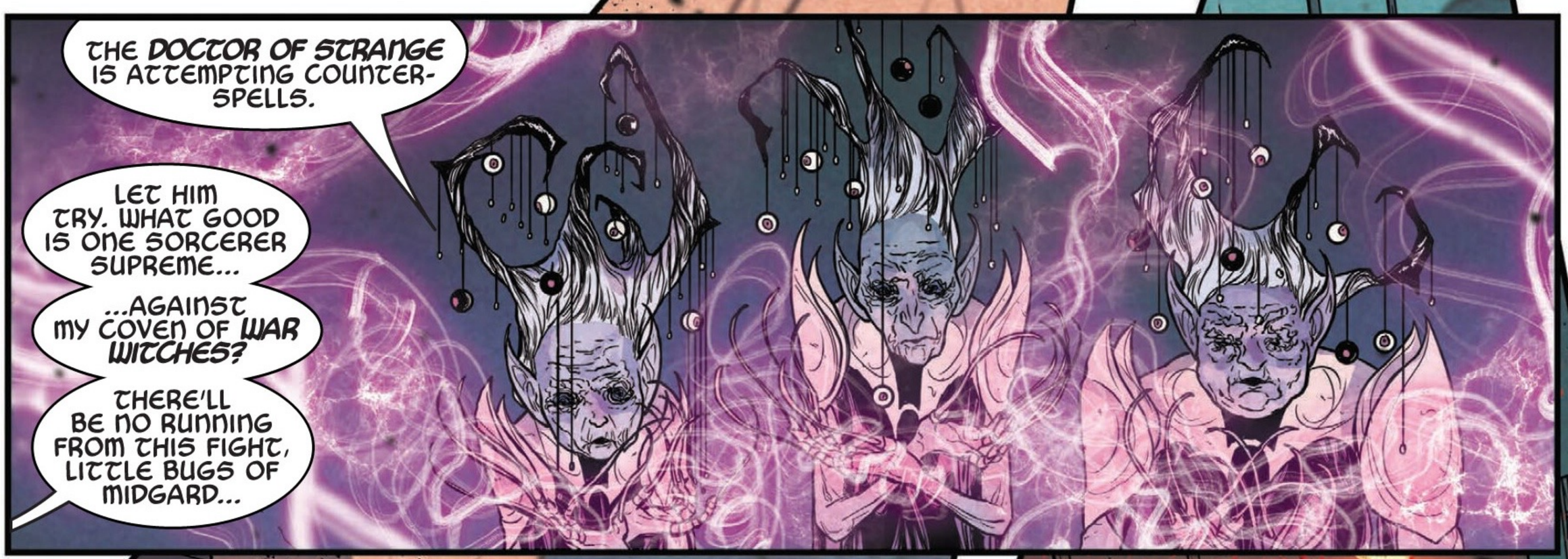
THE GUTTERS ALONG 54TH STREET ARE OVERFLOWING WITH DARK ELF BLOOD.
TROLLS RAMPAGE THROUGH THE THEATER DISTRICT. WAR ANGELS RAIN DEATH FROM ABOVE ALONG THE UPPER WEST SIDE.
SOHO IS BURNING AND ECHOING WITH FIRE GOBLIN LAUGHTER. HELL'S KITCHEN IS FROZEN IN FROST GIANT ICE.
THIS IS MOST ASSUREDLY A JOB FOR THE GOD OF THUNDER.
BUT THE THUNDER IS SILENT ACROSS MANHATTAN THIS DAY.
STEVE ROGERS HAS NEVER BEEN MUCH FOR PRAYERS. BUT HE IS CERTAINLY VERY USED TO STANDING EYE TO EYE WITH GODS.
SO AS HE STOOD ON THE STREET BELOW, CAPTAIN AMERICA ASKED HIMSELF ONE QUESTION: WHAT WOULD THOR DO?
GO! GET TO YOUR EVACUATION POINT!
THAT WAS TWENTY FLOORS AGO.

HUH...?
KRRSH!
SOMEBODY FIND ME ANOTHER GIANT! I'M GOING BACK UP!
YOU WON'T HAVE TO LOOK VERY HARD, STEVE. THEY'RE EVERYWHERE!
IT'S LIKE A DUNGEONS AND DRAGONS BOMB WENT OFF!
WE ARE LAUGHABLY OUTNUMBERED HERE, FRIENDS. AND WE'VE STILL GOT WAY TOO MANY CIVILIANS IN THE LINE OF FIRE.
T'CHALLA, CAN WE USE THAT SHINY NEW CELESTIAL TELEPORTER IN AVENGERS MOUNTAIN TO GET THESE PEOPLE OUTTA HERE?
WE COULD. IF I COULD ACCESS IT.

BUT I'M COMPLETELY *CUT OFF* FROM THE MOUNTAIN. NEITHER CAN I RAISE *WAKANDA*.
NETWORKS ARE CRASHING ALL OVER THE GLOBE. THERE'S SOMETHING MORE THAN ELVES AND GOBLINS AT WORK HERE.
WE DID IT, MR. AGGER, SIR. ROXXON JUST SUCCESSFULLY LAUNCHED THE PEARL HARBOR OF GLOBAL HACKS.
SPLENDID!
TELL THE ENTIRE TECH DIVISION THAT THEIR BOSS IS BEAMING WITH PRIDE AND IT'S EARLY CHRISTMAS BONUSES ALL AROUND!
AND THEN REMIND THEM THAT FOR EVERY NETWORK THEY ALLOW TO GO BACK ONLINE, I WILL PERSONALLY TEAR OFF ONE OF THEIR BODY PARTS AND FEED IT TO A VERY LARGE *MINOTAUR* I KNOW.
OH AND THERE'S CAKE IN THE BREAKROOM.
IF TECH IS OUT, STEPHEN, CAN YOU USE MAGIC TO CLEAR THE ISLAND OF ANY REMAINING CIVILIANS?
THERE IS SUCH A SPELL, BUT IT COMES AT A VERY HEAVY PRICE!
STILL, I WOULD'VE DONE IT FIVE MINUTES AGO, EXCEPT I'M HAVING SOME *PERFORMANCE ISSUES* OF MY OWN RIGHT NOW!

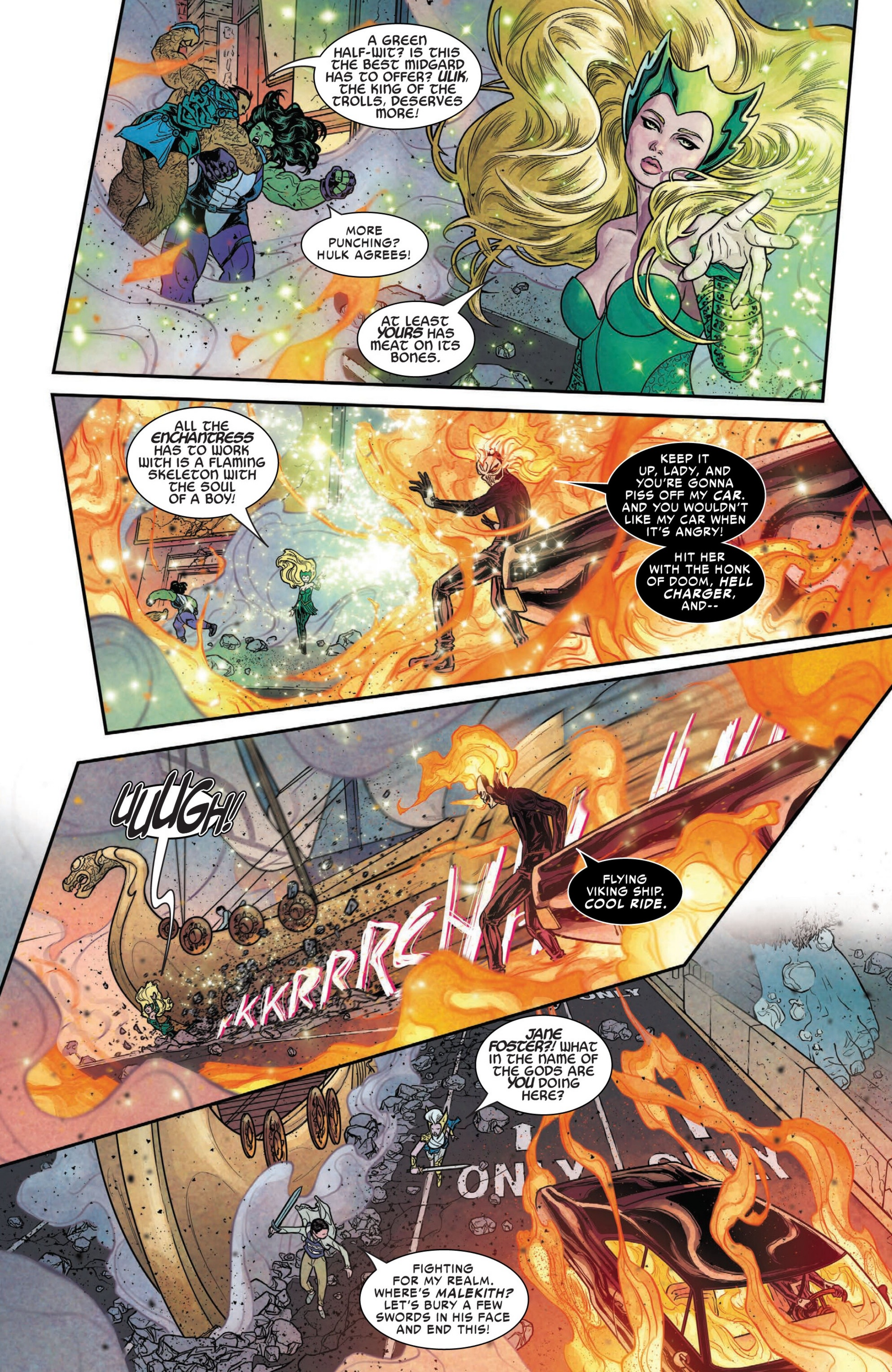
THEY'RE RATHER COLORFUL, AREN'T THEY, THESE MORTALS?

IT'S FUN TO TURN OVER THEIR ROCKS AND SEE WHAT SORT OF GAUDY LITTLE INSECTS COME SCURRYING OUT.
I'M SO GLAD I SAVED THEIR REALM FOR LAST.


THE DOCTOR OF STRANGE IS ATTEMPTING COUNTER-SPELLS.
LET HIM TRY. WHAT GOOD IS ONE SORCERER SUPREME...
...AGAINST MY COVEN OF WAR WITCHES?
THERE'LL BE NO RUNNING FROM THIS FIGHT, LITTLE BUGS OF MIDGARD...

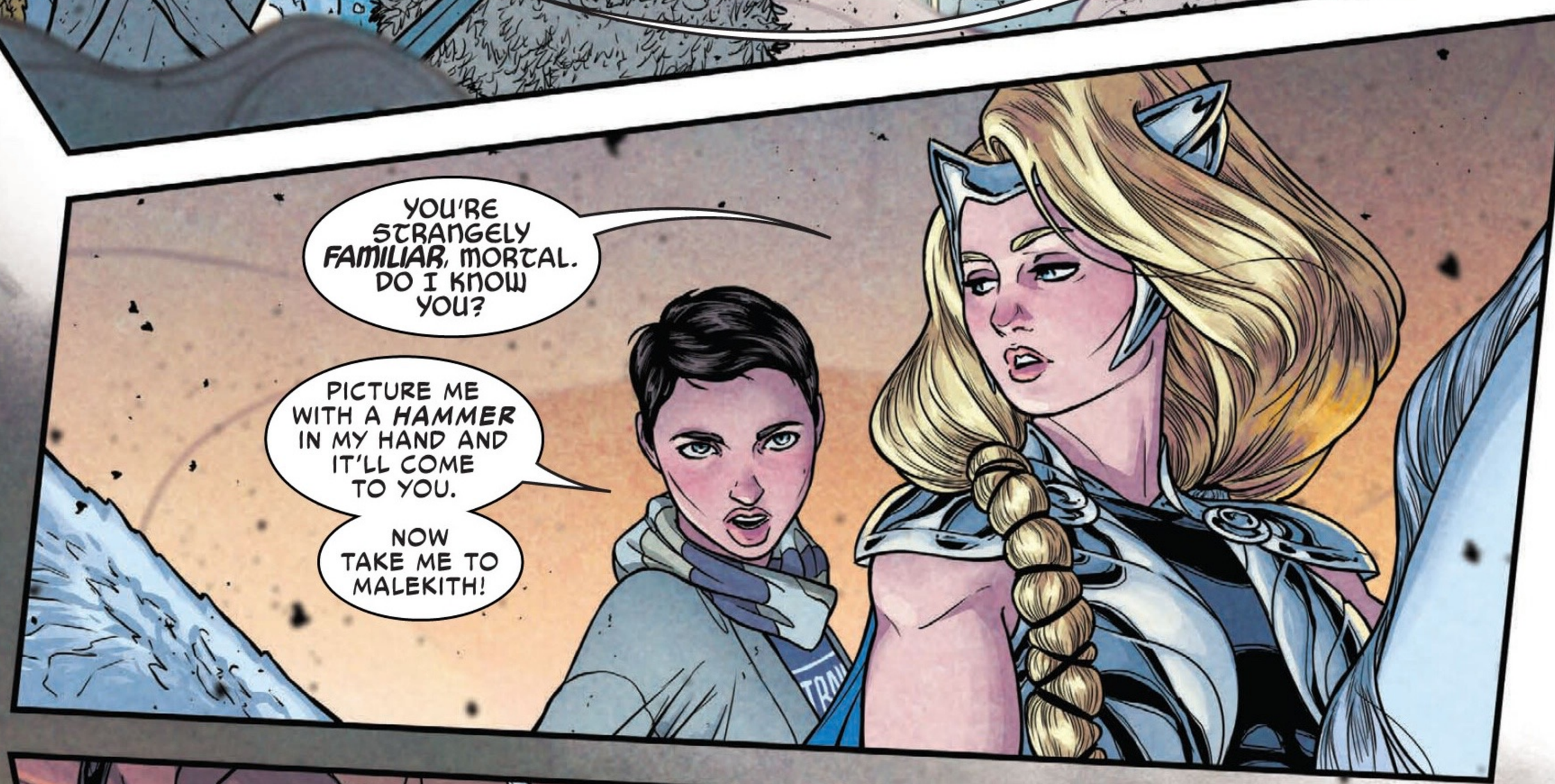
"...YOUR BAPTISM BY MASSACRE IS NIGH!"
QUEEN OF ANGELS! WHY AM I NOT SURPRISED TO SEE YOU HERE AMONG THE SCUM OF THE REALMS?
PERHAPS BECAUSE YOU'RE AN OATH-BREAKING, CHILD-STABBING HARPY WHO'S LONG OVERDUE FOR A GOOD BEHEADING!
FREYJA OF ASGARD. A PLEASURE AS ALWAYS. HAD ANY MORE BABIES FOR ME TO BUTCHER?
RRRRGGGH!!!

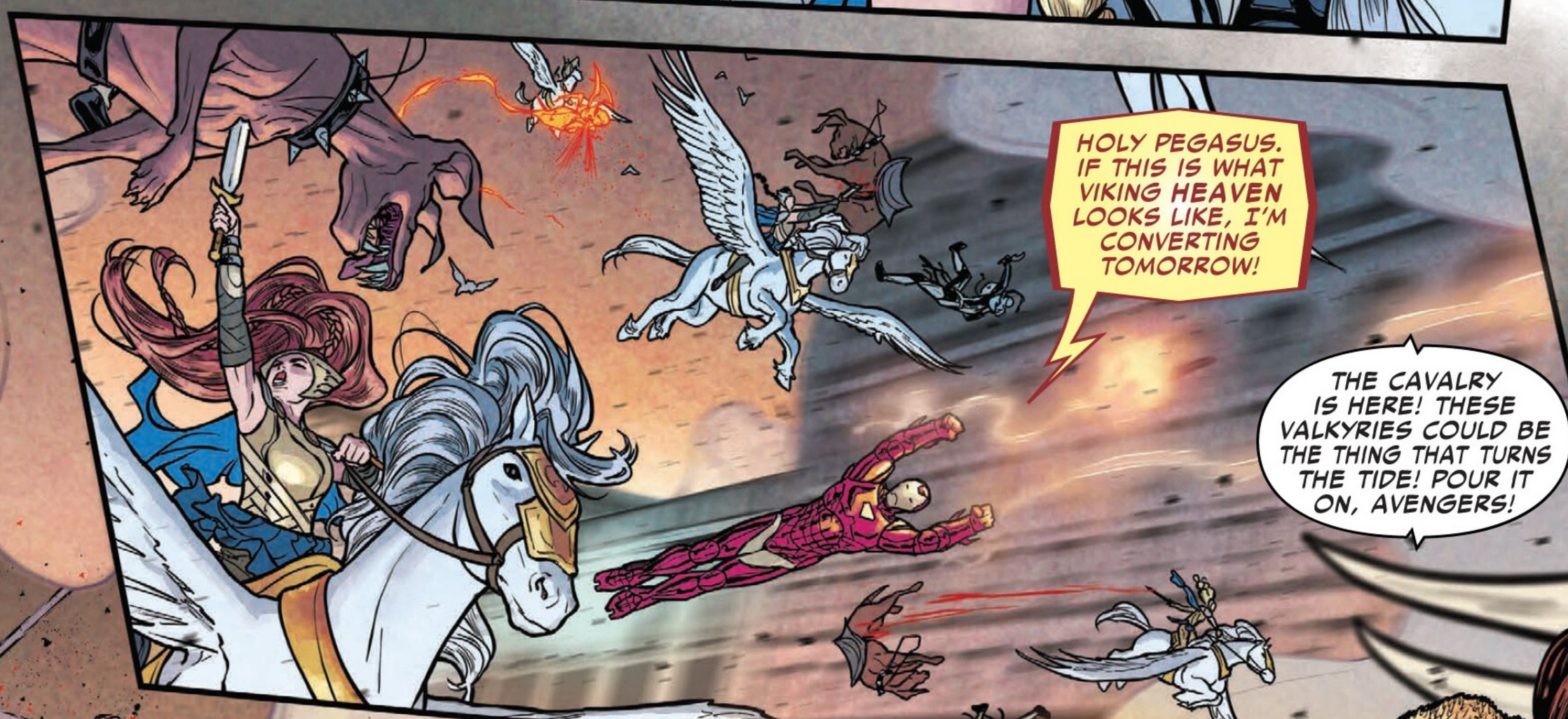
OKAY, WAIT-- BIG AND FIERY, SO YOU MUST BE FROM HEL, RIGHT?
HEL IS A LAND IN NIFFLEHEIM, THE REALM OF ICE AND COLD! DO I LOOK COLD TO YOU, MORTAL?!
I AM SINDR, QUEEN OF MUSPELHEIM!
MESSY POOL HALL. GOT IT. SO THAT'S THE PLACE WHERE GIANTS COME FROM?
NO, THAT'S JOTUNHEIM, YOU LEAPING MORON! STAND STILL, BLAST YOU!
I'M SO CONFUSED. IS THERE A MAP AROUND HERE SOMEWHERE? MAYBE SPRAY-PAINTED ON THE SIDE OF A VAN?


A GREEN HALF-WIT? IS THIS THE BEST MIDGARD HAS TO OFFER? ULIK, THE KING OF THE TROLLS, DESERVES MORE!
MORE PUNCHING? HULK AGREES!
AT LEAST YOURS HAS MEAT ON ITS BONES.
ALL THE ENCHANTRESS HAS TO WORK WITH IS A FLAMING SKELETON WITH THE SOUL OF A BOY!
KEEP IT UP, LADY, AND YOU'RE GONNA PISS OFF MY CAR. AND YOU WOULDN'T LIKE MY CAR WHEN IT'S ANGRY!
HIT HER WITH THE HONK OF DOOM, HELL CHARGER, AND--
UUUGH!
FLYING VIKING SHIP. COOL RIDE.
JANE FOSTER?! WHAT IN THE NAME OF THE GODS ARE YOU DOING HERE?
FIGHTING FOR MY REALM. WHERE'S MALEKITH? LET'S BURY A FEW SWORDS IN HIS FACE AND END THIS!

NOT EVEN IN THE AGE OF VIKINGS, WHEN NORSE GODS FREELY ROAMED THE LAND, HAS MIDGARD SEEN SUCH AN INVASION.
WARS OF THIS SORT ARE NOT MEANT FOR THE LIKES OF MORTALS. NOT EVEN MORTALS SUCH AS THESE, WHO ARE GODS IN ALL BUT NAME.
THE ISLAND OF MANHATTAN WILL FALL. THIS IS ASSURED.
AND AFTER IT, THE OTHER GREAT CITIES OF THE WORLD WILL SURELY FOLLOW.
THE ONLY QUESTIONS THAT REMAIN...ARE WHO WILL DIE, AND HOW SPECTACULAR CAN THEY MAKE THEIR FINAL STAND.
MANY, IS THE ANSWER TO THE FORMER. AND AS FOR THE LATTER...
WHAT THE HELL...?
THE WAR HORN OF ASGARD. BUT WHO IS...

...QUITE EXCEEDINGLY DAMN SPECTACULAR.
SOUND THAT HORN UNTIL EVERY EAR ON MIDGARD CAN HEAR IT!
LET THE WHOLE BOR-DAMNED REALM KNOW THAT THE GOD OF GODS HAS COME!
AND THAT HEL COMES WITH HIM!
AND SO RIDES ODIN, ALL-FATHER OF ASGARD, WITH HIS MIGHTY SPEAR GUNGNIR IN HIS HAND AND HIS VALKYRIES BY HIS SIDE.
AND THROUGHOUT THE STEEL CANYONS OF THE GREAT CITY OF MAN, EVERY EYE TURNS UPWARD.
AND EVEN THE FROST GIANTS FEEL A CHILL.
AND THEN FEEL OTHER THINGS AS WELL.
AGH!
SLAY ANYTHING THAT ISN'T GOD OR MORTAL! LET THE SKIES RAIN BLOOD AND RING WITH STEEL!
IF MALEKITH WANTS A WAR, BY MY BEARD, WE'LL GIVE HIM ONE!





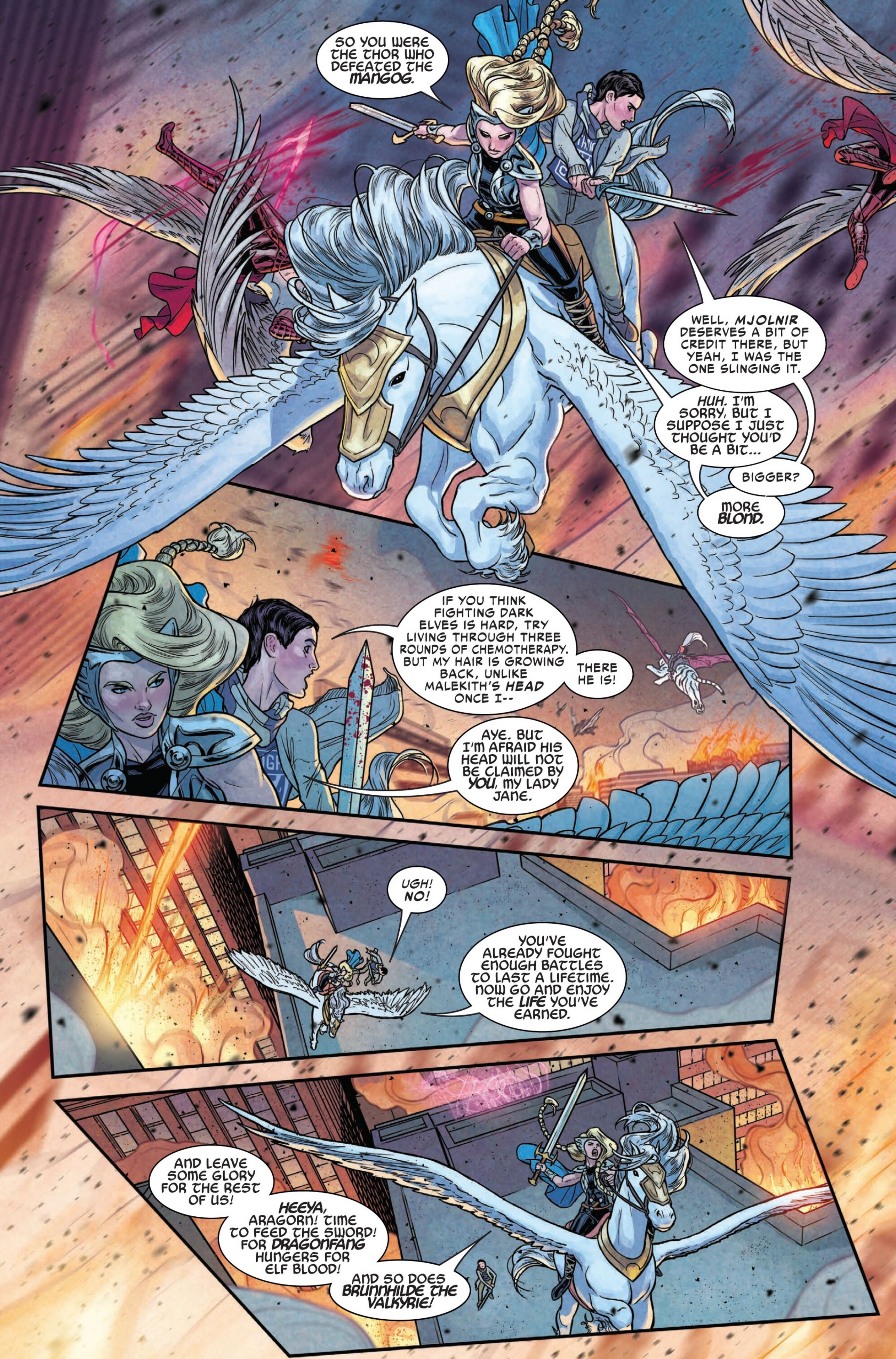
ODIN?! HE'S SUPPOSED TO BE-- GAGGH!

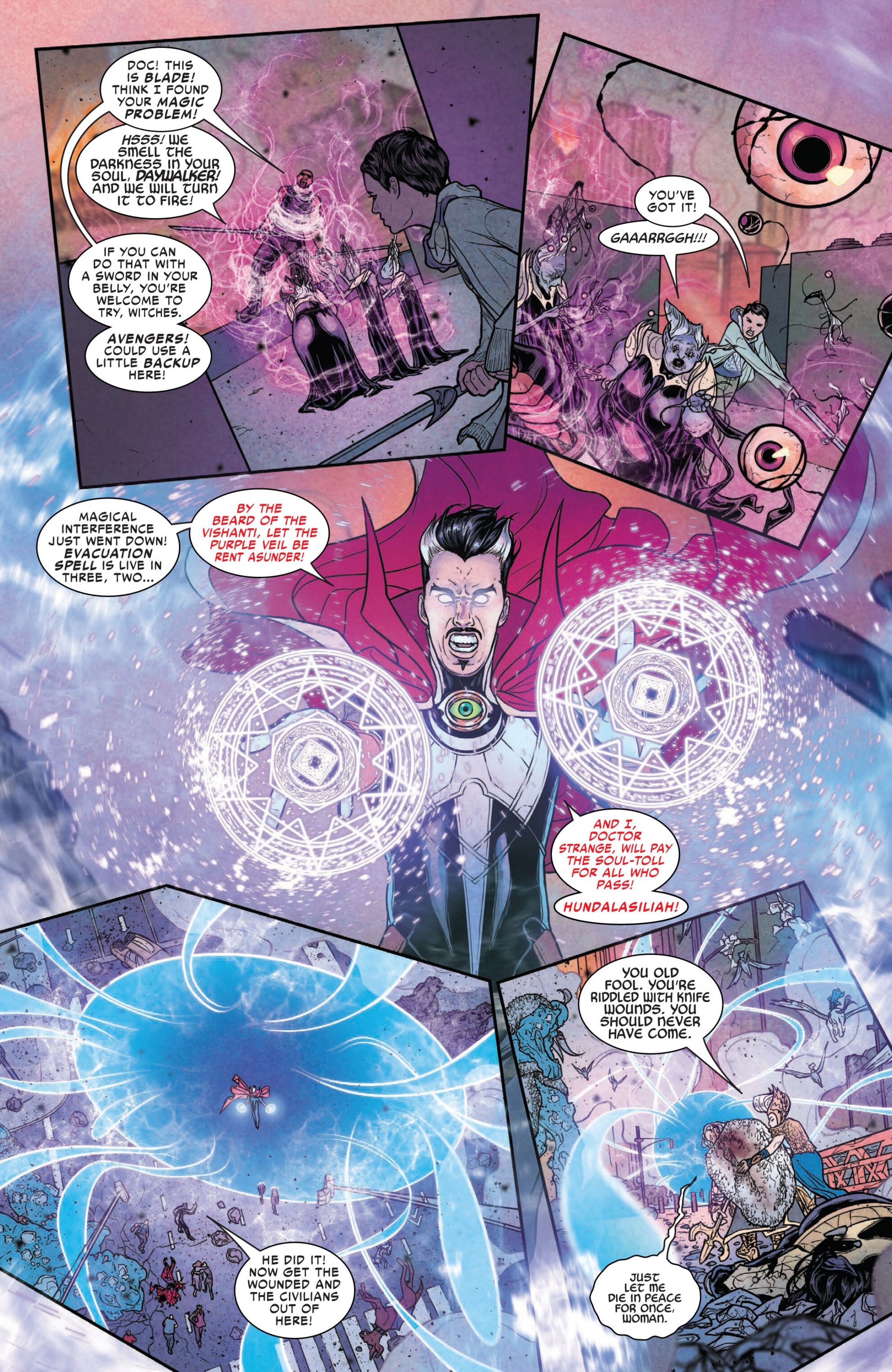
SUPPOSED TO BE DEAD? YOU THINK A FEW MEASLY ELF BLADES COULD SLAY THE ALMIGHTY ODIN?!

I GROUND THOSE ASSASSINS INTO BLOODY PORRIDGE! JUST LIKE I'LL DO TO THEIR MASTER!

MALEKITH! SHOW YOUR WRETCHED FACE, DARK ELF!

YOU CAME.
LADY FREYJA. YOU... YOU LOOK...
YOU LOOK LIKE HEL, HUSBAND.
BAH, NONSENSE! I'M AS STRONG AS A BILGESNIPE!
YOUR LIES ARE AS STRONG AS...AS...
HE'S GONE. OUR SON IS DEAD.
WHAT? THOR DEAD? IMPOSSIBLE!
NOT THOR.
OH. YOU MEAN...
LOKI HAS TOLD HIS FINAL LIE. 'TWAS HIS BIRTH FATHER WHO DID THE FOUL DEED. THE MONSTER NAMED...
LAUFEY!
ODIN! YOU SHOW YOURSELF AT LAST, COWARD!
I OWE YOU A DEATH, ASGARDIAN!
AND THE KING OF THE FROST GIANTS PAYS HIS DEBTS!
NOO!!!
ARGH!


SO YOU WERE THE THOR WHO DEFEATED THE MANGOG.
WELL, MJOLNIR DESERVES A BIT OF CREDIT THERE, BUT YEAH, I WAS THE ONE SLINGING IT.
HUH. I'M SORRY, BUT I SUPPOSE I JUST THOUGHT YOU'D BE A BIT...
BIGGER?
MORE BLOND.
IF YOU THINK FIGHTING DARK ELVES IS HARD, TRY LIVING THROUGH THREE ROUNDS OF CHEMOTHERAPY. BUT MY HAIR IS GROWING BACK, UNLIKE MALEKITH'S HEAD ONCE I--
THERE HE IS!
AYE. BUT I'M AFRAID HIS HEAD WILL NOT BE CLAIMED BY YOU, MY LADY JANE.
UGH! NO!
YOU'VE ALREADY FOUGHT ENOUGH BATTLES TO LAST A LIFETIME. NOW GO AND ENJOY THE LIFE YOU'VE EARNED.
AND LEAVE SOME GLORY FOR THE REST OF US!
HEEYA, ARAGORN! TIME TO FEED THE SWORD! FOR DRAGONFANG HUNGERS FOR ELF BLOOD!
AND SO DOES BRUNNHILDE THE VALKYRIE!


DOC! THIS IS BLADE! THINK I FOUND YOUR MAGIC PROBLEM!
HSSS! WE SMELL THE DARKNESS IN YOUR SOUL, DAYWALKER! AND WE WILL TURN IT TO FIRE!
IF YOU CAN DO THAT WITH A SWORD IN YOUR BELLY, YOU'RE WELCOME TO TRY, WITCHES.
AVENGERS! COULD USE A LITTLE BACKUP HERE!
YOU'VE GOT IT!
GAAARRGGH!!!
MAGICAL INTERFERENCE JUST WENT DOWN! EVACUATION SPELL IS LIVE IN THREE, TWO...
BY THE BEARD OF THE VISHANTI, LET THE PURPLE VEIL BE RENT ASUNDER!
AND I, DOCTOR STRANGE, WILL PAY THE SOUL-TOLL FOR ALL WHO PASS!
HUNDALASILIAH!
HE DID IT! NOW GET THE WOUNDED AND THE CIVILIANS OUT OF HERE!
YOU OLD FOOL. YOU'RE RIDDLED WITH KNIFE WOUNDS. YOU SHOULD NEVER HAVE COME.
JUST LET ME DIE IN PEACE FOR ONCE, WOMAN.

NO! NO ONE ESCAPES THIS WAR!
CLOSE THAT BOG-DAMNED PORTAL!
VALKYRIES! PROTECT THE PORTAL AT ALL COSTS!
MALEKITH! HAVE AT THEE!!!
STRANGE! WHAT THE HELL?
NO, NOT ME! I CAN'T LEAVE THE--
MALEKITH, MEET DRAGONFANG! MEET YOUR DOOM, DARK ELF!
ALL I SEE IS A DEAD WOMAN ON A HORSE!
STEPHEN! YOUR SPELL IS TOO STRONG! YOU'RE EVACUATING ALL OF--
AAAARRRGGGHH!!!

AVENGERS MOUNTAIN.
THE NORTH POLE.

"NO!"

WE HAVE TO GO BACK! NOW!

SPELL WAS TOO POWERFUL. COULDN'T CONTROL IT.

REST, STEPHEN. YOU SAVED MANY LIVES.

A FEW TOO MANY! WE JUST ABANDONED NEW YORK CITY TO THE ENEMY!

MORE LIKE WE JUST GOT OUR ASSES KICKED. BY AN ELF.

WE HAVE TO GET BACK THERE! THE FIGHT ISN'T FINISHED!

I'M AFRAID IT IS.

BUT THE WAR HAS JUST BEGUN.

MALEKITH'S FORCES ARE TOO MANY AND TOO STRONG. WE WERE LUCKY TO ESCAPE THE CITY WITH OUR LIVES. GOING BACK NOW WON'T SAVE THE DAY.

IF WE'RE TO HAVE ANY CHANCE OF VICTORY IN THE WAR OF THE REALMS... WE WILL HAVE TO JOURNEY *ELSEWHERE.*

BEFORE...HE DIED SAVING ME... LOKI SAID THAT THOR WAS BEING HELD IN *JOTUNHEIM*, AND THAT RETRIEVING HIM WAS THE KEY TO DEFEATING MALEKITH.

SO I AM GOING TO THE *LAND OF GIANTS* TO SAVE MY SON. ALONE IF I HAVE TO. BUT I WOULD NOT SAY NAY TO HELP.

SVARTALFHEIM.

THE *BLACK BIFROST* IS HOW MALEKITH MOVES HIS ARMIES BETWEEN THE REALMS.

HAVE TO TAKE OUT HIS BIFROST. IN SVARTALFHEIM. *LAND OF DARK ELVES.*

NEVER MIND THE OTHER REALMS!

THE ENEMY IS IN THE NEW CITY OF YORK! IF THE SORCERER IS BROKEN, THEN *PANTHER KING*, USE YOUR *SCIENCE WIZARDRY* TO SEND US BACK!

TELEPORTER IS OFFLINE. ALL OUR MAJOR SYSTEMS ARE STILL DOWN. THIS WASN'T THE WORK OF A DARK ELF SORCERER.

MALEKITH HAS SOME EARTHLY ALLIES. IN THE FORM OF *ROXXON*. IT'S TIME THE *AGENTS OF WAKANDA* DEALT WITH THEM.

I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT ELVES OR OTHER REALMS. BUT IF THIS IS A WAR, I'LL FIGHT IT IN THE TRENCHES. WITH EVERY *SOLDIER* I CAN FIND.

YOU'RE RIGHT, CAROL. SOMEONE WILL HAVE TO COORDINATE THE EARTH'S MILITARY RESPONSE TO THIS INVASION. I CAN THINK OF NO BETTER *CAPTAIN* FOR THE JOB.

AND IF IT'S SOLDIERS YOU NEED...I KNOW A FEW.

WHAT THE HELL'S HAPPENING? LAST THING I KNEW, ME AND DANNY WERE FIGHTING TROLLS IN *HARLEM*.

WORLD'S AT WAR WITH ELVES. THINK NOW WE'RE ABOUT TO DO SOME *DIRTY DOZEN* $%#*.

ARE WE EVEN GOING TO TALK ABOUT THE FACT THAT YOU'RE NOT DEAD?

NOT WITHOUT *BEER* WE AIN'T, BUB.

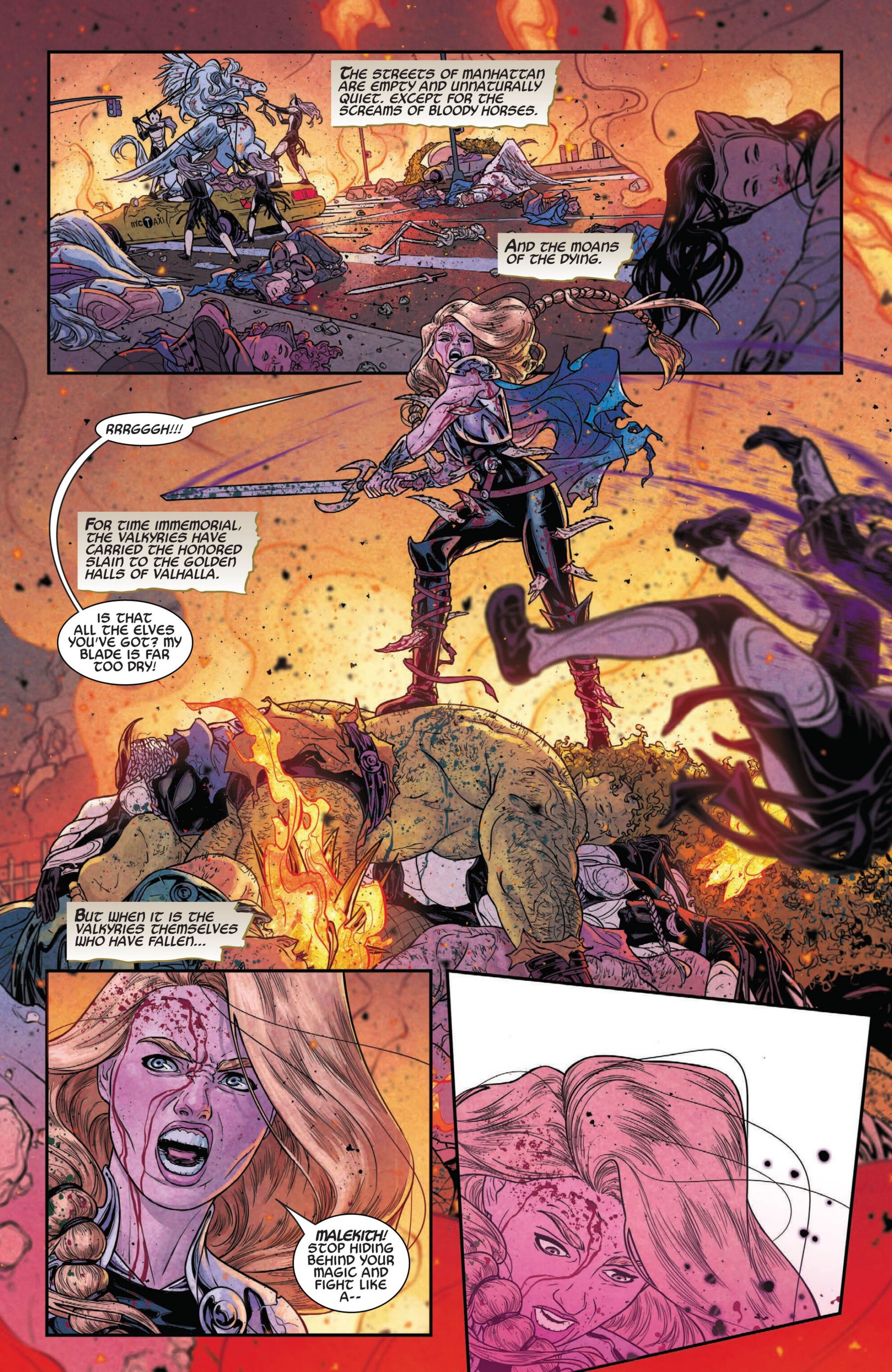
GET ODIN TO A BED, PLEASE. HE NEEDS THE *ODINSLEEP* TO HEAL HIS WOUNDS.
I COULD GO FOR A NAP MYSELF.
I'LL FIND OUR SON, HUSBAND. OR DIE TRYING.
WHAT YOU'RE PLANNING IS IMPOSSIBLE, ALL-MOTHER.

YOU CANNOT REACH THE OTHER REALMS. THE ASGARDIAN BIFROST IS SHATTERED AND ONLY BARELY FUNCTIONING.
AND MY BROTHER'S *EYESIGHT* STILL HASN'T RECOVERED. EVEN IF *HEIMDALL* COULD OPEN THE RAINBOW BRIDGE, HOW COULD HE *SEE* WHERE TO SEND YOU?
SORRY, DID YOU SAY THERE'S A BLIND MAN WHO NEEDS HELP SEEING? YOU MIGHT WANNA TALK TO ME ABOUT THAT.

THE ALL-FATHER MAY NEVER RECOVER. AND I MAY NOT RETURN FROM MY MISSION.
EVEN IN ITS CURRENT RUINED STATE, I CANNOT LEAVE ASGARD WITHOUT A LEADER.
WARRIORS, IT HAS. BUT TO SURVIVE THIS WAR, IT'S *WISDOM* THAT WILL BE MOST IMPERATIVE.

JANE FOSTER. WITH THE POWER INVESTED IN ME BY THE GODS, I HEREBY NAME YOU *ALL-MOTHER* OF ASGARD.
MY LADY JANE, DID YOU HEAR ME?
WE SHOULD'VE GONE BACK.

NOW IT'S TOO LATE.
LIVE ROXX NEWS ROX ▲ 201.07
2:53 AM ET
SLAUGHTER IN NEW YORK
Warrior women on winged horses massacred by monsters
K CITY OVERRUN BY FANTASY CREATURES COME TO LIFE: GIANTS, TROLLS, ELVES, FIR
BREAKING NEWS I WM180°
NEW YORK
THIS IS ROXX NEWS REPORTING LIVE FROM THE SCENE OF A *SLAUGHTER* IN NEW YORK...

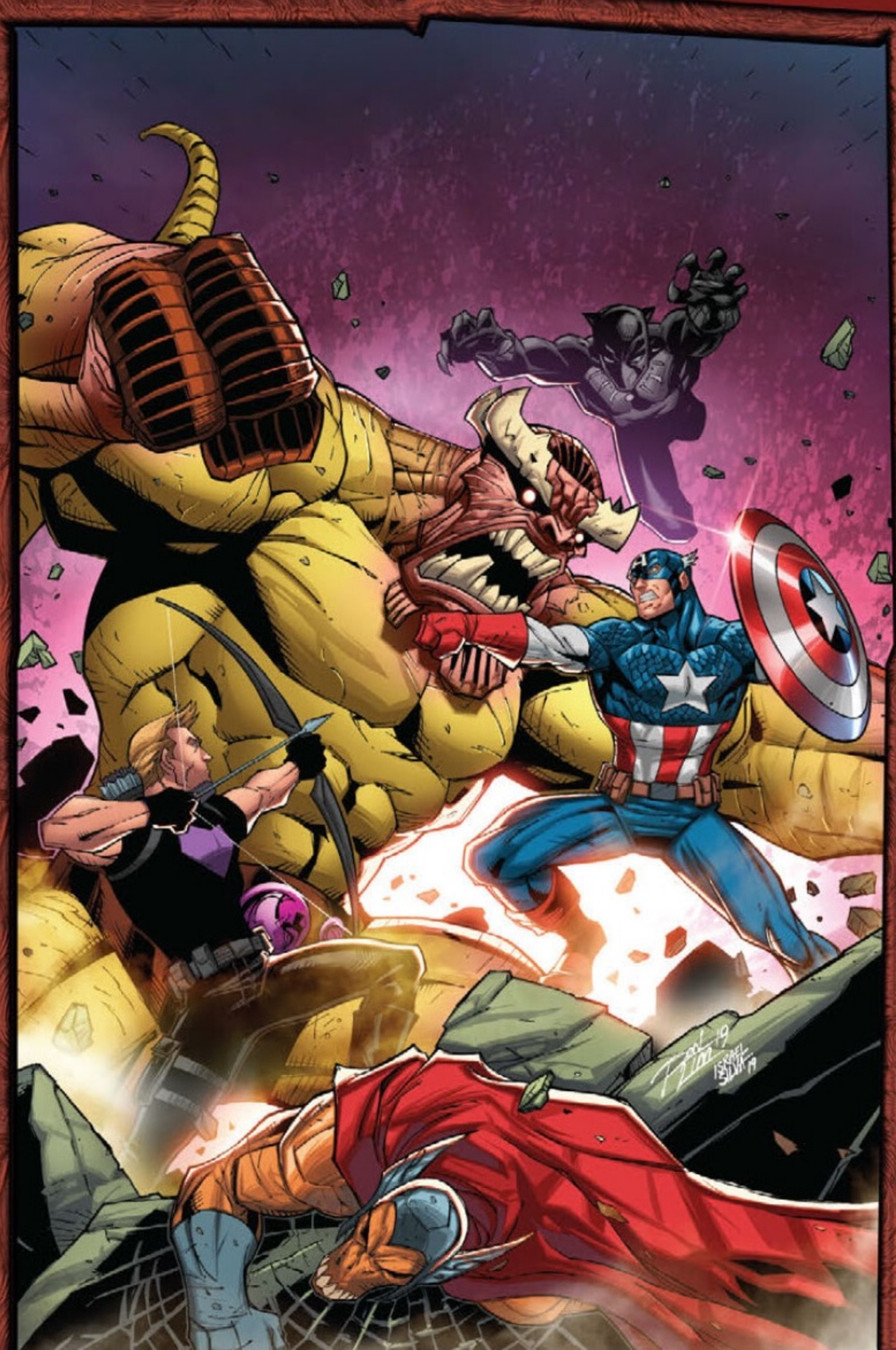

THE STREETS OF MANHATTAN ARE EMPTY AND UNNATURALLY QUIET. EXCEPT FOR THE SCREAMS OF BLOODY HORSES.
AND THE MOANS OF THE DYING.
RRRGGGH!!!
FOR TIME IMMEMORIAL, THE VALKYRIES HAVE CARRIED THE HONORED SLAIN TO THE GOLDEN HALLS OF VALHALLA.
IS THAT ALL THE ELVES YOU'VE GOT? MY BLADE IS FAR TOO DRY!
BUT WHEN IT IS THE VALKYRIES THEMSELVES WHO HAVE FALLEN...
MALEKITH! STOP HIDING BEHIND YOUR MAGIC AND FIGHT LIKE A--

...WHO WILL FERRY THEIR SOULS TO THEIR JUST REWARD?
NO ONE, IT SEEMS.
FOR THE TIME OF GODS AND VALHALLA HAS ENDED.
AND THE BLOODY AGE OF MALEKITH HAS BEGUN.
HEH.
THIS IS BREAKING NEWS, AS WE TAKE YOU LIVE TO LOS ANGELES, WHERE ICE GIANTS HAVE EMERGED FROM...
...REPORTS FROM LONDON OF WHAT APPEAR TO BE ELVES TERRORIZING THE...
TROLLS IN AUSTRALIA! I REPEAT, TROLLS ARE RAMPAGING THROUGH...
...SPREADING TO SHANGHAI. THE FIRE CREATURES ARE BURNING EVERY...
...CELL PHONE FOOTAGE OF AN AIRLINER OVER SOUTHERN AFRICA BEING DOWNED BY WINGED WOMEN WITH SPEARS...
...CAN'T BE SURE WHAT TO BELIEVE, BUT WE'RE BEING TOLD THAT THE DEAD ARE MARCHING ACROSS BRAZIL AND...
WHEREVER YOU LIVE ON THE FACE OF THE EARTH, WHATEVER DEITIES YOU WORSHIP...NOW WOULD BE THE TIME TO SAY A PRAYER...
...AND HOPE SOME GOD SOMEWHERE IS LISTENING.
NO GOD IS LISTENING.

WAR OF THE REALMS #1 PARTY VARIANT BY
Amanda Conner & Paul Mounts

WAR OF THE REALMS #1 VARIANT BY
Gabriele Dell'Otto

WAR OF THE REALMS #1 VARIANT BY
Adi Granov



WAR OF THE REALMS #1 VARIANT BY
Ron Lim & Israel Silva

WAR OF THE REALMS #3

The Quest for Thor

THE ARMORY AT AVENGERS MOUNTAIN.
ODIN WAS RIGHT.
IF IT'S TRUE THAT MALEKITH HAS CREATED A BLACK BIFROST IN HIS HOME REALM OF SVARTALFHEIM, THEN SHUTTING IT DOWN IS THE ONLY WAY TO HALT THE FLOW OF HIS TROOPS AND SAVE MIDGARD FROM BEING OVERRUN.
AND WITH THE ALL-FATHER RECOVERING FROM HIS WOUNDS, I AM THE ONLY ONE HERE WITH THE KNOWLEDGE TO LEAD THAT MISSION.
WHICH MEANS I MUST ASK A GREAT FAVOR OF YOU.
I NEED YOU TO GO TO JOTUNHEIM. INTO THE FROZEN HEART OF THE LAND OF GIANTS. A PLACE WHERE EVERYTHING YOU ENCOUNTER WILL BE INTENT ON MURDERING YOU, INCLUDING THE LAND ITSELF.
I NEED YOU TO FIND MY SON THERE.
AND BRING HIM HOME.
DO YOU ACCEPT THIS MISSION, CAPTAIN OF AMERICA?
YES, MA'AM, I SURELY DO.
WHEN DO WE LEAVE?

ASGARD.

I KNOW YOU WELL, LORD DAREDEVIL.

IN THE DAYS WHEN MY EYES WERE ALL-SEEING, I OFTEN ENJOYED OBSERVING YOUR EXPLOITS IN THE KITCHEN OF HEL.

OKAY, WELL THAT'S *CREEPY*, BUT WE'LL TALK ABOUT THAT LATER.

FOR NOW, HEIMDALL, LET'S SEE IF *TWO* BLIND GUYS ARE BETTER THAN *ONE*. HOW DO WE DO THIS?

TAKE UP MY SWORD, *HOFUND*, AND YOU WILL BECOME IMBUED WITH THE POWER OF THE *GUARDIAN* OF THE *BIFROST*.

SOUNDS SIMPLE ENOUGH.

AS MIRACULOUS AS YOUR SENSES MAY BE, SIR MURDOCK, YOU ARE STILL A *MORTAL*. DO THIS AND YOUR MIND WILL BE GOING WHERE ONLY *GODS* HAVE TREAD.

WELL, IF I LEARNED ANYTHING FROM THE NUNS AT ST. FRANCIS ACADEMY...

...IT'S THAT I'M NOT A VERY GOOD CATHOLIC.

RRRRGGHH-!!

YES! YOU HAVE DONE IT!
THE RAINBOW BRIDGE IS ALIVE AGAIN!
BUT NOW IT NEEDS YOUR MIND TO GUIDE IT.
DAREDEVIL, CAN YOU HEAR ME?
STARS GOING SUPERNOVA. SPACE SHARKS FEEDING. A BUTTERFLY ON CHANDILAR TAKES FLIGHT.
YES, HEIMDALL.
I HEAR... EVERYTHING.
DAREDEVIL, THE GOD WITHOUT FEAR.
THEN HEAR THIS:
WE DON'T HAVE TIME TO WASTE.
MALEKITH WILL KNOW THE BIFROST IS ACTIVE, AND HE WILL COME FOR US. AND YOU'RE LOOKING AT THE ONLY WARRIORS ASGARD HAS LEFT.
SO SEND OUR TEAMS ON THEIR MISSIONS. AND GET READY TO HOLD THE BRIDGE.
ALL-MOTHER'S ORDERS.

JOTUNHEIM.
REALM OF THE GIANTS.
DAREDEVIL, IF YOU CAN HEAR ME, IT WORKED. WE'RE IN THE REALM OF THE FROST GIANTS.
HEY, WHY DOES EVERYBODY ELSE HAVE COOL SWORDS AND STUFF AND I'VE JUST GOT A SHIELD? WHAT KIND OF LOSER GOES INTO BATTLE WITH JUST A... OH, WAIT.
IT'S GOOD TO HAVE YOU BACK, WOLVERINE. THINK YOU CAN TRACK DOWN OUR MISSING THOR?
AIN'T GONNA BE ALL THAT HARD, CAP.
I'D SAY WE JUST FOLLOW THE RIVER OF FROST GIANT BLOOD.
SWEET HOLY CHRISTMAS.

NOT TO BE THAT GUY, BUT WERE THE HORSES REALLY NECESSARY? I MEAN, DON'T THE AVENGERS HAVE SOME SNOWMOBILES OR SOMETHING?
C'MON, LUKE. WE'RE HERE TO FIGHT GIANTS AND RESCUE A GOD. HAVEN'T YOU EVER SEEN A SWORD-AND-SANDAL MOVIE?
IF YOU THINK YOU'RE GETTING ME IN ANY DAMN SANDALS, DANNY RAND, YOU'RE ABOUT TO HAVE THE FIGHT OF YOUR DAMN--
INCOMING!
GAGGGH!
FROST GIANT ARCHERS! SHOOTING ARROWS THE SIZE OF TELEPHONE POLES!
QUICK, EVERYBODY GET BEHIND MY SHIELD!
HOW ARE YOU THIS STUPID, SPIDER-MAN, BUT I'M THE ONE WHO DIED?
I MISSED YOU TOO, WOLVIE. WE'RE HUGGING AFTER THIS.
TAKE THEM DOWN, TEAM!
HARD AND FAST AS LIGHTNING!
IN THE NAME OF THOR!
YEAH! AND MY DAMN HORSE!

THIS PLAN IS SUICIDE. WE SHOULD JUST START STABBING EVERYBODY. ALWAYS WORKS FOR ME.
KEEP YOUR SWORD IN ITS SHEATH, DAYWALKER, AND ALLOW ME TO DO THE TALKING.
SVARTALFHEIM. REALM OF THE DARK ELVES.
HOLD UP. WHAT IN THE SLIMY HEL ARE THOSE?
DO YOU NOT RECOGNIZE OUR ALLIES IN THE GLORIOUS WAR?
THIS TROLL AND THIS MUSPELHEIM FIRE GOBLIN MUST GET TO THE BLACK BIFROST SO THEY CAN JOIN IN THE SLAUGHTER OF OUR WRETCHED BOG-DAMNED ENEMIES.
HI. UH, AIN'T MALEKITH GREAT?
THAT IS THE UGLIEST DAMN TROLL I'VE EVER SEEN.
HRRGH.
EASY.
MOTHER OF MAGGOTS. AND YOU TWO ARE SOME BIG DAMN ELVES. WHAT CLAN ARE YOU FROM?
THEY ARE OF THE--
I ASKED HIM. I SAID WHAT CLAN ARE YOU--
MY CLAN IS DEAD. AND SO THE HELL ARE YOU.
Punisher War Journal. Elf Offensive, day one. Rode on a rainbow. Took orders from Thor's mom. Snuck into a swampy hellhole swarming with a million pointy-eared bastards all tougher than snake turds.
Remind me to never leave the five boroughs again.

SO MUCH FOR THAT PLAN. NOW WE DO IT BLADE'S WAY AND SPLIT 'EM FROM END TO END.
IF YOU SQUINT, THEY EVEN LOOK LIKE VAMPS.
HULK'S NOT A TROLL! HULK'S A HULK!
RIDER! NO MORE POINT IN HIDING! SUMMON YOUR STEED!
ONE HELL CHARGER, COMING UP.
THE LAST TRAIN OUT OF ELF TOWN IS LEAVING THE STATION. ALL ABOARD.
NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS, NO MATTER WHO FALLS, WE DO NOT STOP.
NOT UNTIL WE REACH THE BLACK BIFROST.
AND BLOW IT TO HEL!

MIDGARD.
HMM. AS THE ARCHITECT OF THE GREATEST WAR IN HISTORY...I LIKE TO THINK I HAVE A FINE EYE FOR WEAPONRY.
AND I MUST SAY... THIS IS QUITE THE EXTRAORDINARY SWORD.
SO LOVINGLY CURSED. SO BEAUTIFULLY BLOOD-THIRSTING. I THANK YOU FOR BRINGING YOUR EBONY BLADE TO ME, SIR BLACK KNIGHT.
IT'S ONLY FITTING THAT I SHOULD WIELD SUCH A TIME-HONORED WEAPON, SEEING AS I'M NOW THE NEW RULER OF THIS LAND.
YOU ONCE CALLED IT EUROPE. BUT NOW IT SHALL BE NEW SVARTALFHEIM.
AND FROM HERE, WE SHALL WATCH THIS REALM BURN.
DERGROUND

OR AT LEAST I SHALL. YOU'LL BE QUITE DEAD, OF COURSE.
I DO APOLOGIZE, I HOPE I DIDN'T GET YOUR HOPES UP.
MALEKITH!
GET READY TO EAT THAT SWORD, YOU BASTARD.
WAR AVENGERS!
TIME TO SHOW THIS ELF THAT NOBODY MAKES WAR LIKE US HUMANS DO!
WE'RE ALSO VERY GOOD AT PIZZA! AND DRAMATIC ENTRANCES!
OH MY. WHAT HAVE WE HERE? THIS REALM IS JUST FILLED WITH TREASURES.
AREN'T YOU ANOTHER PRETTY SIGHT?
WAIT'LL YA SEE WHAT WE LOOK LIKE ON THE INSIDE!

MALEKITH HOLDS THE *EBONY BLADE*, FORGED BY MERLIN FROM ANCIENT STARSTONE. ONE OF THE MOST POWERFUL WEAPONS ON THE PLANET.

MIDGARD... IS *SLIPPING AWAY.*

NOT IF I HAVE ANYTHING TO SAY ABOUT IT.

YOU *WILL*, JANE FOSTER. BEFORE THIS WAR IS THROUGH, YOU WILL HAVE VERY MUCH TO SAY.

LET'S FOCUS ON THE HERE AND NOW, DAREDEVIL. WHAT'S THE STATUS OF OUR AWAY TEAMS?

HOPELESSLY OUTNUMBERED AND FIGHTING DESPERATELY FOR THEIR LIVES. AS WE SOON WILL BE AS WELL. THEY'RE *COMING* FOR US NOW.

NO...

THEY'RE HERE.

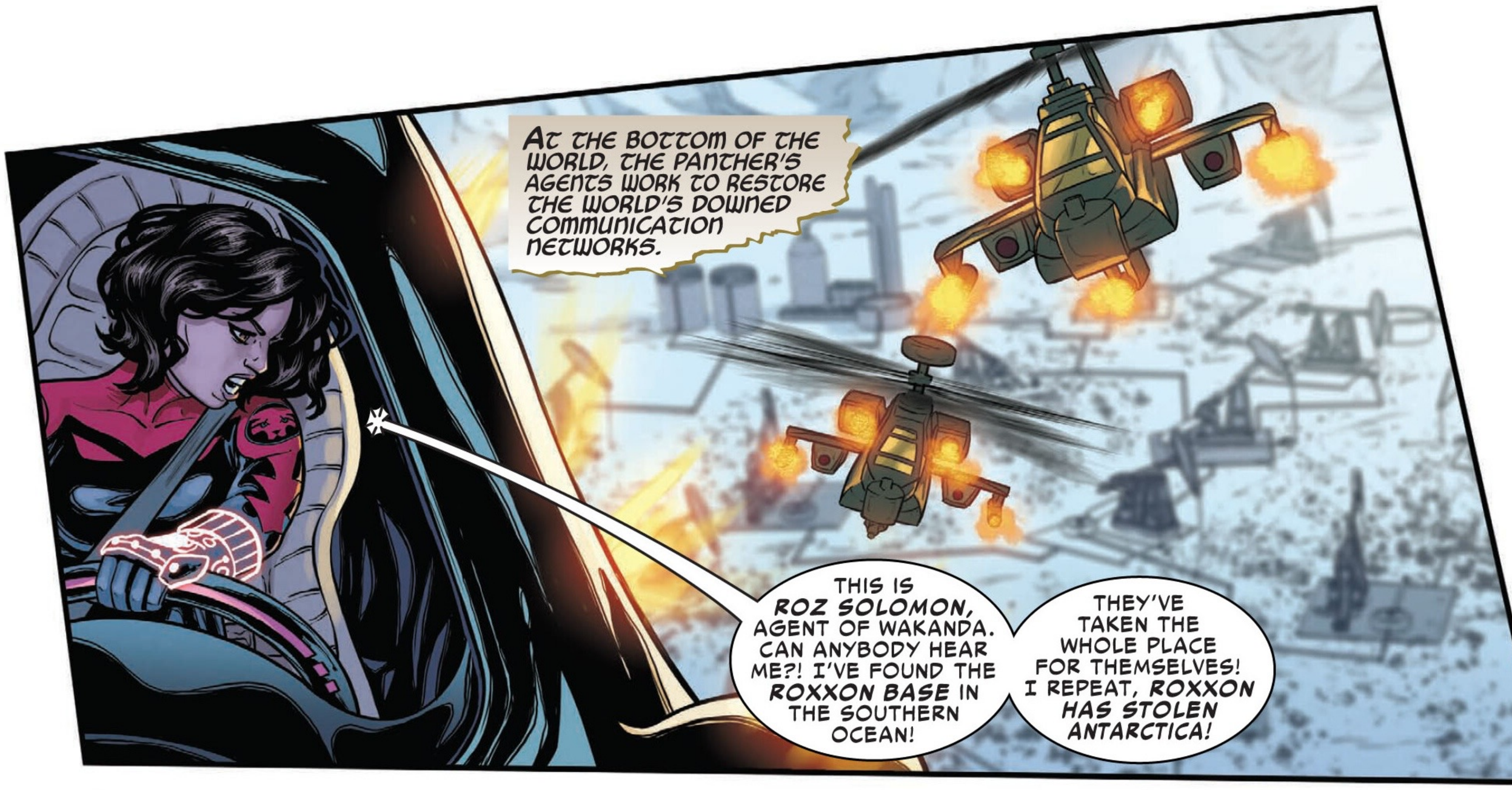
DARK ELF SABOTEURS. ARMED WITH ENOUGH SWAMP BOMBS TO BLAST ALL OF ASGARD TO SMITHEREENS.

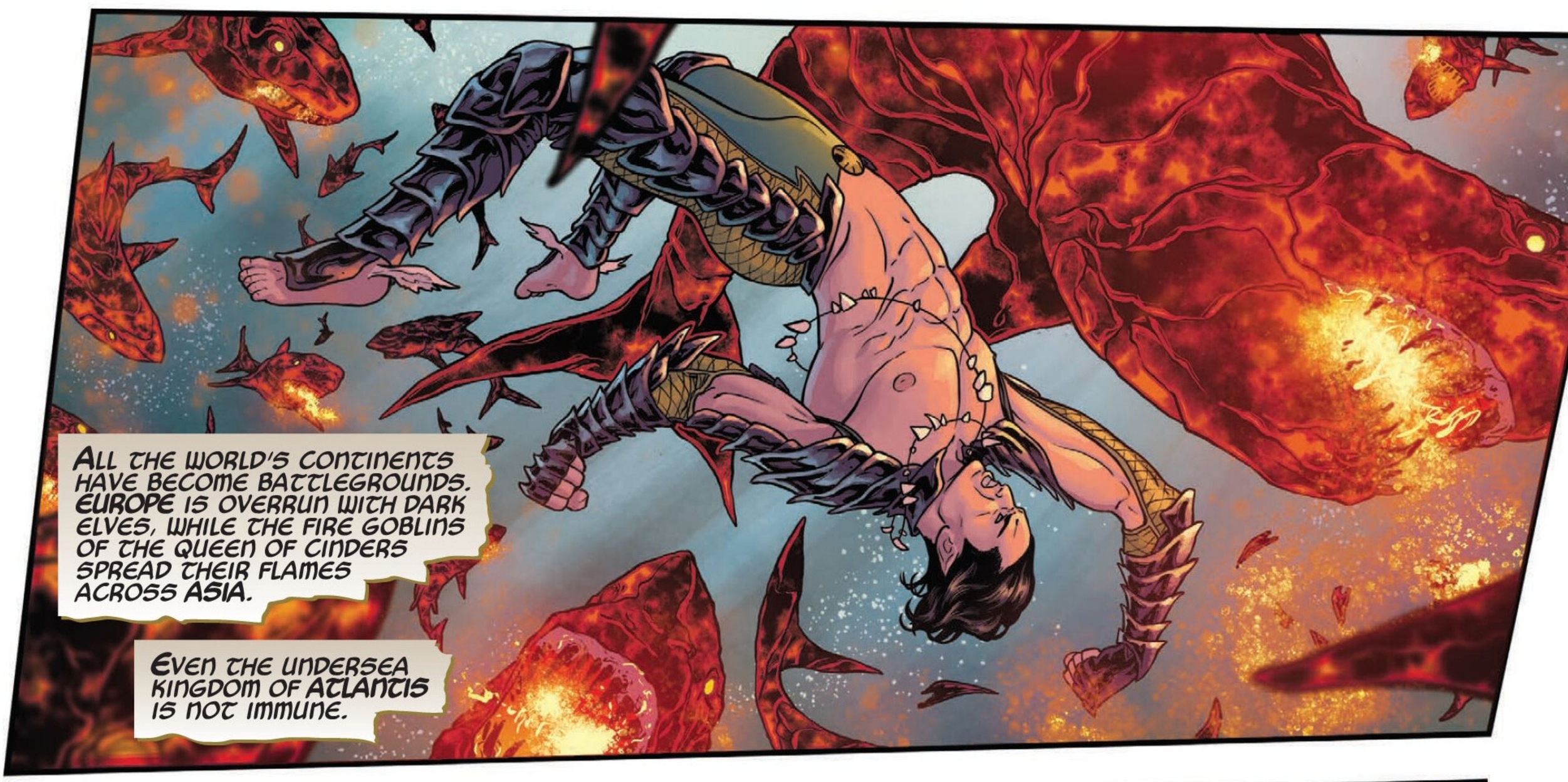
MATTHEW MURDOCK HEARS A VOICE QUIETLY MUMBLE A PRAYER, AND WITH SURPRISE...REALIZES IT'S HIS OWN.

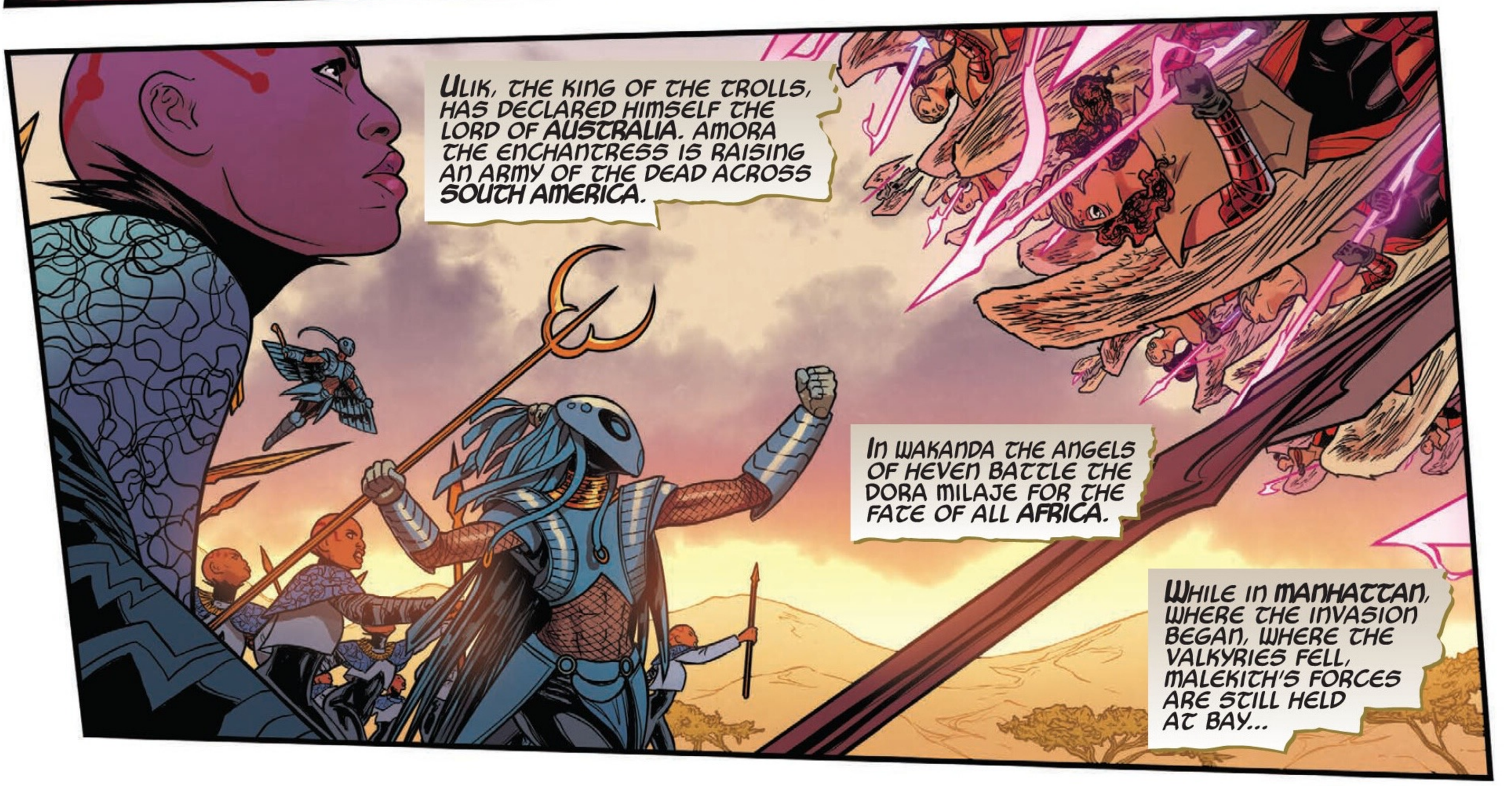
HOLD THE BRIDGE! IF IT FALLS, OUR TEAMS ARE DEAD!

THOR IS LOST. ODIN CLINGS TO LIFE. THE GREAT GODS HAVE FALLEN. THEY CANNOT SAVE US, MURDOCK KNOWS.

WE MORTALS MUST SAVE OURSELVES.
OR ELSE JOIN OUR GODS IN OBLIVION.
DEEP IN AVENGERS MOUNTAIN, TONY STARK AND SHURI ARE DOING THEIR PART, WORKING ALONGSIDE THE DWARVES WHO FORGED THE HAMMERS OF THOR, BUILDING A NEW WEAPON OF WAR.
HA, SCREWBEARD LIKE YOU TWO, MAN OF IRON AND WOMAN OF VIBRANIUM. SURE YOU NOT PART DWARVES?
HE DOESN'T DRINK, AND I'M A VEGAN.
YOU NOT DWARVES.
WHILE THE BLACK PANTHER READIES THE MOUNTAIN'S CELESTIAL DEFENSES, FOR WAR HAS NOW COME TO THE TOP OF THE WORLD.


AT THE BOTTOM OF THE WORLD, THE PANTHER'S AGENTS WORK TO RESTORE THE WORLD'S DOWNED COMMUNICATION NETWORKS.
THIS IS ROZ SOLOMON, AGENT OF WAKANDA. CAN ANYBODY HEAR ME?! I'VE FOUND THE ROXXON BASE IN THE SOUTHERN OCEAN!
THEY'VE TAKEN THE WHOLE PLACE FOR THEMSELVES! I REPEAT, ROXXON HAS STOLEN ANTARCTICA!


ALL THE WORLD'S CONTINENTS HAVE BECOME BATTLEGROUNDS. EUROPE IS OVERRUN WITH DARK ELVES, WHILE THE FIRE GOBLINS OF THE QUEEN OF CINDERS SPREAD THEIR FLAMES ACROSS ASIA.
EVEN THE UNDERSEA KINGDOM OF ATLANTIS IS NOT IMMUNE.


ULIK, THE KING OF THE TROLLS, HAS DECLARED HIMSELF THE LORD OF AUSTRALIA. AMORA THE ENCHANTRESS IS RAISING AN ARMY OF THE DEAD ACROSS SOUTH AMERICA.
IN WAKANDA THE ANGELS OF HEVEN BATTLE THE DORA MILAJE FOR THE FATE OF ALL AFRICA.
WHILE IN MANHATTAN, WHERE THE INVASION BEGAN, WHERE THE VALKYRIES FELL, MALEKITH'S FORCES ARE STILL HELD AT BAY...

...BY NEW YORK CITY'S LAST DEFENDERS.
EVEN ON A DAY WHEN SO MANY GODS HAVE FALLEN, THE EARTH SHOWS IT HAS BIRTHED GODS OF ITS OWN.
MAY THEY LIVE TO SEE THE DAWN.

JOTUNHEIM.
GAGH, SOMEHOW THESE GIANTS ARE EVEN COLDER ON THE INSIDE.
DAMN. TOLD YOU THE HORSES WERE A BAD IDEA. YOURS TOO, DANNY?
FROZE TO DEATH. MAY HER SOUL FIND PEACE IN THE FIELDS BEYOND.
KEEP MOVING.
WE'RE GETTING CLOSE.
WHAT? HOW DID YOU KILL THAT MANY? YOUR CLAWS ARE THE SIZE OF *TWEEZERS* TO THEM.
I'VE KILLED A MAN WITH TWEEZERS BEFORE.
HOW DO YOU KNOW WE'RE GETTING CLOSE, LOGAN?
JUST LISTEN.
MY EARS ARE TOO COLD TO HEAR ANYTHING.
SCREAMING. I HEAR SOMEONE SCREAMING.
NOT JUST SOMEONE. THAT'S *THOR*.
THEN FROM HERE ON OUT...WE *RUN*.

SVARTALFHEIM.
WE JUST CRASHED THROUGH A ROADBLOCK MADE OF MAMMOTHS. I REALLY HOPE WE'RE GETTING CLOSE.
THAT'S IT. THAT'S THE BLACK BIFROST. THAT'S WHAT WE'VE COME TO DESTROY.
THAT THING LOOKS ROCK SOLID. WE'LL NEED EXPLOSIVES. AND A LOT OF THEM. WHICH WE DON'T HAVE.
I'LL WIRE THE CAR TO BLOW.
I DON'T RECOMMEND TOUCHING THE RIDE, PUNISHER, UNLESS YOU WANT YOUR FACE TO MATCH YOUR SHIRT.
WE ALREADY HAVE ALL THE EXPLOSIVES WE NEED.
DON'T WE, MY LADY HULK?
DAMN RIGHT WE DO. RIGHT HERE IN MY FISTS!

SO YOU'RE ONE OF THOR'S GREATEST ENEMIES, HUH?
HMPH. WE AIN'T IMPRESSED. DUDE MUST REALLY BE SLIPPING.
OH, MY APOLOGIES, HAS OUR FIGHT BEGUN? I WAS BUSY CHATTING WITH YOUR SYMBIOTE.
FASCINATING STORY IT TELLS. ABOUT YOUR GOD KNULL AND HIS NECROSWORD. I'VE RECENTLY COME INTO POSSESSION OF A SWORD MYSELF.
AND EVEN IF YOU'RE THE GREATEST SORCERER IN ALL THE REALMS...
OH SPIT.
GAARRGGH!!!
...ONE CAN NEVER HAVE TOO MANY WEAPONS.
GET OUR WOUNDED OUT OF HERE AND LOCK THIS BUILDING DOWN.
THEN SOMEBODY FIND ME MALEKITH!
AND WHERE IN THE HELL IS VENOM?

MALEKITH WON'T STOP LAUGHING. THOR... CAN'T STOP SCREAMING.
BEN GRIMM JUST SAID IT'S CLOBBERING TIME, BUT THE GIANTS WON'T STOP COMING. THE GIANTS AND ELVES AND TROLLS AND...
A BOY IN SHANGHAI, HIDING FROM FIRE GOBLINS AS THE FLAMES SPREAD, PRAYING TO ALL THE GODS. IN PRAGUE, GIRLS RUNNING FROM WAR WITCHES, CALLING FOR HELP.
CALLING. IT'S TOO MUCH. I CAN'T...
DAREDEVIL, LOOK OUT! ONE'S GETTING PAST! DON'T LET HER--!

DON'T LOOK NOW, BUT THEY HAVE TANKS MADE FROM GIANT ALLIGATORS.
WE NEED TO BE GETTING THE HELL OUT OF HERE.
OR GETTING READY TO DIE WITH PURPOSE.
BUILDING UP...GAMMA ENERGY. ONE MORE PUNCH SHOULD DO IT.
WAIT!
I CAN FEEL IT...FROM ACROSS THE COSMOS. THE ASGARDIAN BIFROST HAS JUST BEEN DESTROYED.
IF WE DESTROY THIS ONE, WE WILL BE TRAPPED HERE FOREVER. WHICH MEANS...
WE HAVE A NEW PLAN.
WE HOLD THE BRIDGE.
NO MATTER WHAT COMES OUR WAY, WE HOLD THE BLACK BIFROST.
AND WE USE IT!
WELL HELL...
NO POINT LETTING ALL THIS GAMMA POWER GO TO WASTE!

THE SCREAMS. I HEAR THEM TOO.
WE'RE GETTING CLOSE. THOR MUST BE SOMEWHERE BETWEEN THOSE MOUNTAINS.
I DON'T THINK THOSE ARE *MOUNTAINS*, STEVE.
MY GOD. I'VE SEEN A FEW THINGS IN MY TIME, BUT THIS...WHAT THE HELL HAPPENED HERE?
OVER THERE! I SEE HIM!
THOR! THOR, WE'RE HERE TO--
RRRGGGH!!!
KEEP YOUR DISTANCE, BOYS. I KNOW THAT LOOK. IT'S CALLED A *BERSERKER RAGE*.
BY THE EYES OF SHOU-LAO, HOW IS HE STILL ALIVE?
GUESS THAT ANSWERS MY QUESTION ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED TO ALL THESE GIANTS.

THE GOD OF $%@&# THUNDER HAPPENED.
MORE GIANTS!
SEND ME MORE ODIN-DAMNED GIANTS!
SEND THEM ALL!!!
BERSERKER

New Jötunheim
Frozen Land of the Frost Giants
Laufey
New Svartalfheim
The Dark Faerie Realm
Malekith
New Muspelheim
Land of Fire
The Queen of Cinders
New Heven
Land of the Angels
The Queen of Heven
The Dusk Lands
New Kingdom of the Dead
The Enchantress
Kingdom of the Trolls
Ulik
The New Kingdoms of Midgard
The Kingdom of Roxxon Inc
Dario Agger
Map by John Tyler Christopher

WAR OF THE REALMS #4

The Stand at the Black Bridge

ALFHEIM. THE PALACE OF LJOSALFGARD.
THE FIRST BATTLE IN WHAT WOULD BECOME MALEKITH'S WAR OF THE REALMS WAS FOUGHT MANY MOONS AGO, IN THE ONCE RADIANT AND PEACEFUL REALM OF THE LIGHT ELVES.
IN TRUTH IT WAS MORE MASSACRE THAN BATTLE.
MALEKITH'S DARK ELF ARMY SACKED THE CAPITAL CITY, BURNED THE GARDENS OF THE FAY, POISONED THE CHARDONNAY RIVER, AND SCARRED QUEEN FEATHERWINE BEFORE MARCHING ON TO THE NEXT REALM.
THE LIGHT ELF SURVIVORS HAVE LIVED IN SQUALOR AND HUNGER EVER SINCE. STARVING NOT JUST FOR ELVISH SPICE CAKES AND CHOCOLATE-COVERED MUSHROOMS, BUT DRIVEN ABOVE ALL ELSE BY ONE SEARING, ALL-CONSUMING HUNGER...
SIR IVORY...
I SENSE IT TOO. GET BEHIND ME, MY QUEEN.
NO CHANCE OF THAT.
...FOR REVENGE.
A BLACK BIFROST PORTAL FROM SVARTALFHEIM! WHATEVER COMES THROUGH, SEND IT TO HEL!

HOLD YOUR FIRE.
I'M NO DAMN ELF.
A HUMAN WITH A SKULL BRAND AND THE EYES OF WAR, WHO TRAVELS BY BLACK BIFROST. YOU'RE AN AGENT OF MALEKITH THE ACCURSED IF I'VE EVER SEEN ONE.
KNOW HOW YOU CAN TELL I'M NOT? YOU'RE ALL STILL ALIVE.
MY FRIEND, IF YOU SO MUCH AS TICKLE A WEAPON...
...I WILL SHOOT OFF EACH OF YOUR FINGERS.
I'D ONLY NEED ONE. BUT MAYBE ANOTHER TIME. THOR'S MOM SENT ME.
LADY FREYJA?
YEAH, THAT ONE. YOU PEOPLE LOST FAMILY TO MALEKITH AND WANT THE CHANCE TO PAY HIM BACK? YOU'RE IN LUCK. FOLLOW ME...

"...AND I'LL LEAD YOU RIGHT TO THE WAR."
BITTERHAND! AREN'T YOU WATCHING?!
WE BOMBED THE BRIDGE, BUT WE NEED MORE ELVES TO BRING DOWN THESE GODS! OPEN THE BOG-DAMNED BIFROST BEFORE WE--
BITTERHAND CANNOT SAVE YOU.
GAAAGH!!!
FOR OURS IS NOT THE ONLY BIFROST THAT HAS FALLEN.
ASGARD.
APOLOGIES, HEIMDALL. I'VE PROVEN A POOR GUARDIAN OF THE RAINBOW BRIDGE.
NO WORSE THAN I, LORD DAREDEVIL. BUT THE IMPORTANT THING IS, YOU FULFILLED THE MISSION. OUR STRIKE TEAMS WERE DISPATCHED.
YEAH, BUT WERE YOU ABLE TO BRING THEM HOME?
I'M AFRAID NOT, ALL-MOTHER JANE. FOR THAT MIRACLE TO HAPPEN...

"...WE SHOULD ALL NOW PRAY TO FREYJA."
SVARTALFHEIM.
I SEE THE LAST BLACKENED BREATHS OF LIFE WITHERING INSIDE YOUR LUNGS, BITTERHAND. I SEE THE SPIDERS IN HEL LICKING THEIR MANDIBLES, WAITING EAGERLY TO RECEIVE YOU.
I SEE EVERY DARKNESS AND MISERY IN ALL THE REALMS.
EVERY BLOODY HORROR OF THIS WAR.
EVERY DAMNED ONE OF MALEKITH'S CRIMES.
AS WIELDER OF THE BITTERBLADE AND NEW GUARDIAN OF THE BLACK BIFROST...
...I SEE MORE DARK ELVES DYING HERE THIS DAY.
BUT NOT AT YOUR HANDS, MY LADY HULK. I TOLD YOU TO GET THROUGH THAT PORTAL.
REST OF TEAM GONE! HULK NOT LEAVE SHE-GOD ALONE! TOO MANY ELVES THAT NEED SMASHING!
LEAVE THESE ELVES TO ME.

WITH THIS SWORD I'M STRONG ENOUGH TO HOLD OFF ALL OF SVARTALFHEIM IF I MUST. AT LEAST LONG ENOUGH TO FINISH THE MISSION.
SO GO, HULK. 'TIS THE ONLY WAY WE'RE GOING TO SAVE MIDGARD.
NO! HULK NOT--
YOU'RE AS STUBBORN AS MY HUSBAND. BUT THERE'S NO TIME FOR DEBATE. THE GUARDIAN OF THE BLACK BRIDGE HAS SPOKEN!
GRRRGGH!
JUST...DO ME THE FAVOR OF TELLING MY SON...
...THAT HIS MOTHER LOVED HIM. LIKE LIGHTNING LOVES THE THUNDER.
SHE'S JUST ONE GODDESS! SWARM HER AND TEAR HER TO PIECES!
AYE, JUST ONE GODDESS. AND HOW MANY DARK ELVES DO YOU THINK ONE GODDESS IS WORTH?
HUNDREDS? THOUSANDS? ALL OF YOU?!
KEEP COMING UNTIL WE HAVE AN ANSWER!

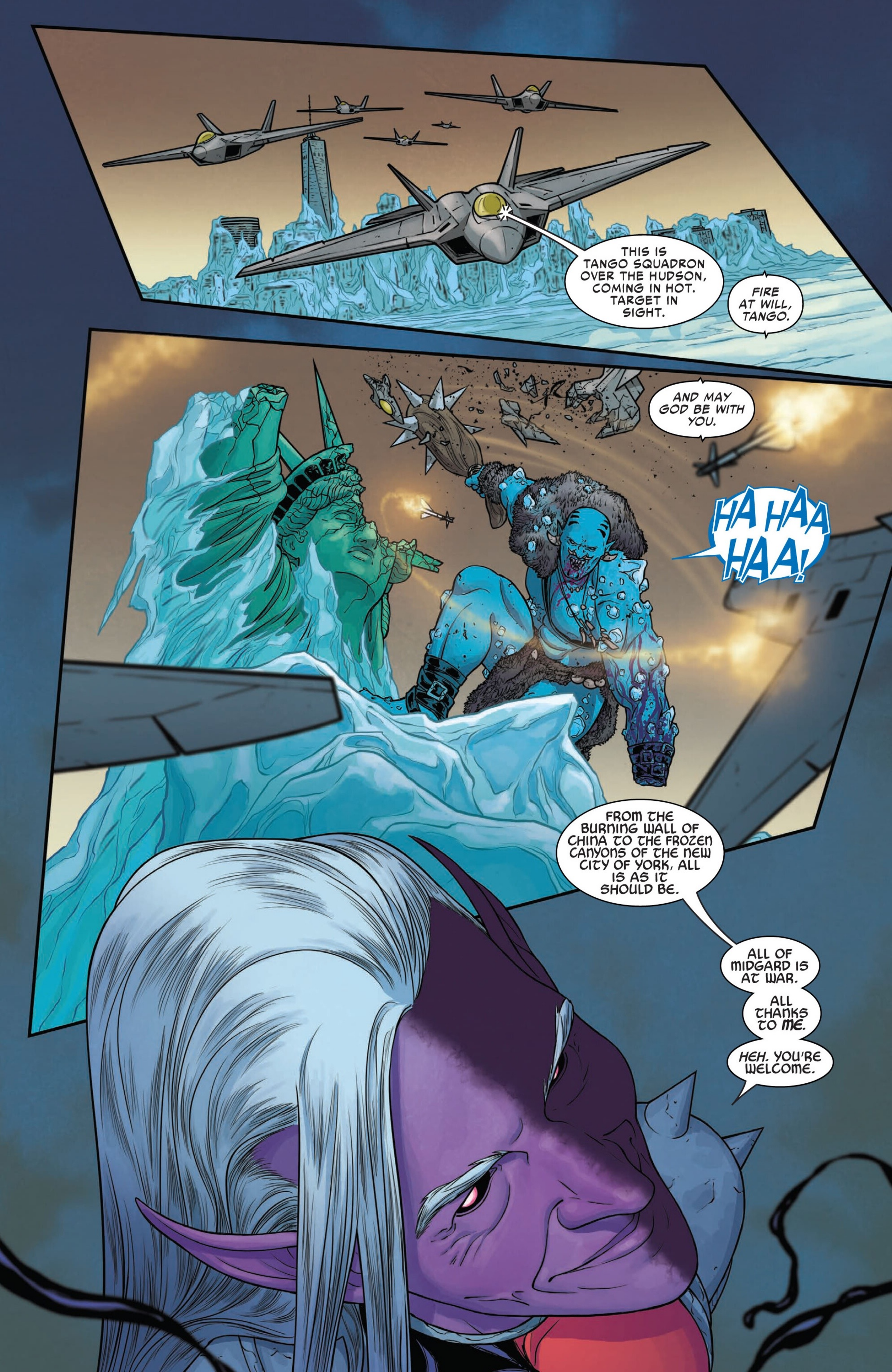
NIDAVELLIR.
MANY WEEKS AGO, WHEN THE WAR OF THE REALMS SPREAD TO THIS MISTY LAND, MALEKITH'S MINIONS SET THE SKORNHEIM MOUNTAINS AFIRE AND FLOODED THE CAVES OF IVALDI WITH A RIVER OF DWARF BLOOD.
BIG WAR. DWARVES FOLLOW HULK. DWARVES SMASH!
THIS ONE QUITE MOTIVATIONAL SPEAKER.
STONEFOOT MUST HAVE CAVE DUST IN EYE.
TO MIDGARD!
VANAHEIM.
IN THE REALM OF THE RECLUSIVE VANIR GODS, MALEKITH HAD DEFILED THEIR ANCIENT TEMPLES AND REDUCED THEIR TOWERING FORESTS TO OCEANS OF ASH.
OF COURSE THE FINAL BATTLE SHOULD BE FOUGHT IN MIDGARD. BECAUSE YOU HUMANS HAVE ALWAYS BEEN SO BELOVED BY THE GODS, MALEKITH HATES YOU MOST OF ALL.
I'M NOT EXACTLY HUMAN. AND IF THERE'S A GOD OUT THERE WHO LOVES ME, I SURE AS HELL HAVEN'T MET THEM YET. LET'S GO.

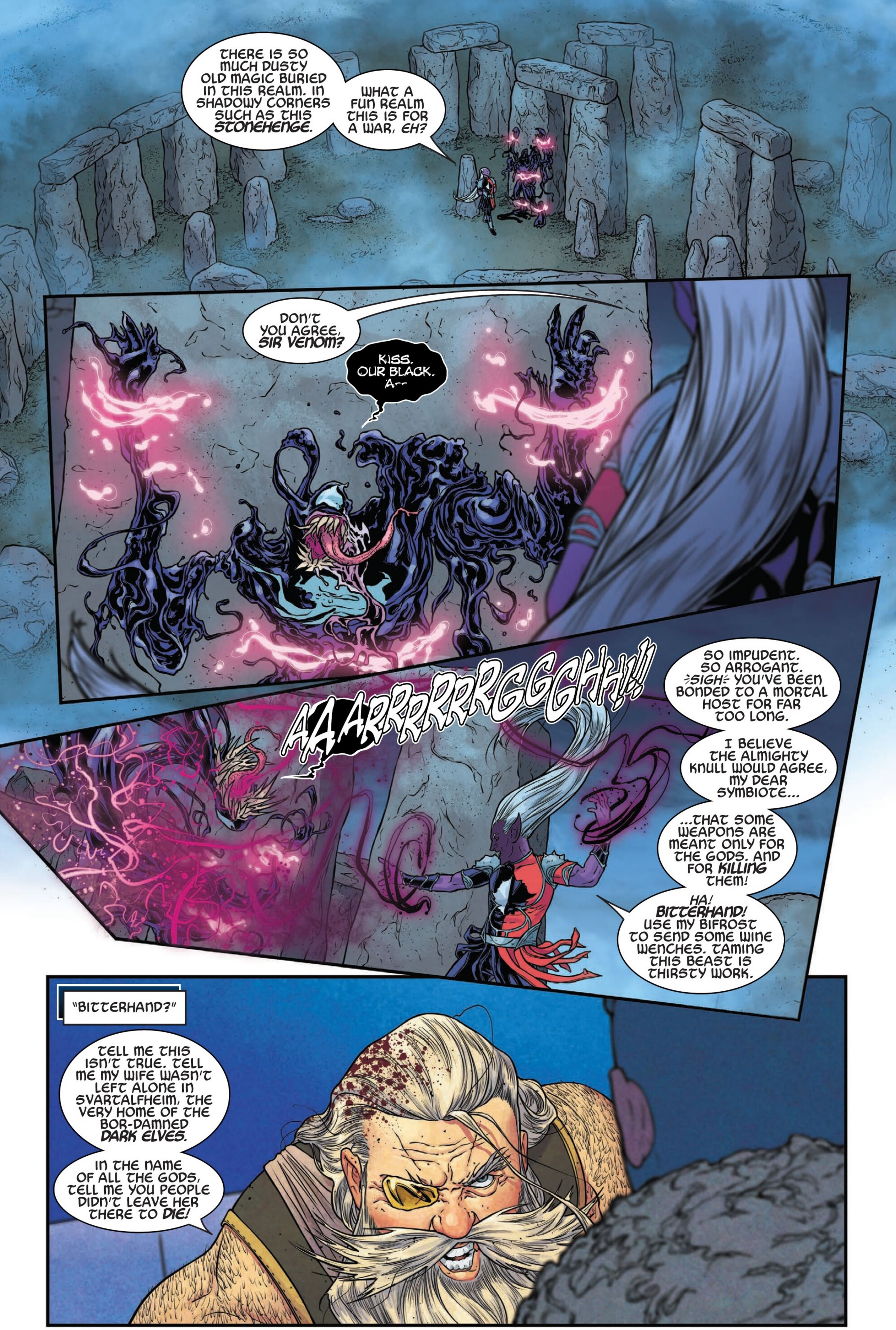
NIFFLEHEIM.
THE LORDS OF HEL ARE RILED AND RESTLESS, FOR EVEN UNTO THE DUSK LANDS HAD MALEKITH BROUGHT WAR.
FLAMING MUSCLE CAR. GIANT SPIDERS. IN HEL. AND MY FACE IS A SKULL THAT'S ON FIRE.
JUST WHEN I THINK MY LIFE CAN'T GET ANY MORE METAL.
JOTUNHEIM.
OVER THE EONS, DWARVES, ELVES, GODS AND MEN HAVE RARELY AGREED ON ANYTHING.
BUT NOW SUDDENLY THEY FIND THEMSELVES UNITED BY ONE SINGULAR DRIVING FORCE...
MOVE! GET THOR THROUGH THE PORTAL!
HEY, LEGGO MY LOGAN!

...THEIR HATRED OF MALEKITH THE ACCURSED.
MIDGARD.
GAGGH, ARE WE HOME? DID WE MAKE IT?
WE'RE IN AVENGERS MOUNTAIN.
GREAT. THIS PLACE IS ALMOST AS WEIRD AS SNOW KONG TOWN.
WELCOME BACK, STRIKE TEAM. YOU'RE JUST IN TIME.
T'CHALLA? WHERE ARE YOU?
THE MOUNTAIN IS UNDER SIEGE. BUT IT IS BEING HANDLED.
IS THUNDER MASTER BACK? THORI MAKE MUCH MURDER WHILE YOU AWAY, MASTER! THORI MAKE MASTER SO PROUD!
SHURI, ARE YOU IN POSITION?
I AM INSIDE YOUR HEADQUARTERS' CRANIUM, BROTHER, IF YOU CALL THAT IN POSITION.
THEN PREPARE TO OPEN FIRE.

THE WEAPON IS PRIMED, BUT... SURELY THESE READINGS CANNOT BE CORRECT. JUST EXACTLY HOW POWERFUL IS THIS DEAD CELESTIAL OF YOURS, T'CHALLA?
SEE FOR YOURSELF. SET THE WEAPON'S POWER TO LEVEL 3.
GET THOR TO THE INFIRMARY AND SEE THAT HE STAYS THERE!
GREAT, YOU GOT THOR BACK. WE DIDN'T COME BACK EMPTY-HANDED EITHER, CAPTAIN, SIR.
UH, THE SPIDERS ARE COOL, TRUST ME.
WHAT ABOUT THE BLACK BIFROST? AND WHERE'S--
WHERE IS SHE?

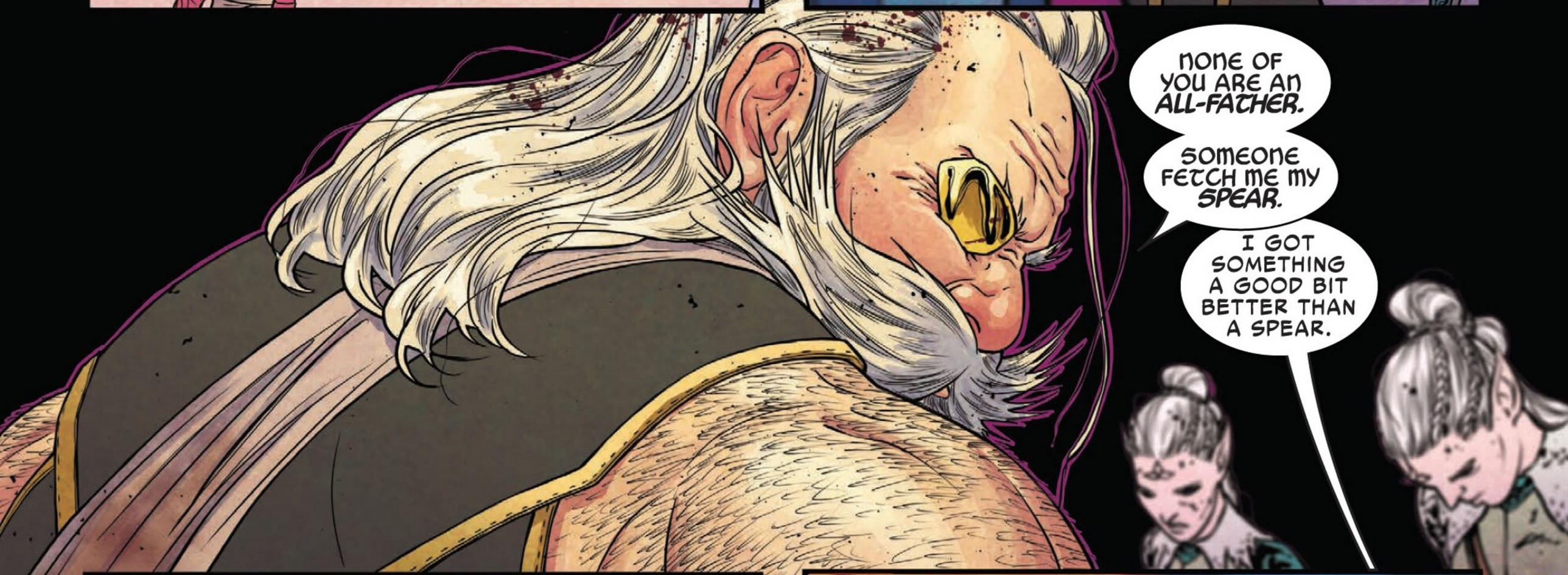
WHERE IS FREYJA?
WHERE IN THE BLOODY HEL IS MY WIFE?
BRUNNHILDE THE VALKYRIE LIES DEAD IN MANHATTAN, HER BLOOD A BLACK SCAB ON THE STREET.
CAROL DANVERS AND THE AGENTS OF ATLAS ARE FELLING FIRE GOBLINS.
MY SON IS WEEPING AND BLEEDING. A CHILD OF KNULL IS SCREAMING.
I CAN SEE BACK ACROSS THE YEARS, TO MALEKITH AS A CHILD, THE MAGGOTS OF WAR FEEDING ON HIS YOUNG, ROTTING MIND. I SEE HIM THROWING HIS OWN MOTHER TO THE DOGS.
HE WILL NEVER STOP HIS WAR.
"BUT NEITHER THE HEL WILL WE!"


THIS IS TANGO SQUADRON OVER THE HUDSON, COMING IN HOT. TARGET IN SIGHT.
FIRE AT WILL, TANGO.
AND MAY GOD BE WITH YOU.
HA HA HA HA!
FROM THE BURNING WALL OF CHINA TO THE FROZEN CANYONS OF THE NEW CITY OF YORK, ALL IS AS IT SHOULD BE.
ALL OF MIDGARD IS AT WAR.
ALL THANKS TO ME.
HEH. YOU'RE WELCOME.


THERE IS SO MUCH DUSTY OLD MAGIC BURIED IN THIS REALM. IN SHADOWY CORNERS SUCH AS THIS STONEHENGE.
WHAT A FUN REALM THIS IS FOR A WAR, EH?
DON'T YOU AGREE, SIR VENOM?
KISS. OUR BLACK. A--
AAARRRRRGGGHH!!
SO IMPUDENT. SO ARROGANT. ÷SIGH÷ YOU'VE BEEN BONDED TO A MORTAL HOST FOR FAR TOO LONG.
I BELIEVE THE ALMIGHTY KNULL WOULD AGREE, MY DEAR SYMBIOTE...
...THAT SOME WEAPONS ARE MEANT ONLY FOR THE GODS. AND FOR KILLING THEM!
HA! BITTERHAND! USE MY BIFROST TO SEND SOME WINE WENCHES. TAMING THIS BEAST IS THIRSTY WORK.
"BITTERHAND?"
TELL ME THIS ISN'T TRUE. TELL ME MY WIFE WASN'T LEFT ALONE IN SVARTALFHEIM, THE VERY HOME OF THE BOR-DAMNED DARK ELVES.
IN THE NAME OF ALL THE GODS, TELL ME YOU PEOPLE DIDN'T LEAVE HER THERE TO DIE!

IT WAS HER MISSION. HER ORDER.
SHE HAD TO HOLD THE BLACK BIFROST SO SHE COULD USE IT. AND THEN...BLOW IT TO HELL.
THE PORTAL'S STILL OPEN! WE CAN GET TO HER, BRING HER BACK THROUGH AND DESTROY IT FROM THIS SIDE!
THAT'S NOT POSSIBLE.

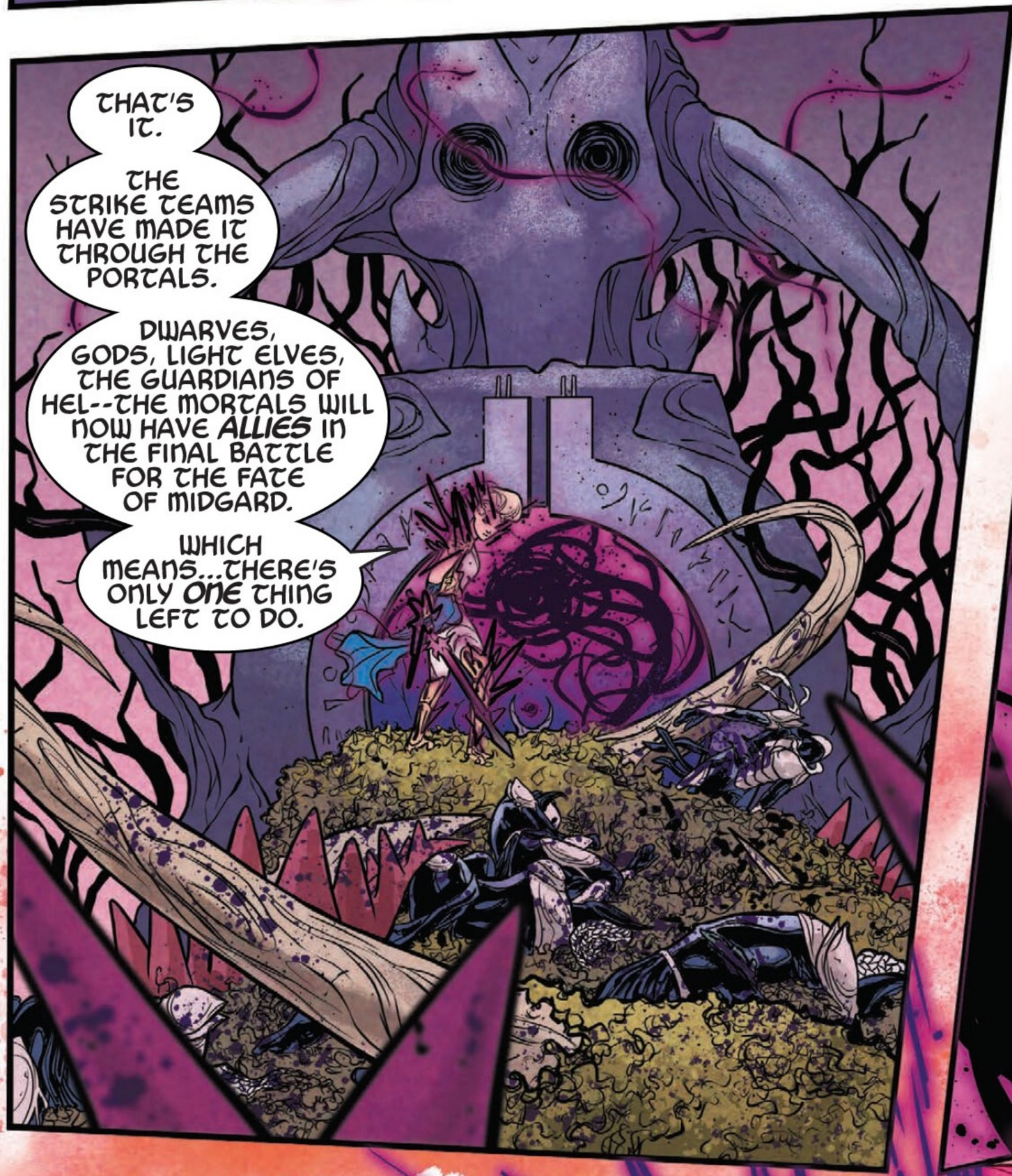
SHE'S THE GUARDIAN OF THE BLACK BRIDGE. YOU CANNOT FIGHT YOUR WAY THROUGH HER BIFROST PORTAL IF SHE DOES NOT WISH IT.
THERE HAS TO BE A WAY!
I SAID YOU LOT COULDN'T.


NONE OF YOU ARE AN ALL-FATHER.
SOMEONE FETCH ME MY SPEAR.
I GOT SOMETHING A GOOD BIT BETTER THAN A SPEAR.

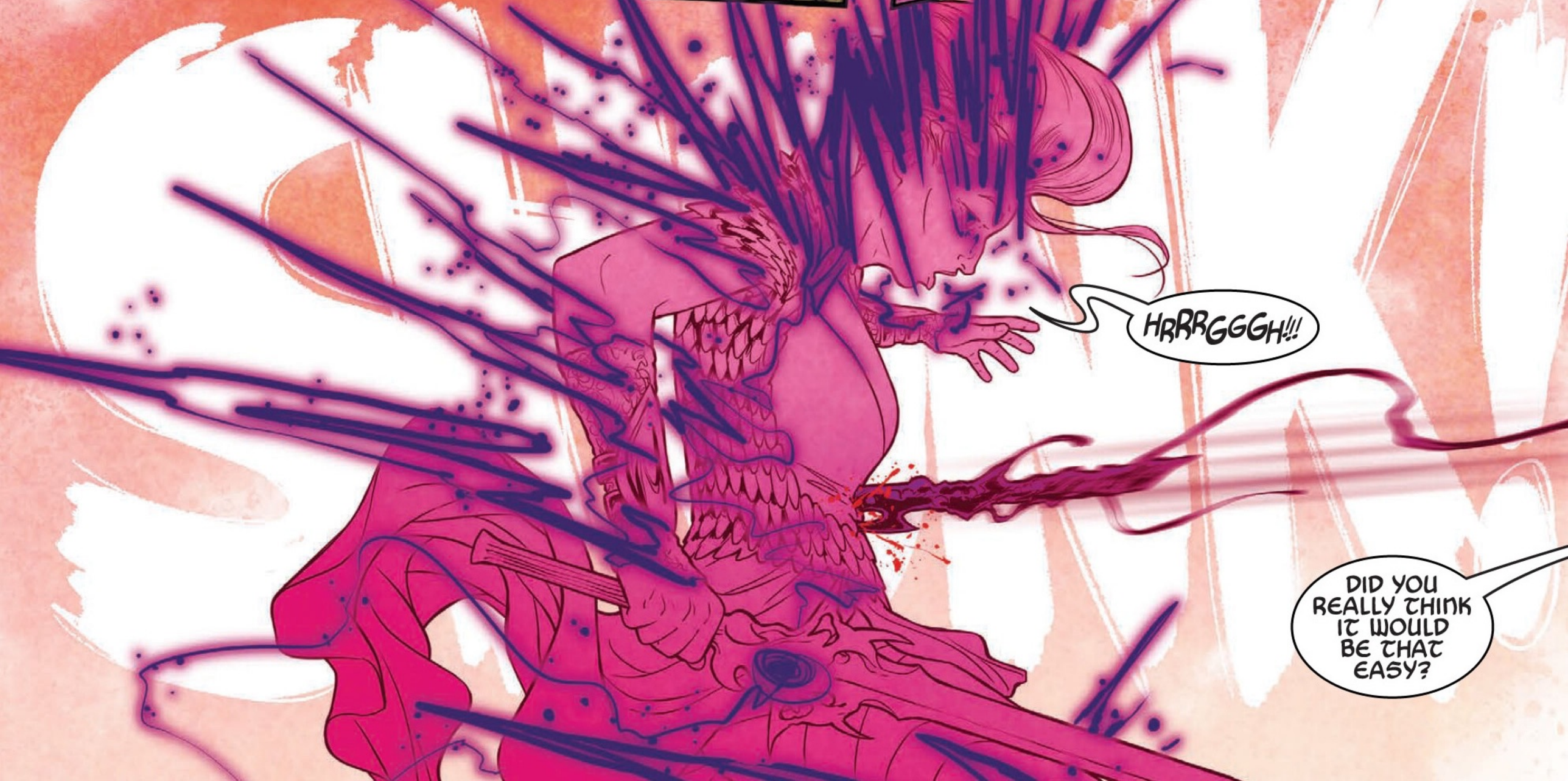
I FIGURED WE'D NEED ODIN BACK IN THE FIGHT SOONER RATHER THAN LATER, NO MATTER HOW WOUNDED YOU WERE. SO SOME OF US BUILT YOU AN EARLY ALL-FATHER'S DAY PRESENT.
SCREWBEARD DO ALL WORK. HUMAN MOSTLY TALK ABOUT SELF.

IT'S BASED ON MY DESIGNS, OF COURSE. AND SHURI LACED IT WITH PURE WAKANDAN VIBRANIUM AND--
ENOUGH TALK, STARK! WHATEVER THE HEL THIS IS...

"...IT'D BETTER BE GOOD AT SLAYING ELVES!"
RRRRRGGGH!!!


THAT'S IT.
THE STRIKE TEAMS HAVE MADE IT THROUGH THE PORTALS.
DWARVES, GODS, LIGHT ELVES, THE GUARDIANS OF HEL--THE MORTALS WILL NOW HAVE ALLIES IN THE FINAL BATTLE FOR THE FATE OF MIDGARD.
WHICH MEANS...THERE'S ONLY ONE THING LEFT TO DO.

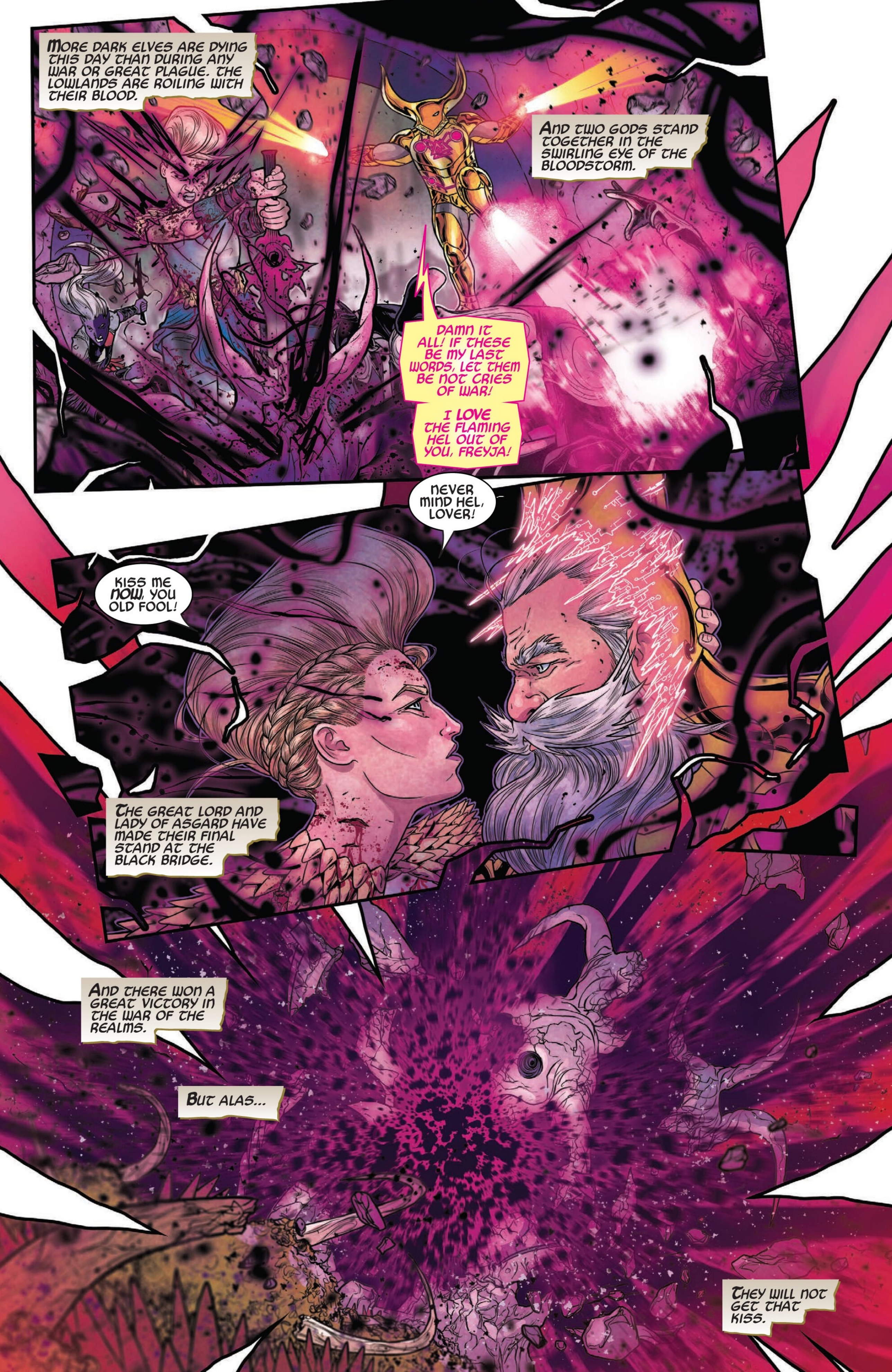
DESTROY THE BLACK BIFROST. AND END THIS ONCE AND FOR--

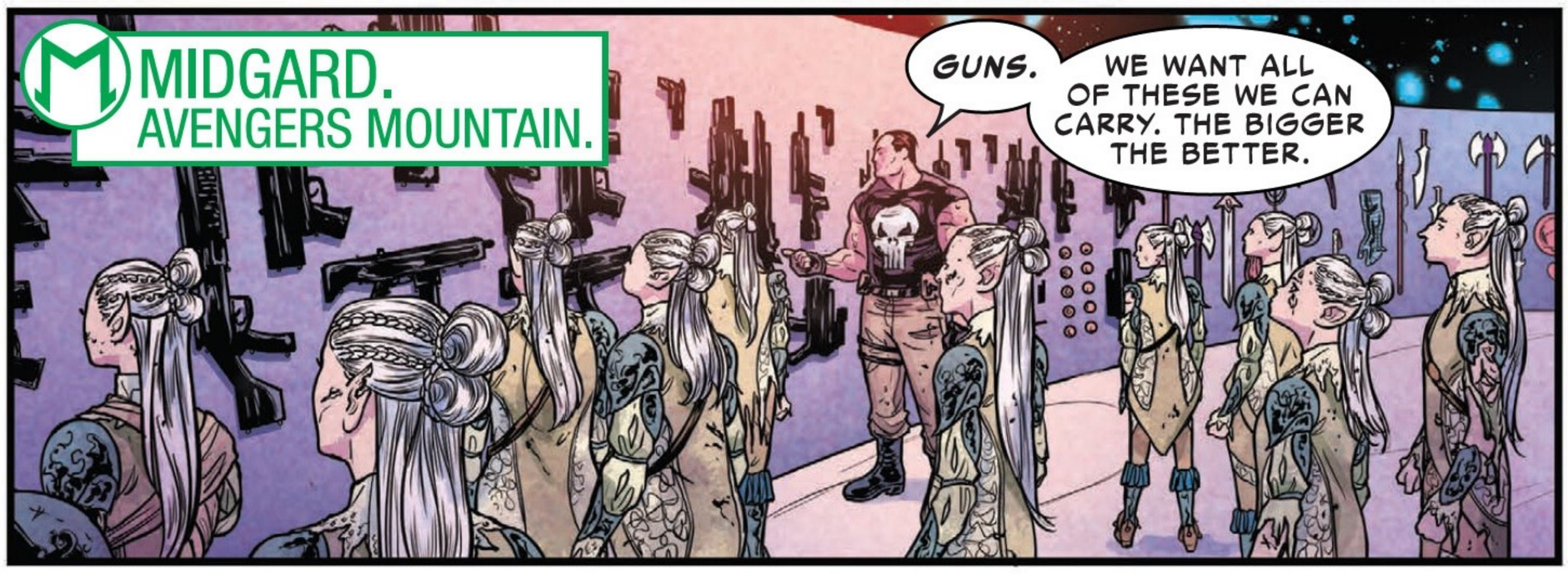

HRRRGGGH!!!
DID YOU REALLY THINK IT WOULD BE THAT EASY?

YOU MIGHT HOLD THAT SWORD, MY LADY, BUT THIS IS STILL MY REALM.
WHEN I'M FINISHED WITH MIDGARD, THEY'LL ALL BE MY WAR-DAMNED REALMS!
BUT YOU WON'T LIVE TO SEE THAT, FREYJA OF ASGARD.
WHAT... MANNER OF FOUL WEAPON...
THE KIND THAT WILL FINALLY PUT YOU WHERE YOU BELONG, YOU MISERABLE HAG. DOWN AMONGST THE MAGGOTS.
NO! I AM NOT DYING TODAY, MALEKITH! NOT UNLESS YOU'RE COMING WITH ME, YOU--
GRRGGGH!!!
SORRY, BUT I'VE GOT A RATHER BIG WAR TO WAGE. AND ONE LAST REALM TO LAY TO RUIN.
TAKE HER AND FEED HER TO MY DOGS. IF THERE ARE ANY WHO WILL HAVE HER.
DARK ELVES OF SVARTALFHEIM!

GET THE HEL AWAY FROM MY WIFE!
ODIN BORSON.
THE IRON ALL-FATHER.
ODIN?
WHAT THE DEVIL ARE YOU WEARING?
MY DEATH SHROUD IF YOU DON'T GET UP, WOMAN! WE'RE LEAVING!
NO...WE'RE NOT.

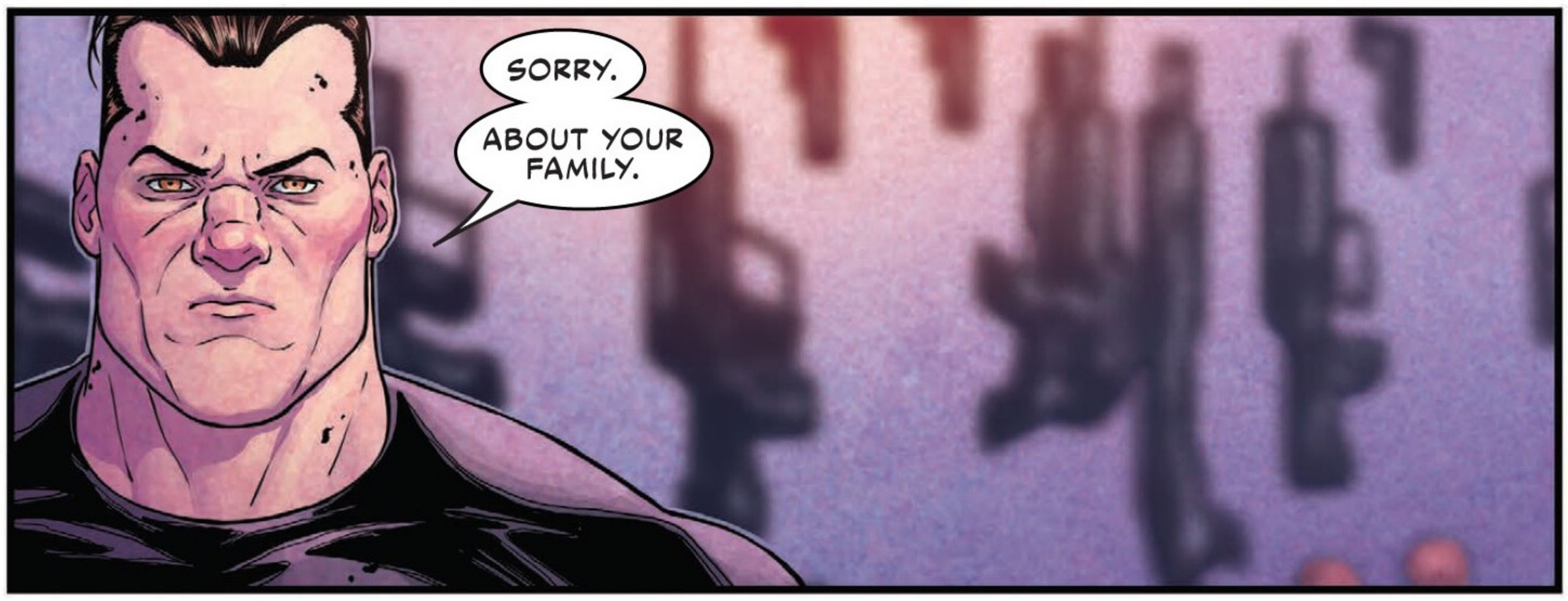
WE'RE TAKING AWAY MALEKITH'S GREATEST WEAPON. WE'RE DESTROYING THIS BIFROST. AS THE GODS ARE MY WITNESS.
I WAS AFRAID YOU WERE GOING TO SAY THAT.
ONCE UPON A TIME YOU SPOKE THE VOW AND NOW I'LL HOLD YOU TO IT. 'TIL DEATH DO US PART, HUSBAND.
PART? I SAY THEE NAY!
I'LL SEE YOU IN HEL, FREYJA!
AND KISS YOU LIKE YOU'VE NEVER BEEN KISSED BEFORE!
FOR THOUSANDS OF YEARS WE'VE BEEN MARRIED, AND YOU WAIT UNTIL NOW TO FINALLY DO IT.
WHAT? WHAT IN BOR'S NAME HAVE I DONE, WOMAN?
TURNED ME ON, YOU STUPID BASTARD.
DEATH TO SVARTALFHEIM! DEATH TO THE DOGS OF MALEKITH!
SCREAMS AND WAR CRIES ECHO THROUGH EVERY SWAMP AND DARK FOREST IN SVARTALFHEIM.
STOP THEM! DON'T LET THEM DESTROY THE BIFROST!

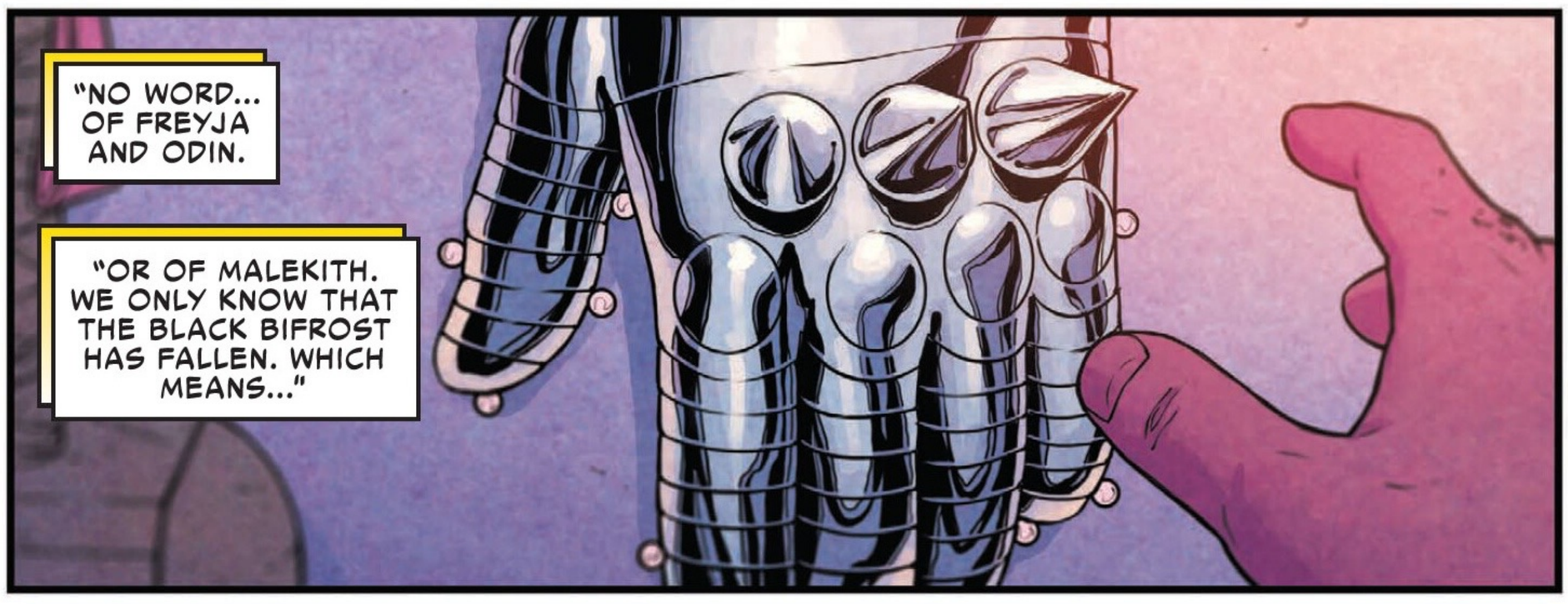

More dark elves are dying this day than during any war or great plague. The lowlands are boiling with their blood.
And two gods stand together in the swirling eye of the bloodstorm.
Damn it all! If these be my last words, let them be not cries of war!
I love the flaming hel out of you, Freyja!
Never mind hel, lover!
Kiss me now, you old fool!
The great lord and lady of Asgard have made their final stand at the Black Bridge.
And there won a great victory in the War of the Realms.
But alas...
They will not get that kiss.


MIDGARD.
AVENGERS MOUNTAIN.
GUNS.
WE WANT ALL OF THESE WE CAN CARRY. THE BIGGER THE BETTER.

STAND ASIDE.
PLEASE...
OF COURSE, MY LORD.

MY LORD.
MY LORD.


SORRY.
ABOUT YOUR FAMILY.


"NO WORD... OF FREYJA AND ODIN.
"OR OF MALEKITH. WE ONLY KNOW THAT THE BLACK BIFROST HAS FALLEN. WHICH MEANS..."

ALL ACROSS MIDGARD, THE THUNDER RUMBLES.

AND A HARD AND ANGRY RAIN BEGINS TO FALL.

SOON WILL COME THE LIGHTNING, STREAKING DOWN FROM THE DARKENED SKY, SHATTERING EVERYTHING IN ITS PATH.

AND THE HAMMERS WILL FOLLOW.

THOR #13

The Ballad of Cul Borson, God of Fear

THERE ARE MOMENTS THAT DEFINE AN ENTIRE LIFETIME.
PIVOTAL SECONDS THAT OUTWEIGH ALL THE REST.
WHAT WE'VE BEEN BEFORE THOSE INSTANTS OF IMPORT ULTIMATELY DOESN'T MATTER NEARLY AS MUCH AS WHAT WE CHOOSE TO BE WITHIN THEM.
YOUR AVERAGE MORTAL LIFE MIGHT HAVE BUT A FEW OF THOSE DEFINING MOMENTS. AS A GOD, I'VE HAD MORE THAN I CAN REMEMBER.
AND SQUANDERED THE HEL OUT OF EVERY LAST DAMN ONE.
THE GUARDS ARE COMING! PLEASE! UNCHAIN US!
DON'T LEAVE US HERE TO DIE! MR. CUL, PLEASE!
NOT THAT ANYONE ANYWHERE GIVES A DAMN ONE WAY OR THE OTHER.
LEAST OF ALL ME.

My name is Cul, son of Bor. The Serpent, the Asgardian God of Fear. Let me guess... You've never heard of me.
EONS AGO. THE WEAPONS HALL OF ASGARD.
Any weapon I choose? You cannot be serious.
That wasn't the way it was SUPPOSED to be. I was the heir to the throne of Asgard. I should have been the most powerful god in all the realms.
As I said, I give you leave to strike me ONE time, with ANY weapon you so desire. But after that...I get to return the favor.
This is another of your tricks, Cul. You think you're going to hold me down and pummel me like you always do, but not anymore.
But unfortunately I had a genetic affliction that held me back. It's called a FAMILY.
I'm growing stronger every day, Big Brother. And now I'm going to show you the full power of ODIN.
I choose the HAMMER OF IVALDI!
HHHRRRGGGH.
I knew my little brother would choose the largest weapon he could find.
Such was his rage toward me and, even at that young age, his love of all things grand and gaudy. (I mean, you've seen his headdresses, right?)
He tried for many hours to lift that ridiculous hammer. Until his arms hung limp and useless. And then...

I CANNOT. CANNOT LIFT IT. CANNOT LIFT... ANYTHING.
SO... YOU FORFEIT YOUR STRIKE. WHICH MAKES IT...

...MY TURN.
DO YOUR WORST, BROTHER. HIT ME WITH WHATEVER CUDGEL OR MACE YOU LIKE. YOU'LL NEVER MAKE ME SHED ANOTHER TEAR. I'D RATHER DIE FIRST.
OH, YOU WON'T DIE.

YOU'LL MERELY WISH YOU HAD.
AND THEN I WHISPERED IN HIS EAR.

I WHISPERED WORDS I'D HEARD OUR FATHER GRUMBLE IN HIS DRUNKENNESS, WHEN HE DIDN'T KNOW I WAS EAVESDROPPING.
I TOLD ODIN WHAT BOR REALLY THOUGHT OF HIM. AND THE BEST PART WAS...

...MOST OF IT WAS TRUE.
DAMN YOU, BROTHER. DAMN YOU TO THE FROZEN DEPTHS OF HEL.
WHY ARE YOU LIKE THIS, CUL?
BY "THIS," YOU MEAN VICTORIOUS?
BUT...YOU DIDN'T EVEN HIT ME WITH A WEAPON.
OH, I DID INDEED.

THE STRONGEST WEAPON IN THIS ENTIRE ARMORY. THE WEAPON I WIELD BETTER THAN ANY GOD IN ASGARD.
I HIT YOU WITH YOUR OWN FEARS, LITTLE ODIN.
UNTIL NEXT TIME, BROTHER.
I LIKED TO REMIND MY BROTHER OF HIS PLACE IN THE ORDER OF SUCCESSION. TO REMIND HIM THAT I WOULD BE HIS ALL-FATHER SOMEDAY. I SUPPOSE MY ONLY MISTAKE...

...WAS THAT I DID MY JOB TOO WELL.

"40 DAYS AND 40 NIGHTS!"

MANY YEARS LATER.

NOTHING IS MORE CRIPPLING THAN FEAR. BUT GIVEN ENOUGH TIME, THE CONQUERING OF THAT FEAR CAN BECOME A POWERFUL MOTIVATOR.

THAT'S HOW LONG HE'S BEEN FIGHTING HIS WAY THROUGH YOUR ARMIES OF DRAUMAR, LORD CUL. HE...HE FIGHTS WITH A FURY EVEN THE GODS HAVE NEVER SEEN.

HEH. NOT TRUE AT ALL. I'VE SEEN IT MANY TIMES.

SOMETIMES OUR DEEPEST FEARS...

FOR HE LEARNED IT FROM ME.

...CAN BE THE SOURCE OF OUR GREATEST STRENGTH.

BROTHER! YOUR DAY OF RECKONING HAS COME!

HELLO, ODIN. I SEE YOU FINALLY LIFTED THAT HAMMER. THOUGH I'M AFRAID YOU'RE A BIT LATE TO WIN THE CHALLENGE.
YOUR REIGN OF ATROCITIES ENDS NOW, CUL. IN THE NAME OF DECENCY, I REBUKE YOUR CLAIM TO BE ALL-FATHER.
REBUKE ALL YOU LIKE, BUT I'M NOT GOING ANYWHERE, BROTHER. WHEN BOR DIED, THE THRONE OF ASGARD BECAME MINE BY RIGHT.
BY WHAT RIGHT DO YOU BUTCHER AND MAKE SLAVES OF ALL WHO OPPOSE YOU? AND TREAT THE MORTALS LIKE YOUR PLAYTHINGS?! YOU ARE NOT FIT TO SIT THE THRONE OF ASGARD.
"BY WHAT RIGHT"? YOU OUGHT KNOW THE ANSWER TO THAT QUESTION BETTER THAN ANYONE, LITTLE BROTHER.
BY RIGHT OF FEAR.
PERHAPS YOU NEED A REMINDER IN WHAT THAT MEANS.
I'M NOT A BOY ANYMORE, CUL.
BUT I BET YOU STILL HAVE THAT BOY'S SAME FEARS. LET'S SEE, SHALL WE?
AYE, BROTHER.

LET ME SHOW YOU HOW WELL I REMEMBER THOSE FEARS!
IT WAS THE FIERCEST BEATING OF MY LIFE. HEL, OF MOST ANY LIFE.
HE WOULD'VE KILLED ME, BUT HIS HONOR AND THE ANCIENT BLOOD LAWS FORBID IT.
SO INSTEAD HE IMPRISONED ME IN THE REALM OF THE MORTALS. THE REALM HE REMADE IN ORDER TO ERASE ALL TRACE OF ME.
HE DID A FINE JOB OF IT.

FOR A WHILE, AT LEAST.

ASGARDIA. MONTHS AGO.

IT WASN'T JUST YOUR *BIRTHRIGHT* THAT WAS STOLEN, BOY.

APPARENTLY YOUR *SENSES* WERE TAKEN AS WELL!

HOW CAN YOU STAND BY AND LET THIS MASKED WOMAN STEAL NOT JUST YOUR *HAMMER* BUT YOUR VERY *NAME!*

I'VE TOLD YOU, I *GAVE* HER THE NAME! SHE'S EARNED IT. SHE'S MORE WORTHY OF IT THAN I AM RIGHT NOW.

BUT ULTIMATELY I RETURNED AND TRIED ONCE MORE TO DROWN ALL OF MIDGARD IN FEAR. DIDN'T WORK WELL FOR ME THAT TIME EITHER.

I DIED. AND AS IF THAT WEREN'T BAD ENOUGH, I HAD TO SPEND MY ETERNAL SLUMBER ALONGSIDE MY BROTHER. OR AT LEAST IT SEEMED ETERNAL.

WE SPOKE AS WE NEVER HAD BEFORE. I TOLD HIM I WANTED ONE LAST CHANCE TO REDEEM MYSELF.

YOU CANNOT GIVE AWAY YOUR NAME! I FORBID IT!

I DON'T GIVE A DAMN WHAT YOU FORBID!

HRPH.

False Thor

Thief

WANTED BY ORDER OF THE ALL-FATHER FOR CRIMES AGAINST ASGARD

DEAD OR ALIVE

AND HE GAVE IT TO ME. THE BLOODY FOOL.

NEVER THOUGHT AN ALL-FATHER SCREAMING AT HIS SON COULD MAKE ME JEALOUS. DAMN YOU FOR THAT AS WELL, BROTHER.

WEEKS LATER.
IT SHOULD BE YOU ON THE THRONE OF ASGARD. IT ALWAYS SHOULD'VE BEEN THAT WAY, YES?
YES, BUT WHAT HAPPENS WHEN ALL-FATHER ODIN RETURNS?
IT IS THAT WAY. I SIT THE THRONE AS REGENT IN MY BROTHER'S STEAD.

BETTER YET... WHAT HAPPENS IF HE NEVER RETURNS?
DO YOU THINK I CAN BE SO EASILY BOUGHT, MALEKITH?

I NEVER SAID IT WOULD BE EASY TO KILL ODIN. ONLY... WORTHWHILE. AND BENEFICIAL TO US BOTH.
THAT'S MY BROTHER YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT, ELF.
AND I'M SURE YOU WILL MOURN HIS PASSING JUST AS ANY BROTHER SHOULD. BEFORE YOU TAKE HIS THRONE.

AND LEAVE ME TO CONDUCT MY BUSINESS THROUGHOUT THE OTHER REALMS IN PEACE.
THERE IS NOTHING PEACEFUL ABOUT YOUR BUSINESS, WAR-MAKER. BUT DO WITH THE OTHER REALMS AS YOU LIKE. I HAVE NO USE FOR ANY OF THEM.
JUST STAY THE HEL AWAY FROM ASGARD.

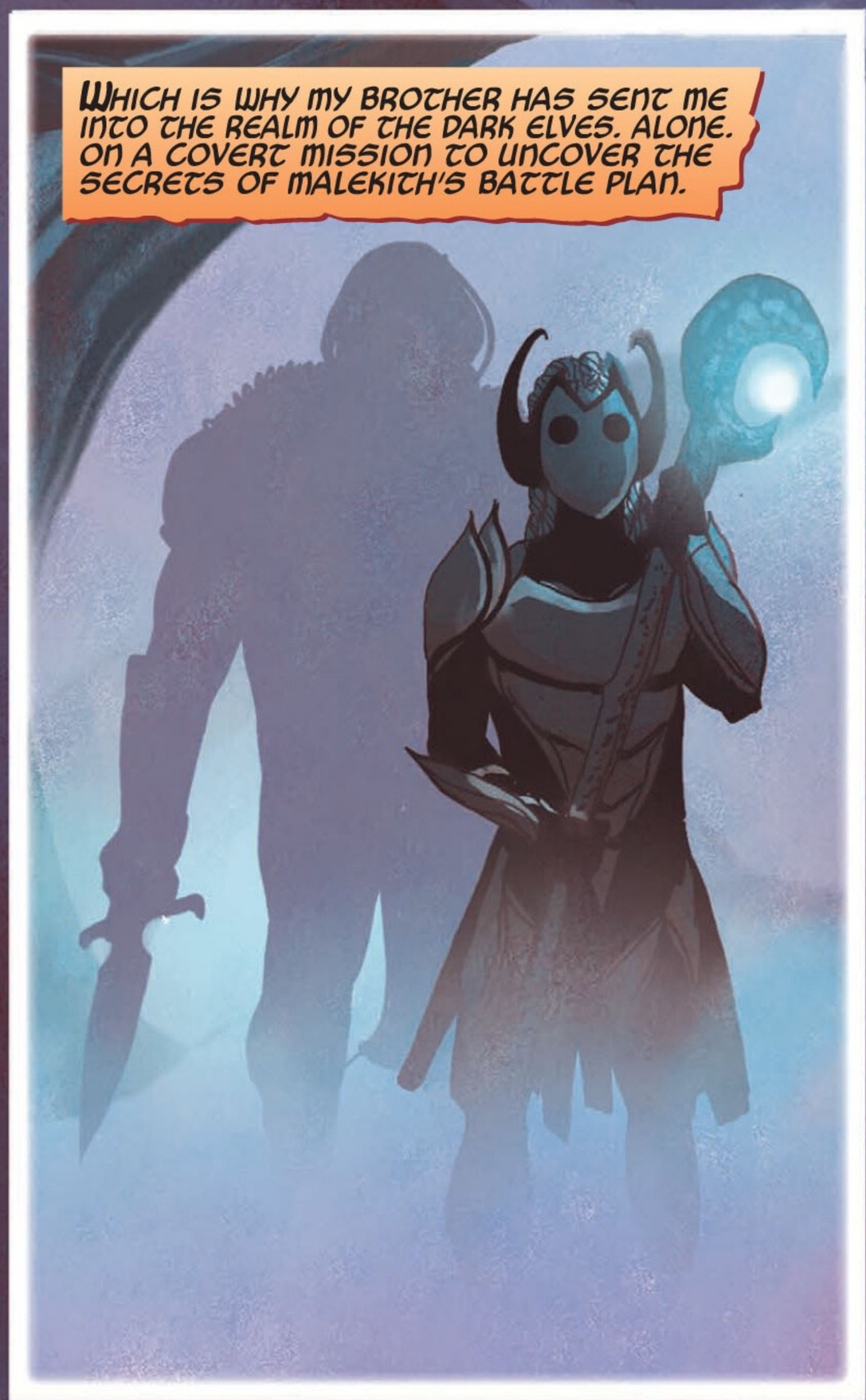
HEH. I MUST SAY, FOR A GOD OF FEAR, YOUR RECORD OF FAILURE IN MATTERS OF WARFARE DOESN'T EXACTLY FILL ME WITH CONSIDERABLE TERROR.
OUCH. THAT ONE HURT.
THE FAULT IS MINE, I SUPPOSE, FOR BELIEVING THE MOST IRRELEVANT OF BORSONS COULD SOMEHOW RISE ABOVE HIS NATURE. VERY WELL, CUL.

FEEL FREE TO RETURN TO YOUR INSIGNIFICANCE...
SHOWS WHAT YOU KNOW, ELF. I NEVER LEFT.

SVARTALFHEIM.
DAYS AGO.

ODIN AND I, WE DIDN'T TAKE MALEKITH SERIOUSLY. WE SHOULD HAVE.

THIS WAR OF HIS HAS BURNED THROUGH EVERY REALM AND NOW IS POISED FOR ITS FINAL BATTLE.



HE WAS A LOYAL SON OF SVARTALFHEIM, JUST LIKE HE SAID. I HAD TO TORTURE HIM FOR HOURS BEFORE HE BROKE.

BUT THEN HE TOLD ME ALL ABOUT THE BLACK BIFROST. HOW MALEKITH BUILT IT WITH HELP FROM LOKI.

HOW IT WAS POWERED BY MAGICAL CRYSTALIZED MUSHROOMS, MINED FROM SWAMPS NEARBY.

HE ANSWERED EVERY QUESTION I ASKED HIM.

I STILL TORTURED HIM A BIT LONGER ANYWAY.

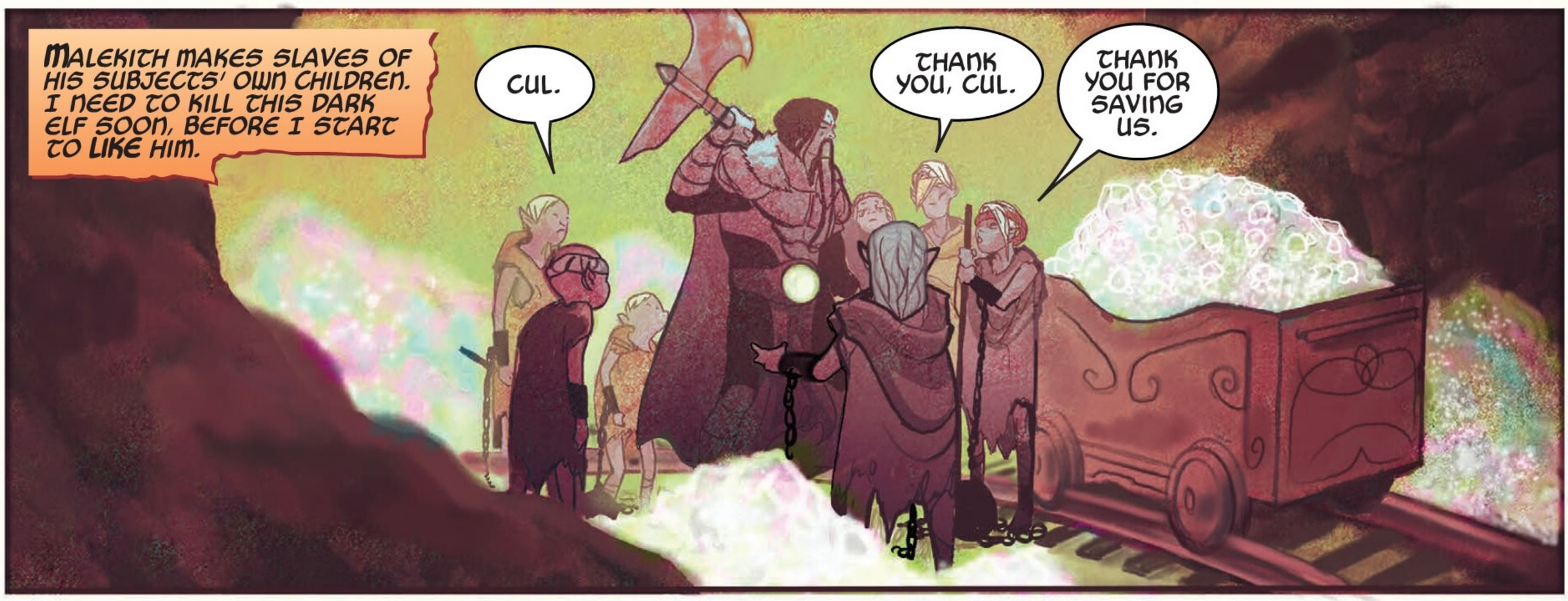
The black Bifrost is guarded by an army of dark elf warriors day and night. It would be suicide to try and reach it.
But the swamp mines are lightly guarded.

What? Do...you see that?
I've been hiding in Svartalfheim for weeks. Eating things that would make a troll vomit.
The only magical raven I had to send I sent last evening. Informing Odin of the location of Malekith's Bifrost. And my plans for the mushroom mine.

And reiterating that when I'm done slaughtering every last one of these elves, I will find my way back to Asgard...to kill him and reclaim my throne.
There... reflected in the muck...by all the maggots, it's...Malekith... drawing and quartering my mother.
It's like... my greatest fear somehow come to life!

I know.
I also told my brother I loved him. Still not certain why I did that.

FASTER, YOU SNIVELING RUNTS! OR THERE'LL BE NO SLUG MEAT IN YOUR GRUEL TONIGHT!
I WANT TO SEE THE LOVE SHINING FROM YOUR HEARTS! THE LOVE YOU HAVE FOR WAR!
AND FOR YOUR BLESSED, BLOOD-DRENCHED KING! SING HIS NAME WITH JOY WHILE YOU SLAVE, YOU DOOMED LITTLE BASTARDS!
ALL HAIL MALEKITH. ALL HAIL THE WAR OF THE--
I LIKE MY SONG BETTER.
ALL HAIL CUL.


MALEKITH MAKES SLAVES OF HIS SUBJECTS' OWN CHILDREN. I NEED TO KILL THIS DARK ELF SOON, BEFORE I START TO LIKE HIM.
CUL.
THANK YOU, CUL.
THANK YOU FOR SAVING US.

WE WERE SENT HERE BECAUSE WE ARE SHAMED. ANOTHER BOY SAW ME CRYING AT MY FATHER'S FUNERAL.
I ONCE VOMITED AT THE SIGHT OF TROLL GUTS.
I DIDN'T LAUGH HARD ENOUGH WHEN MALEKITH FED MY NEIGHBORS TO HIS DOGS.
UH-HUH. THESE THE MUSHROOMS THEN?

OUR SHAME WOULD HAVE DOOMED US FOREVER.
MALEKITH'S WARS NEVER END. WE WOULD'VE DIED IN THESE MINES.
UNTIL YOU CAME. UNTIL CUL, THE SAV--
RIGHT. THIS OUGHT TO BE PLENTY. ENOUGH TO BLOW THE BLACK BIFROST ALL TO HEL.
OUT OF MY WAY, YOU RABBLE.

BUT OUR CHAINS! MR. CUL, PLEASE...
SORRY, BUT GIVEN TIME, LITTLE DARK ELVES GROW INTO BIG DARK ELVES. AND THOSE ARE THE ONES I'M AT WAR WITH.
YOU CAN THANK ME LATER FOR LETTING YOU LIVE LONG ENOUGH TO GROW UP BEFORE I KILLED YOU. UNTIL THEN.
EVEN THE GOD OF FEAR HAS FEARS OF HIS OWN.

THIS WAY! WE'VE BEEN INVADED! SOUND THE ALARM!
AH HEL'S BLOODY BLIZZARD.
AND WHEN YOU DIE OR GET FORCED INTO EXILE A FEW TIMES, IT GIVES YOU PLENTY OF HOURS ALONE TO RUMINATE ON THOSE FEARS.
TO GRAPPLE WITH THEM. AND LOSE.

THE GUARDS WILL KILL US FOR THIS! PLEASE! UNCHAIN US!
DON'T LEAVE US HERE TO DIE! MR. CUL, PLEASE!
IT'S HARD TO LIVE YOUR LIFE CONSTANTLY IN FEAR OF REJECTION. BELIEVE ME, I KNOW.

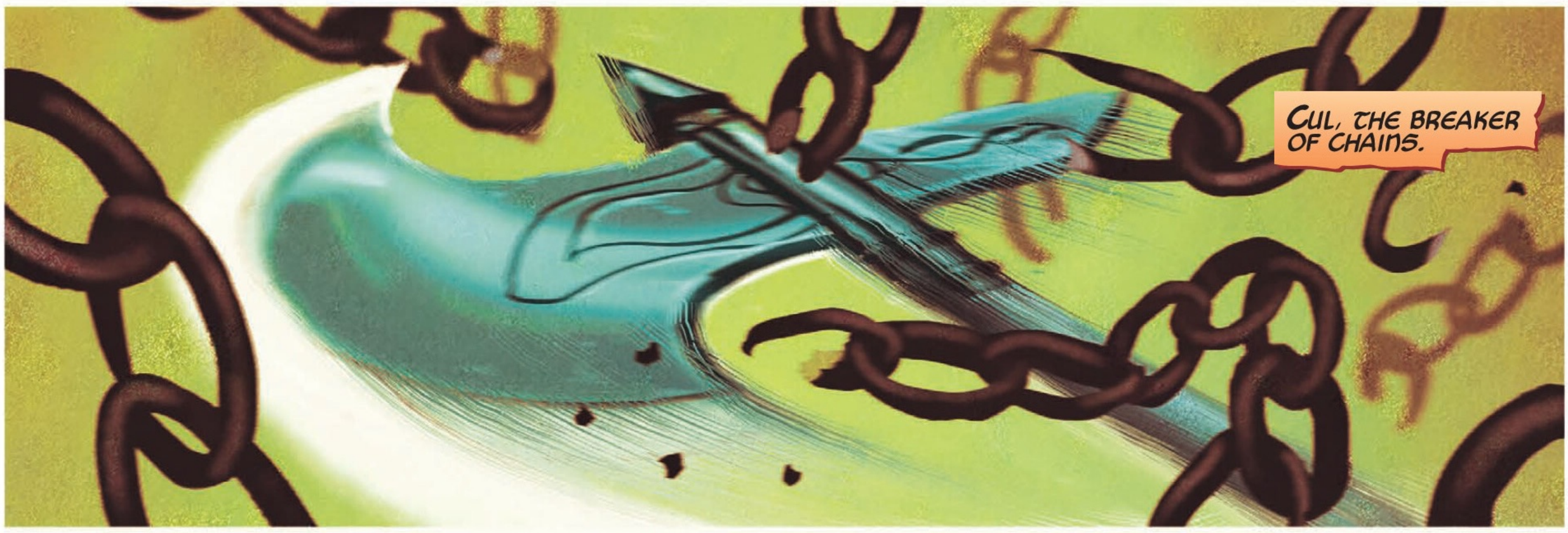
YOU LEARN TO LASH OUT BEFORE IT CAN HAPPEN. TO PROTECT YOURSELF BY LAYING WASTE TO EVERYONE AND EVERYTHING AROUND YOU.
SEE MY HISTORY AS THE SERPENT IF YOU DON'T BELIEVE ME.

YOU COME TO BELIEVE THAT AGGRESSION KEEPS YOU SAFE.
WE'VE BEEN DIGGING A TUNNEL TO ESCAPE! WE CAN SHOW YOU THE WAY!

BUT ALL IT DOES IS KEEP YOU MISERABLE AND ALONE.
THERE HE IS! IT'S JUST ONE GOD! KILL HIM!

AND THEN ONE DAY YOU FACE ONE OF THOSE MOMENTS. THOSE PIVOTAL SECONDS THAT OUTWEIGH ALL THE REST.

AND MUCH TO YOUR OWN SURPRISE...YOU CHOOSE TO BE WHAT YOU SEE IN THE EYES OF SOME CHILDREN.

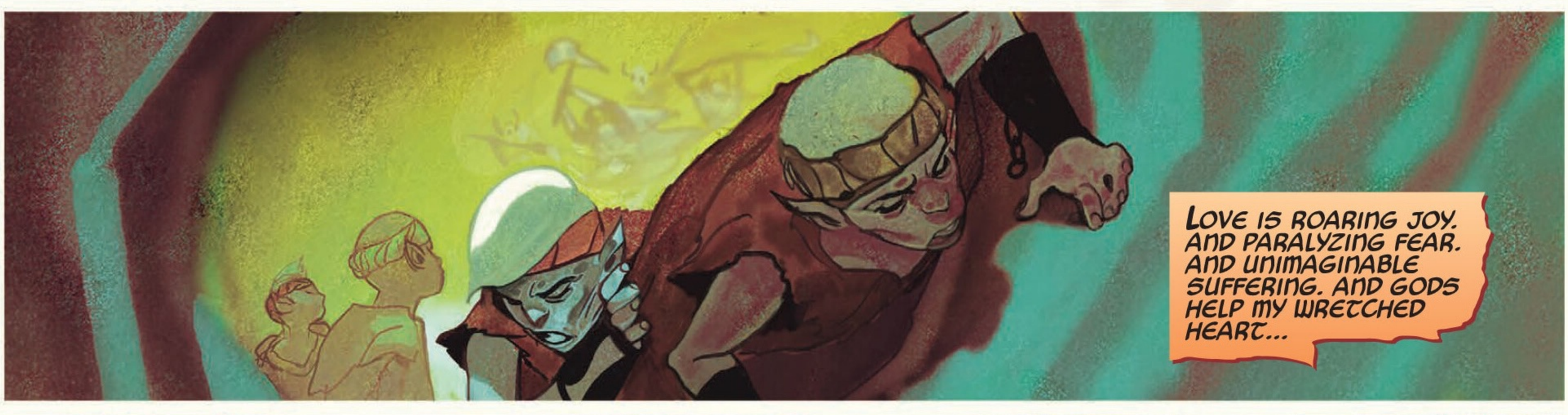

CUL, THE BREAKER OF CHAINS.

CUL, THE GOD OF LOVE.
A LOVE WORTH SLAUGHTERING FOR.
CLINK!
CLINK!
CLINK!
CLINK!
CLINK!
CLINK!
GET TO YOUR TUNNEL! ALL OF YOU! LEAVE NO WHELP BEHIND!
BUT THE TUNNEL ISN'T FINISHED!
BLAST IT OPEN WITH ONE OF THE MUSHROOMS! THEY'RE AS POWERFUL AS BOMBS WHEN THEY'RE--
OF COURSE, LOVE... ISN'T WITHOUT ITS AGONIES.
GAAARRGGH!!!

GO!
MR. CUL, YOU'RE--
A PAIN THAT MAKES YOU SCREAM SOMETIMES.

WE'RE TAKING A GOD-HEAD TO MALEKITH TONIGHT!
THAT MAKES YOU LOSE YOURSELF. IN ALL THE WORST AND BEST OF WAYS.

THAT MAKES YOU BOLD. AND FRAGILE. AND COMPLETELY UNSTOPPABLE.
RRRRRGGGHH!!!


LOVE IS ROARING JOY. AND PARALYZING FEAR. AND UNIMAGINABLE SUFFERING. AND GODS HELP MY WRETCHED HEART...

WHY DID I WAIT SO DAMN LONG TO FIND IT?

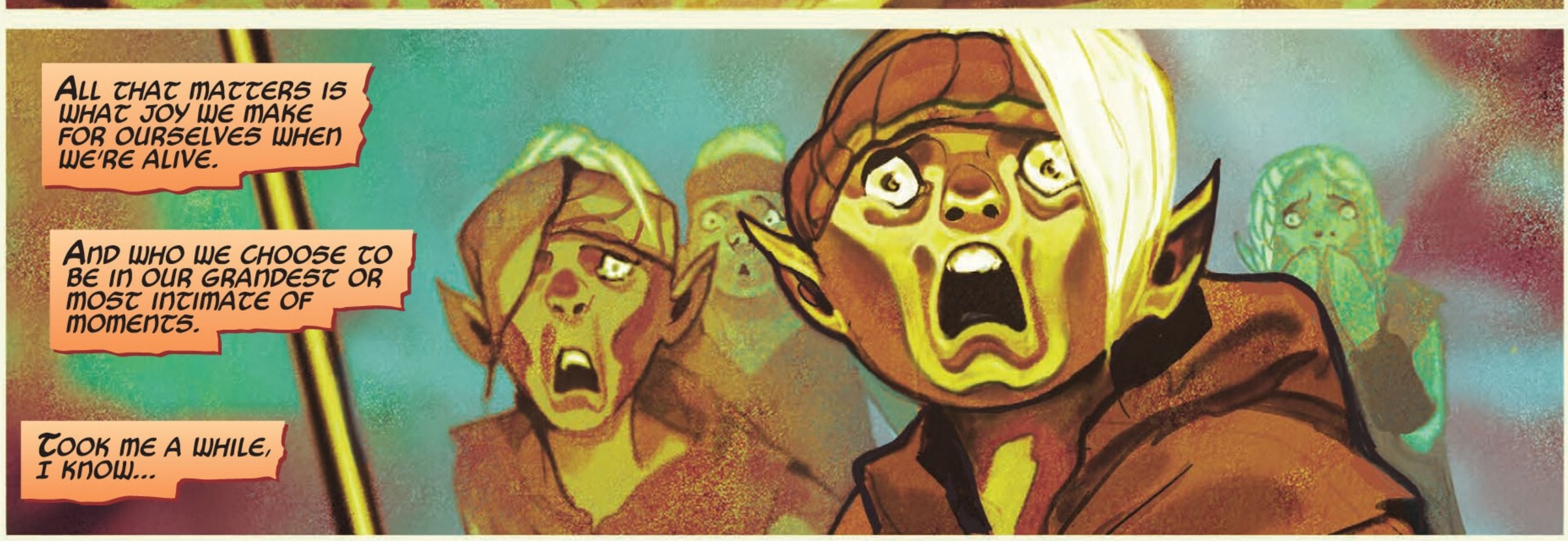
...I WAS A GOD THROUGH AND THROUGH.

no!

...CUL BORSON!

DID EVERYONE GET CLEAR?
YES, BUT WHERE'S MISTER...
RIGHT UP UNTIL THE BOR-DAMNED END.

AH, WHO GIVES A DWARF FART ABOUT BEING REMEMBERED?
EVERYONE GETS FORGOTTEN IN TIME.
EVEN THE NAME OF THOR WILL SOMEDAY BLOW AWAY LIKE SO MUCH ASH IN THE WIND.
NO!
BOOOOOOM


ALL THAT MATTERS IS WHAT JOY WE MAKE FOR OURSELVES WHEN WE'RE ALIVE.
AND WHO WE CHOOSE TO BE IN OUR GRANDEST OR MOST INTIMATE OF MOMENTS.
TOOK ME A WHILE, I KNOW...

...BUT HEL...I FINALLY GOT ONE OF THOSE RIGHT.

DAYS LATER.
SHE'S JUST ONE GODDESS! SWARM HER AND TEAR HER TO PIECES!
AYE, JUST ONE GODDESS. AND HOW MANY DARK ELVES DO YOU THINK ONE GODDESS IS WORTH?
HUNDREDS? THOUSANDS? ALL OF YOU?!
KEEP COMING UNTIL WE HAVE AN ANSWER!
ARCHERS! READY A VOLLEY OF VIPER ARROWS! BRING THAT GODDESS DOWN!
BUT THE SNAKES WILL SURELY STRIKE OUR OWN ELVES!
THEN THEY'LL DIE FOR THE WAR! FIRE AWAY!
CRAT!!
NO!

DEATH TO THE WAR! DEATH TO THE OLD WAYS!
WE WANT THE REALM AND WE WANT IT NOW! IN THE NAME OF CUL!
CRACK!!
IN THE NAME OF CUL!!!

WAR OF THE REALMS #1 VARIANT BY
Mike McKone

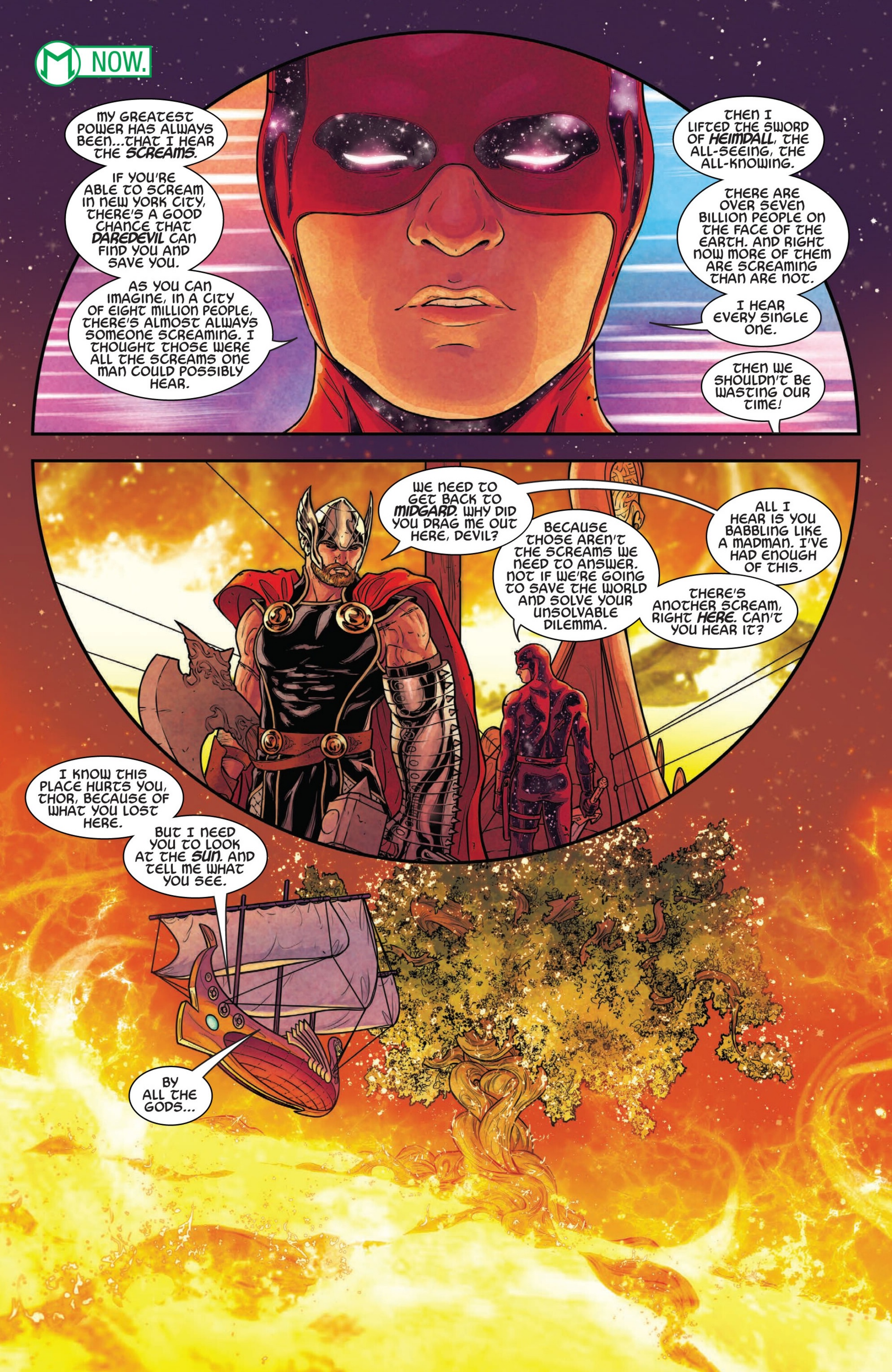
WAR OF THE REALMS #1 VARIANT BY
Ryan Ottley & Nathan Fairbairn

WAR OF THE REALMS #1 VARIANT BY
Pyeong-Jun Park

WAR OF THE REALMS #1 VARIANT BY
George Pérez & Jason Keith

WAR OF THE REALMS #5

The World Tree Is Burning


NOW.
MY GREATEST POWER HAS ALWAYS BEEN...THAT I HEAR THE SCREAMS.
IF YOU'RE ABLE TO SCREAM IN NEW YORK CITY, THERE'S A GOOD CHANCE THAT DAREDEVIL CAN FIND YOU AND SAVE YOU.
AS YOU CAN IMAGINE, IN A CITY OF EIGHT MILLION PEOPLE, THERE'S ALMOST ALWAYS SOMEONE SCREAMING. I THOUGHT THOSE WERE ALL THE SCREAMS ONE MAN COULD POSSIBLY HEAR.
THEN I LIFTED THE SWORD OF HEIMDALL, THE ALL-SEEING, THE ALL-KNOWING.
THERE ARE OVER SEVEN BILLION PEOPLE ON THE FACE OF THE EARTH. AND RIGHT NOW MORE OF THEM ARE SCREAMING THAN ARE NOT.
I HEAR EVERY SINGLE ONE.
THEN WE SHOULDN'T BE WASTING OUR TIME!
WE NEED TO GET BACK TO MIDGARD. WHY DID YOU DRAG ME OUT HERE, DEVIL?
BECAUSE THOSE AREN'T THE SCREAMS WE NEED TO ANSWER. NOT IF WE'RE GOING TO SAVE THE WORLD AND SOLVE YOUR UNSOLVABLE DILEMMA.
ALL I HEAR IS YOU BABBLING LIKE A MADMAN. I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF THIS.
THERE'S ANOTHER SCREAM, RIGHT HERE. CAN'T YOU HEAR IT?
I KNOW THIS PLACE HURTS YOU, THOR, BECAUSE OF WHAT YOU LOST HERE.
BUT I NEED YOU TO LOOK AT THE SUN. AND TELL ME WHAT YOU SEE.
BY ALL THE GODS...

I SEE...THE WORLD TREE. HOW IS THIS POSSIBLE?
THERE WAS A SEED OF YGGDRASIL GROWING IN ASGARDIA WHEN THE CITY OF THE GODS WAS DESTROYED IN THE SUN. THAT SEED WAS TOO STRONG TO BURN.
INSTEAD IT HAS TAKEN ROOT. IN FIRE.
BY THE EYE OF ODIN. DOES THIS MEAN...
YOU SEEK AN ANSWER, GOD OF THUNDER. SOME ANSWERS DEMAND A PRICE. I MERELY OFFER YOU ANOTHER QUESTION.
HOW HIGH A PRICE ARE YOU WILLING TO PAY?
TELL ME IF THIS ANSWERS YOUR QUESTION, SIR DEVIL.
TAKE MY AX, JARNBJORN. AND BE PREPARED TO HURL IT WITH ALL YOUR MIGHT.
AND NAIL ME TO THAT TREE!
THEN I'LL ASK YOU TO DO ONE OTHER THING THAT MAY PROVE DIFFICULT FOR YOU!
I NEED YOU TO IGNORE MY SCREAMS!

"NO MATTER HOW THEY SHAKE THE HEAVENS!"
MIDGARD. WAKANDA. EARLIER.
THE WINGED WOMEN OF HEVEN LIVE FOR WAR.
RRRGGGH!!!
NO ARMY IN ALL THE REALMS HAS EVER STOOD AGAINST THEM. NOT EVEN THE GODS.
THE FIERCE FEMALE WARRIORS OF THE WAKANDAN DORA MILAJE ARE NOT GODDESSES.
DAMN THESE FLEAS! WHEN WILL THEY LEARN TO GROVEL BEFORE THEIR NEW QUEEN?!
YOUR MASTER MALEKITH SHOULD'VE TOLD YOU SOMETHING ABOUT US BEFORE HE SENT YOU HERE.
BUT TODAY GODDESSES STAND ALONGSIDE THEM. AND NO ONE WOULD KNOW THE DIFFERENCE.
THERE IS NO WORD FOR "GROVEL" IN OUR LANGUAGE.
BUT THERE ARE 23 DIFFERENT WORDS FOR "FIGHT."
AND YOU ARE ABOUT TO HEAR THEM ALL.
WELCOME TO WAKANDA.

SIF, I UNDERSTAND NOT! YOU KNEW ALL ALONG THIS WAKANDA EXISTED! YET WE'VE BEEN LIVING IN THE BRONX?!
NOW IS NOT THE TIME, HILDEGARDE!
THIS IS PRINCESS SHURI BROADCASTING ON ALL AVAILABLE AFRICAN CHANNELS. THE ENTIRE WORLD IS AT WAR TODAY.
AND HERE IN OUR HOMELAND WE MUST SERVE AS AN EXAMPLE OF WHAT IT MEANS TO BE UNBOWED AND INDOMITABLE! IN OTHER WORDS...
...GO BE YOURSELVES, MY FRIENDS.
SHURI, KEEP THE HELICARRIER IN POSITION UNTIL THE SKIES ARE CLEAR.
I JUST HOPE THIS PLAN OF YOURS WORKS, BROTHER.
IT ISN'T MY PLAN.
"IT IS THE WILL OF THE GODS."
DON'T AIM FOR THEIR WINGS. THEY CAN STILL FIGHT WITHOUT THOSE. BUT THEY CAN'T DO MUCH WITHOUT A HEAD.
WE ARE LIGHT ELVES OF ALFHEIM, SIR CASTLE. OUR PEOPLE HAVE BEEN ENEMIES OF MALEKITH'S SINCE BEFORE YOURS WERE WALKING UPRIGHT. SO BELIEVE ME WHEN I TELL YOU...

...WE NEED NO LESSONS IN HOW TO MAKE WAR!
IN WAKANDA, IT IS RAINING VIBRANIUM BULLETS AND DYING ANGELS.
AS THE PUNISHER AND HIS LIGHT ELF RIFLE BRIGADE FIGHT TO RECLAIM THE SKIES.
ONE BLOODY CLOUD AT A TIME.
AND THEY ARE NOT ALONE IN THOSE SKIES.

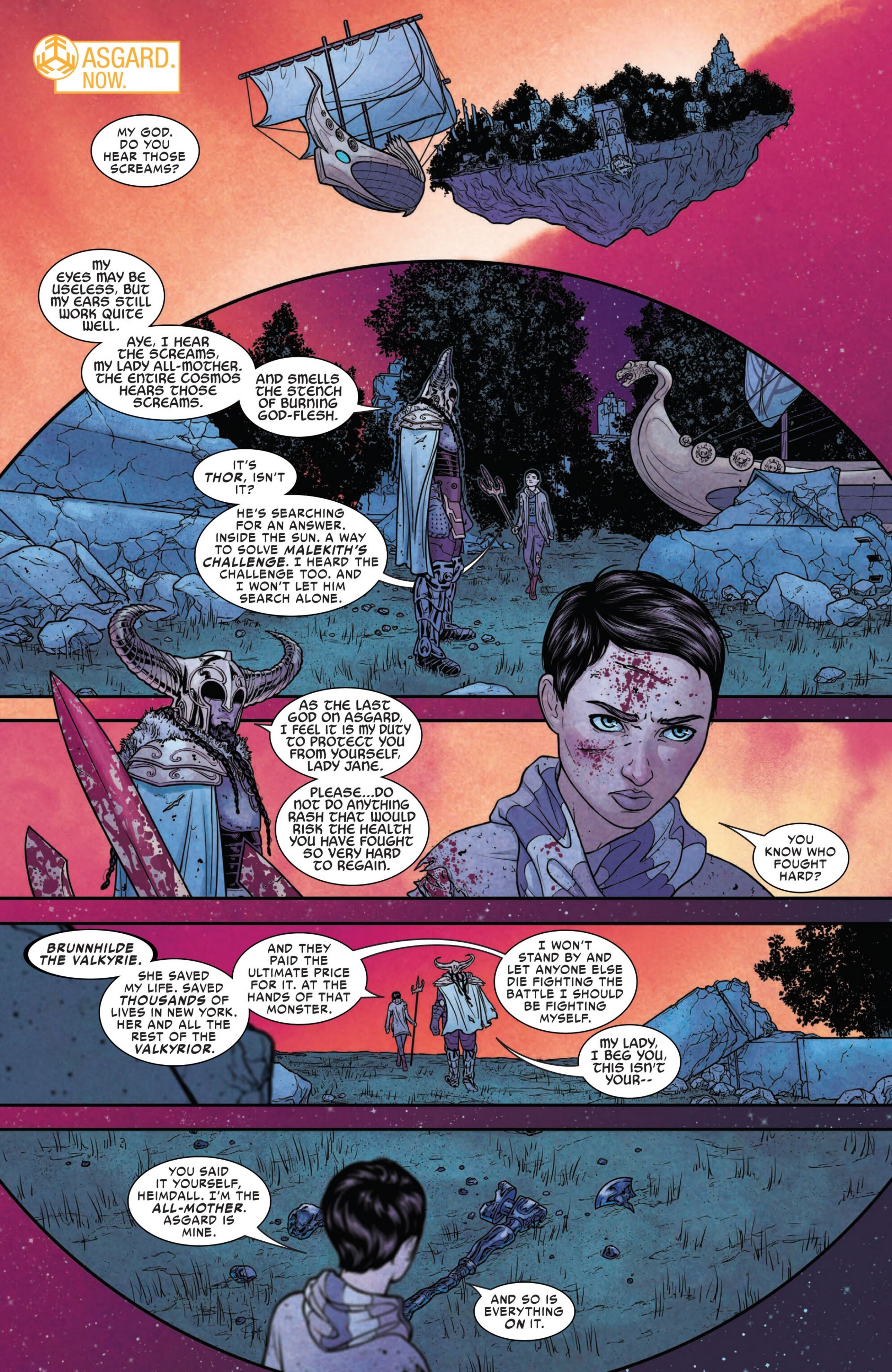
MOMENTS LATER, THE SAME THUNDER SOUNDS OVER MONTEVIDEO, ON THE COAST OF URUGUAY, RUMBLING EVEN LOUDER THAN THE SCREAMS OF THE LIVING.
AND THE ROARS OF THE RISEN DEAD.
AMORA THE ENCHANTRESS WOULD MAKE SOUTH AMERICA THE NEW DUSK LANDS, WITH HER AS QUEEN OF EVERYTHING THAT DIES.
BUT THE SPIRIT OF VENGEANCE IS NOT ONE OF THOSE THINGS.
I AM THE GREATEST SORCERESS IN THE HISTORY OF ASGARD! I DESERVE A BETTER ADVERSARY THAN SOME BOY IN THE BODY OF A MONSTER!
GAGGH!
LADY, YOU HAVE NO IDEA WHAT SORT OF HORRIBLE THINGS THAT MONSTER'S ALWAYS WHISPERING INSIDE MY HEAD! AND UNFORTUNATELY FOR YOU...
...I'M REALLY STARTING TO LISTEN!
AAAAAAH!!!

MOONS OF MUNNOPOR! I CAN FEEL THE RAGE COMING OFF THE UPHOLSTERY IN THIS THING!
THIS CAR DOESN'T WANT US HERE, BALDER! IT'S DREAMING ABOUT GREASING ITS AXELS WITH OUR BLOOD!
YES, IT'S MAGNIFICENT, ISN'T IT?
WHEN HE WAS KING OF THE ICY AFTERLIFE IN NIFFLEHEIM, BALDER THE BRAVE SAILED A SHIP MADE FROM THE FINGERNAILS OF THE DEAD, MEANT TO FERRY THE KILLERS OF GODS ON THE DAY OF RAGNAROK.
THAT CURSED BOAT WAS NOTHING COMPARED TO GHOST RIDER'S HELL CHARGER, HE THINKS.
THEN HE FLOORS THE ACCELERATOR AND SMELLS HIS OWN FLESH BURNING.
THE SPIDERS OF HEL SMELL IT TOO. BUT BALDER IS NOT THEIR KING ANY LONGER.
THEY HAVE FOUND A NEW LORD AMONG THE LIVING.
SO YOU GUYS ONLY EAT DEAD PEOPLE, RIGHT?
WOW, ALL THIS WEIRD THOR STUFF IS SURE SUPER COOL.
HEY, I'VE GOT A FUN IDEA! LET'S SPLIT UP!

STORMS ROAR ACROSS AUSTRALIA FROM SHORE TO SHORE, SUCKING TROLLS INTO THE ROILING DARKNESS ABOVE, NEVER TO BE SEEN AGAIN.
WHILE ULIK, THEIR KING, HAS TROUBLES OF HIS OWN.
NOW THIS IS MY IDEA OF A LADY THOR! WHEN I'M DONE CONQUERING THIS BEAUTIFUL BARREN LAND, YOU WILL BE MY QUEEN, WOMAN!
THUNDER HULK NO LADY! AND TROLL NO STINKING KING!
TROLL NOTHING BUT THUNDER HULK'S--
SWEET CHRISTMAS! THESE TROLLS ARE TOUGHER THAN A TWO-DOLLAR STEAK ON STATEN ISLAND!
THEY'RE TUNNELING UNDERNEATH US. I SMELL THE ROCKS THEY ATE FOR BREAKFAST. I HEAR THE TERROR IN THEIR SOULS.
THE MORE YOU SWING THAT SWORD, THE MORE YOU LOSE YOURSELF TO IT, DAREDEVIL. WE NEED TO WIN THIS WAR SO WE CAN GET IT THE HELL OUT OF YOUR HANDS.
I FEEL LIKE YOU GUYS DIDN'T GET MY THUNDER DOWN UNDER JOKE FROM BEFORE--DO I NEED TO EXPLAIN IT? CAN SOMEBODY HOLD MY GUNS WHILE I TAKE MY SHIRT OFF?
AH, ATTENTION...UM, EVERYONE WHO'S ON...THOR'S SIDE.

ALL SERVICE HAS BEEN RESTORED. ALL YOUR DOWNED NETWORKS ARE YOURS AGAIN. THE HACKERS FROM ROXXON HAVE JUST BEEN HACKED THEMSELVES.
AH, I DO HOPE THIS HELPS. UM...
ROXXON
...MY NAME IS BROO BY THE WAY.
THIS IS GORILLA-MAN, AGENT OF WAKANDA! ROXXON ISN'T GIVING UP ANTARCTICA WITHOUT A FIGHT!
THEY JUST DEPLOYED THEIR HULKED-OUT SUPER-SOLDIERS, THE B.E.R.S.E.R.K.E.R. SQUAD! IN OTHER WORDS--SOMEBODY HELP!
COPY THAT, KEN. AND DON'T WORRY.
WE'RE DEPLOYING OUR GODS.
KA-ZAR, THE LORD OF THE SAVAGE LAND, AND THE DAYWALKER KNOWN AS BLADE ARE BOTH USED TO UNUSUAL HUNTS.
BUT TODAY THEY HUNT ALONGSIDE THE GODS OF THE VANIR, THE IMMORTAL LORDS AND LADIES OF MYSTERIOUS VANAHEIM.
THEIR PREY? THE MOST DANGEROUS FORCE IN ALL THE REALMS.

THE GREED OF MORTAL MEN.
YOU PEOPLE ARE TRESPASSING! I'M GOING TO HAVE TO ASK YOU TO LEAVE MY ISLAND!
YOU'VE REALLY LOST IT THIS TIME, AGGER.
ROXXON DOESN'T OWN ANTARTICA.
THE DOCUMENTS I SIGNED WITH MALEKITH BEG TO DIFFER! I'LL HAVE MY LAWYERS SEND COPIES TO YOUR FUNERALS!
DARIO AGGER, YOU SOLD OUT YOUR OWN REALM, YOU PATHETIC EXCUSE FOR A HUMAN! BUT HEY, LET'S LOOK ON THE BRIGHT SIDE.
I HAVE A GREAT EXCUSE TO SHOOT YOU NOW!
AS ROZ SOLOMON'S VIBRANIUM BULLETS AND JANE FOSTER'S SPEAR GUNGNIR TEAR HOLES IN THE FLESH OF ITS CEO, THE ROXXON ENERGY CORPORATION'S STOCK PRICE BEGINS PLUMMETING.
AND SO THE MINOTAUR SCREAMS.


ASGARD. NOW.
MY GOD. DO YOU HEAR THOSE SCREAMS?
MY EYES MAY BE USELESS, BUT MY EARS STILL WORK QUITE WELL.
AYE, I HEAR THE SCREAMS, MY LADY ALL-MOTHER. THE ENTIRE COSMOS HEARS THOSE SCREAMS.
AND SMELLS THE STENCH OF BURNING GOD-FLESH.
IT'S THOR, ISN'T IT?
HE'S SEARCHING FOR AN ANSWER. INSIDE THE SUN. A WAY TO SOLVE MALEKITH'S CHALLENGE. I HEARD THE CHALLENGE TOO. AND I WON'T LET HIM SEARCH ALONE.
AS THE LAST GOD ON ASGARD, I FEEL IT IS MY DUTY TO PROTECT YOU FROM YOURSELF, LADY JANE.
PLEASE...DO NOT DO ANYTHING RASH THAT WOULD RISK THE HEALTH YOU HAVE FOUGHT SO VERY HARD TO REGAIN.
YOU KNOW WHO FOUGHT HARD?
BRUNNHILDE THE VALKYRIE.
SHE SAVED MY LIFE. SAVED THOUSANDS OF LIVES IN NEW YORK. HER AND ALL THE REST OF THE VALKYRIOR.
AND THEY PAID THE ULTIMATE PRICE FOR IT. AT THE HANDS OF THAT MONSTER.
I WON'T STAND BY AND LET ANYONE ELSE DIE FIGHTING THE BATTLE I SHOULD BE FIGHTING MYSELF.
MY LADY, I BEG YOU, THIS ISN'T YOUR--
YOU SAID IT YOURSELF, HEIMDALL. I'M THE ALL-MOTHER. ASGARD IS MINE.
AND SO IS EVERYTHING ON IT.

SHANGHAI. EARLIER.
BOW OR BURN, MORTALS! THE CHOICE IS--
GAAAGH!
ACCORDING TO THOR, THE ONLY WAY TO QUENCH MUSPELHEIM FIRE IS WITH MUSPELHEIM BLOOD! SO I'VE GOT A CHOICE FOR YOU TOO, SINDR!
BLEED A LITTLE! OR BLEED A LOT!
AS THE CELESTIAL TELEPORTERS IN AVENGERS MOUNTAIN SPRING TO LIFE AGAIN, LIGHT ELF REINFORCEMENTS JOIN THE WINTER GUARD IN VOLGOGRAD...
...BATTLING GOBLINS IN THE SAME STREETS WHERE HITLER'S ARMY ONCE DROWNED IN A RIVER OF RUSSIAN BLOOD.
HERCULES MATERIALIZES IN THE BURNING DESERTS OF SINAI TO STAND ALONGSIDE THE MOON KNIGHT.
AND IN SHANGHAI, NEW LEGENDS ARE BORN.
WELCOME TO THE WARRIORS THREE, SIR WOLVERINE!
CAN WE KEEP HIM?
RRRRGGHH!!!
WHILE AGAIN THE THUNDER SOUNDS. ALL AROUND THE GLOBE. FROM BURNING SEA...

...TO FROZEN SHORE.
MANHATTAN.
FROST GIANT ARCHERS AT THREE O'CLOCK!
THREE O'CLOCK?
WE ARE DWARVES! WE TELL TIME BY GLOW OF CAVE MOSS! WHAT THREE O'CLOCK MEAN?!
IT MEANS FOLLOW ME, DAMN IT!
AS IRON MAN AND THE WAR MACHINE DWARVES FIGHT TO RECLAIM THOSE ICY CANYONS...
...LAUFEY, THE KING OF THE FROST GIANTS, IS LEARNING WHAT GALACTUS LEARNED BEFORE HIM.
THAT NEW YORK CITY HAS ALL THE GIANTS IT NEEDS.

LONDON.
PUSH THEM INTO THE THAMES! ALL THE WAY TO THE NORTH SEA! WITH ANY LUCK...
...THESE DARK ELF WANKERS WILL WASH UP IN *FRANCE!*
THEN WE'LL FIGHT THEM THERE TOO!
THE EBONY BLADE SCREAMS AND THE SKIES OVER ENGLAND SCREAM WITH IT.
AND AS THE GREATEST HEROES OF THE TEN REALMS STAND UNITED FOR THE FIRST TIME IN THE HISTORY OF ALL LIVING THINGS...
THORI IS BEST EATER OF WITCHES IN ALL REALMS!
YEAH, HEY, I'M BATS. I'M A GHOST AND I'M GONNA, LIKE, REALLY *HAUNT* YOU A WHOLE LOT UNLESS YOU LEAVE.
GUGH!
...MALEKITH'S GREAT WAR MACHINE SHUDDERS.

THE DESTROYER IS THE GREATEST WEAPON IN ALL OF ASGARD. EVEN SINCE ITS URU ARM WAS LOST TO THE RAGE OF THE MANGOG.
RRRRGGH!!!
BUT IT TAKES A LIVING SOUL TO POWER IT. A STRONG SOUL.
A VOLUMINOUS ONE.
WAR HAMMER CALLING. BUT NOT FOR ME.
DON'T NEED HAMMER. I AM VOLSTAGG...THE DESTROYER.
THOUGH THE BODY OF VOLSTAGG IS STILL WEAK AND BROKEN FROM HIS TIME AS THE WAR THOR, THE ONLY THING STRONGER THAN HIS LEGENDARY APPETITE...
POW
...IS HIS SPIRIT.
JUST ASK KURSE.
THOUGH SHE WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO HEAR YOU.
KRAKADAK
OOOO

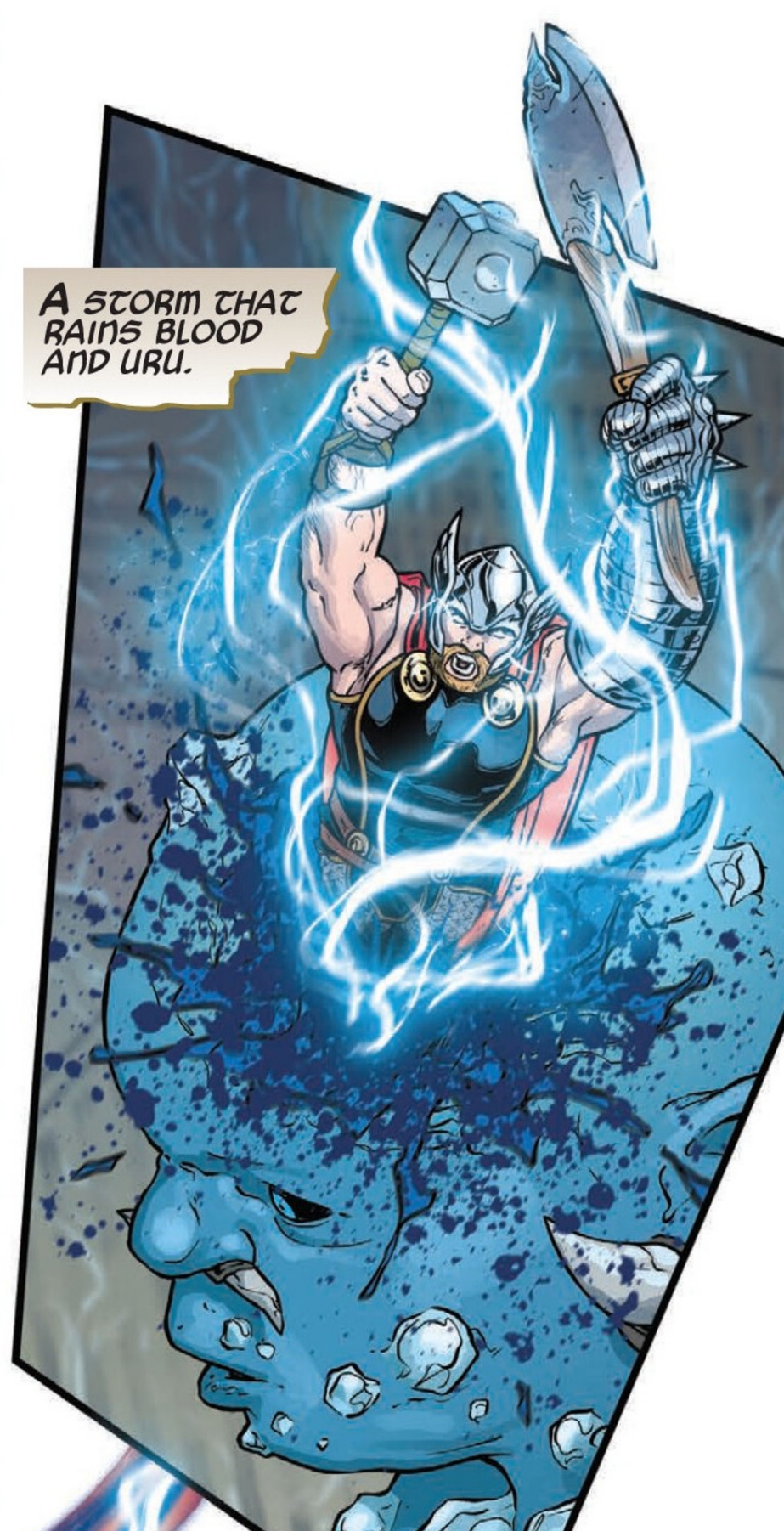
In the skies above every battlefield all across the world, the same storm rages.
XXON

The same spears of lightning fall from heaven.

The same winds roar like a hurricane of vikings.

It is a storm the size of a realm.

Wrapping Midgard in its mighty arms.
Good to have you back, big guy.


A storm that rains blood and uru.

WITH THUNDER AS ITS WAR CRY.
MALEKITH!!!
WHERE IS THAT BASTARD HIDING?!

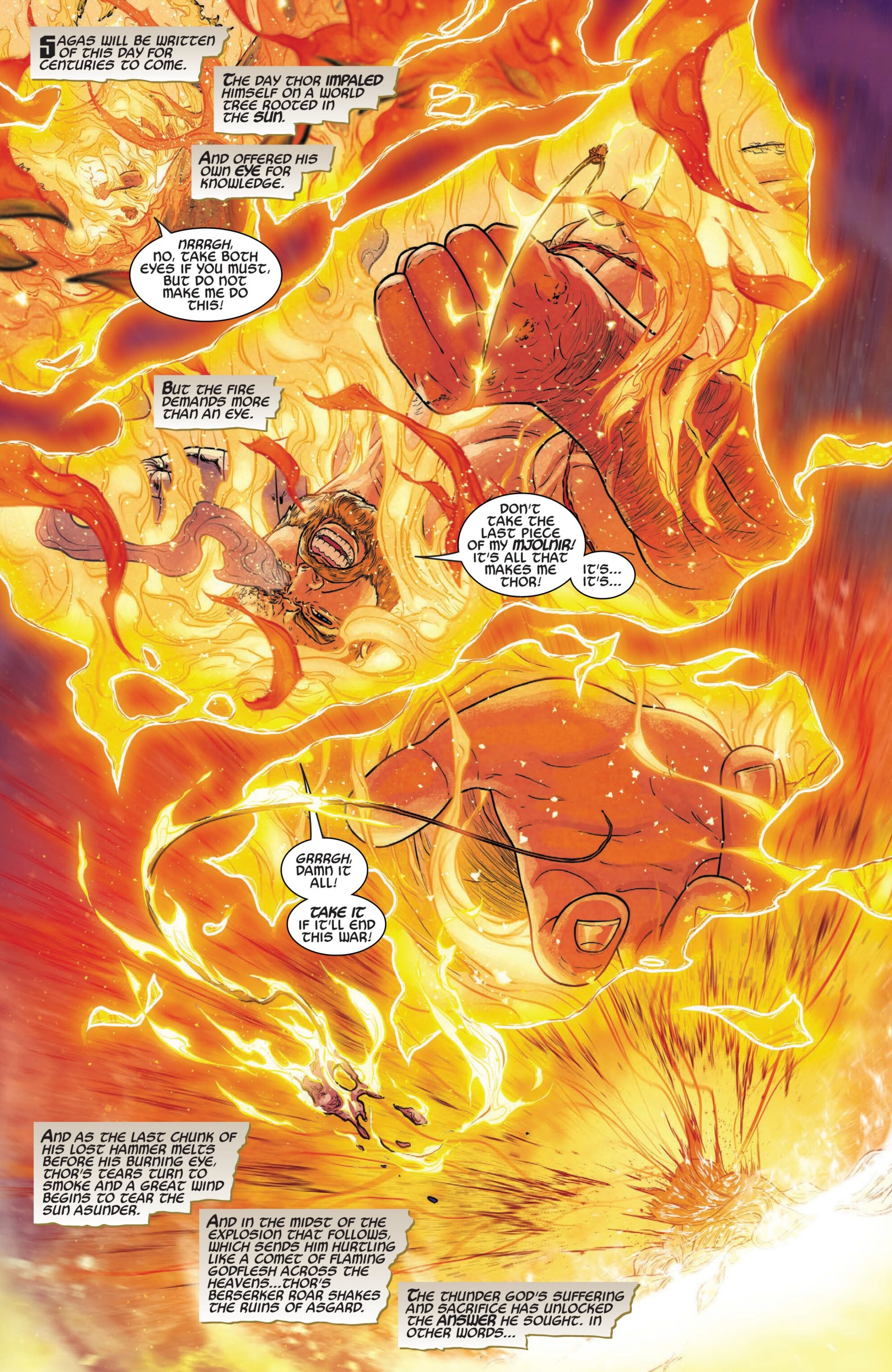
THE SUN. NOW.
THE LEGENDS SAY THAT ONCE UPON A TIME, ALL-FATHER ODIN HUNG HIMSELF FROM THE WORLD TREE YGGDRASIL.
FOR NINE LONG NIGHTS. WITHOUT FOOD OR WATER.
UNTIL HE DIED. AND BECAME WISE.
SUCH WAS THE PRICE HE PAID TO GAIN THE SECRET KNOWLEDGE OF THE RUNES.
THOR DOES NOT HAVE NINE NIGHTS. NOT IF HE WANTS TO SAVE...
...EVERYTHING HE HAS EVER LOVED.
AS BATTLE RAGES ACROSS MIDGARD, THE INVADING ARMIES ARE BEGINNING TO FALTER.
IT IS SAID THAT ULIK AND THE TROLLS ARE SURRENDERING. THAT THE QUEEN OF HEVEN HAS BEEN SENT TO HEL.
THAT KING LAUFEY WILL SOON BE THE LAST FROST GIANT LEFT RAGING IN MANHATTAN.
AND MALEKITH. MALEKITH IS DEAD, SOME WHISPER. KILLED AT THE FALL OF THE BLACK BRIDGE IN SVARTALFHEIM.
BUT FOR DAYS, THOR HAS KNOWN THAT ISN'T TRUE.
EVEN BEFORE HE HEARD THE DARK ELF'S VOICE IN HIS HEAD.

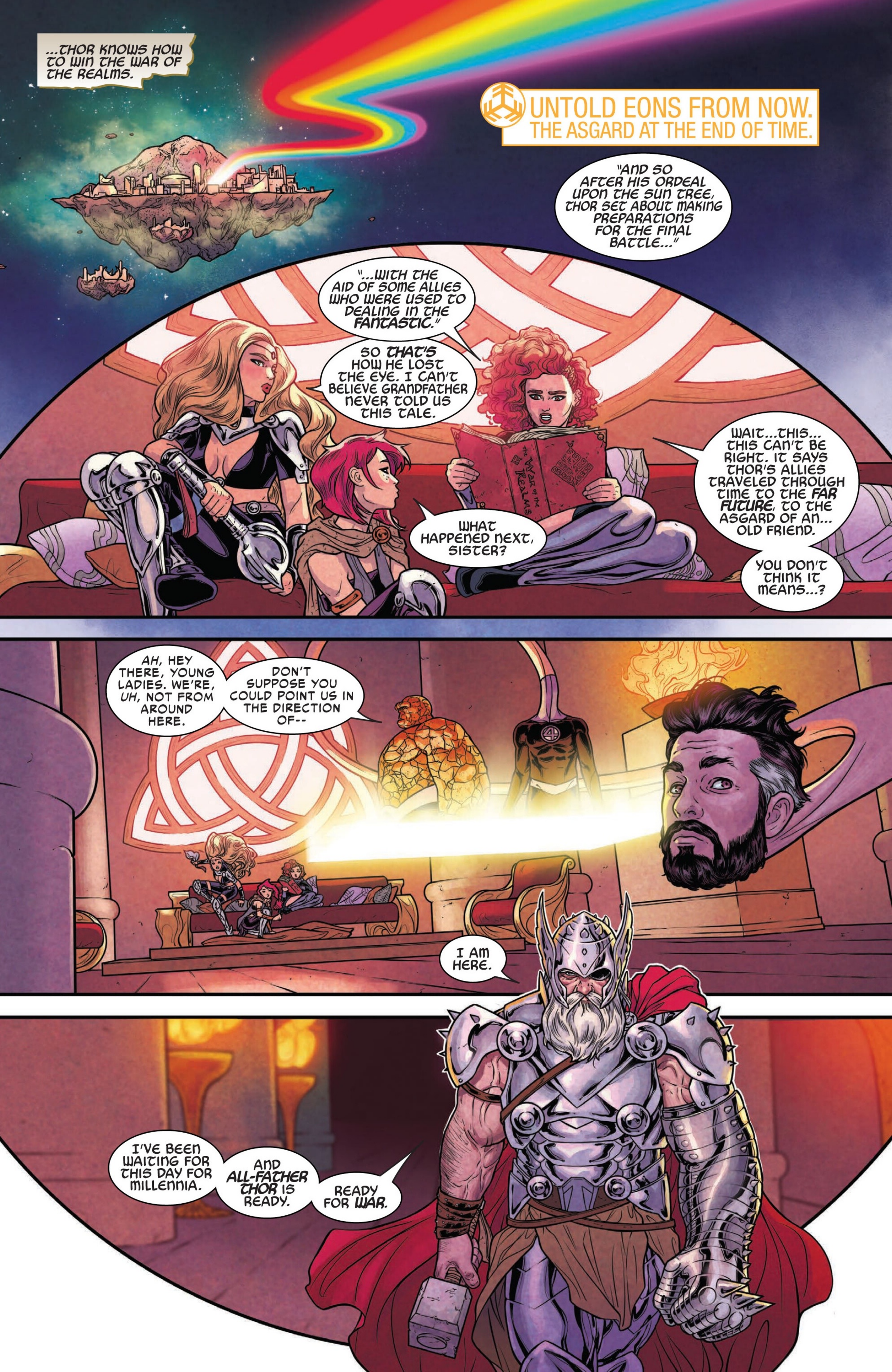
EARLIER.
MY DEAREST GOD OF THUNDER...
...THIS WAR... HAS CLAIMED SO MANY LIVES. I FEAR IT WILL SOON CLAIM TWO MORE.
UNLESS WE FINISH THIS THE WAY IT WAS ALWAYS MEANT TO BE.
ONLY THOR CAN CROSS THE MAGICAL BARRIERS I HAVE ERECTED AROUND THE PLACE CALLED STONEHENGE. IF ANYONE ELSE TRIES TO ENTER THE RING OF STONES...
...ODIN AND FREYJA WILL DIE. RATHER HORRIBLY, I'M AFRAID.
DON'T DO IT, BOY! HE'S GOT AN ARMY HERE WAITING FOR YOU! AND SOME CONFOUNDED BLADE OF--
GAAARRRRGH!
DO HURRY, THOR!
AND I SWEAR ON THE BLOOD OF YOUR FATHER, I'LL WRITE THE LAST CHAPTER OF THIS WAR WITH YOU, ONCE AND FOR ALL!!!

"WITH THOR AND THOR ALONE."
THERE MUST BE A WAY. THERE MUST BE WAY. THERE MUST BE A...
RRRRRRGGGGHH!!!
THERE MUST ALWAYS BE A THOR.
AND SOMETIMES...
...THERE MUST EVEN BE MORE THAN ONE!
AAAAARRRGGHH!!!

WAR OF THE REALMS #6

The Storm of Thors


SAGAS WILL BE WRITTEN OF THIS DAY FOR CENTURIES TO COME.
THE DAY THOR IMPALED HIMSELF ON A WORLD TREE ROOTED IN THE SUN.
AND OFFERED HIS OWN EYE FOR KNOWLEDGE.
NRRRGH, NO, TAKE BOTH EYES IF YOU MUST, BUT DO NOT MAKE ME DO THIS!
BUT THE FIRE DEMANDS MORE THAN AN EYE.
DON'T TAKE THE LAST PIECE OF MY MJOLNIR! IT'S ALL THAT MAKES ME THOR!
IT'S... IT'S...
GRRRGH, DAMN IT ALL!
TAKE IT IF IT'LL END THIS WAR!
AND AS THE LAST CHUNK OF HIS LOST HAMMER MELTS BEFORE HIS BURNING EYE, THOR'S TEARS TURN TO SMOKE AND A GREAT WIND BEGINS TO TEAR THE SUN ASUNDER.
AND IN THE MIDST OF THE EXPLOSION THAT FOLLOWS, WHICH SENDS HIM HURTLING LIKE A COMET OF FLAMING GODFLESH ACROSS THE HEAVENS...THOR'S BERSERKER ROAR SHAKES THE RUINS OF ASGARD.
THE THUNDER GOD'S SUFFERING AND SACRIFICE HAS UNLOCKED THE ANSWER HE SOUGHT. IN OTHER WORDS...


...THOR KNOWS HOW TO WIN THE WAR OF THE REALMS.
UNTOLD EONS FROM NOW.
THE ASGARD AT THE END OF TIME.
"AND SO AFTER HIS ORDEAL UPON THE SUN TREE, THOR SET ABOUT MAKING PREPARATIONS FOR THE FINAL BATTLE..."
"...WITH THE AID OF SOME ALLIES WHO WERE USED TO DEALING IN THE FANTASTIC."
SO THAT'S HOW HE LOST THE EYE. I CAN'T BELIEVE GRANDFATHER NEVER TOLD US THIS TALE.
WHAT HAPPENED NEXT, SISTER?
WAIT...THIS... THIS CAN'T BE RIGHT. IT SAYS THOR'S ALLIES TRAVELED THROUGH TIME TO THE FAR FUTURE, TO THE ASGARD OF AN... OLD FRIEND.
YOU DON'T THINK IT MEANS...?
AH, HEY THERE, YOUNG LADIES. WE'RE, UH, NOT FROM AROUND HERE.
DON'T SUPPOSE YOU COULD POINT US IN THE DIRECTION OF--
I AM HERE.
I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR THIS DAY FOR MILLENNIA.
AND ALL-FATHER THOR IS READY.
READY FOR WAR.

NOW. THE RUINS OF ASGARD.

WAR IS STILL RAGING ACROSS *MIDGARD.*

BUT IF I DO NOT COME *ALONE* TO FACE *MALEKITH*, MY *PARENTS* WILL DIE.

IT WOULD SEEM... AN UNWINNABLE CHALLENGE. YET THE FIRES OF *YGGDRASIL* HAVE GIVEN ME AN ANSWER.

IF ONLY THOR CAN SAVE THE DAY... THEN WE SIMPLY NEED *MORE THORS.*

BY MY BEARD, IT WORKED ONCE BEFORE, DIDN'T IT? DURING THAT WRETCHED BUSINESS WITH THE *GOD BUTCHER.*

I SEE THE YEARS SINCE THEN HAVEN'T BEEN KIND TO YOU, BOY. YOU LOOK LIKE HEL.

YOU LOOK LIKE *ME.*

ARE YOU ONE-EYED GEEZERS GOING TO COMPARE MALADIES ALL MORNING OR IS THERE AN ACTUAL WAR TO BE FOUGHT AROUND HERE?!

THOR THE GOD OF THE *VIKINGS* DIDN'T COME ALL THIS WAY JUST TO YAMMER!

AH, SPLENDID. YOU BROUGHT THE ARROGANT, UNWORTHY ONE. WHAT, WAS THE *FROG* NOT AVAILABLE?

AT LEAST I'VE STILL GOT ALL MY BODY PARTS, YOU HALF-CRIPPLED OLD *TROLL FART!*

THERE IS POWER IN THIS TRINITY. AND WE WILL NEED EVERY ONE OF OUR FISTS IN THIS FIGHT, WHETHER OR NOT THEY HOLD A HAMMER.

AYE...

my fists and I agree.
Jane?
Jane Foster. By all the gods.
Great. Everyone has a hammer but me.
Is there room for one more Thor in this war party of yours?
But how... how are you...
The broken hammer of the War Thor. A lost relic of a dead universe.
Hurt like hel lifting it. And I can already feel it trying to tear itself apart. We should move quickly, Thor.
So we shall, goddess of thunder.
With all the rage and howling wrath of the storm.
A storm for the Odin-damned ages.

And the thunder sounds across the realms, as has never been heard before.
From the fields of Alfheim to the mountains of the dwarves.
From the flaming roots of the World Tree to the frozen seas of Hel.
From the ruined halls of the gods to the war-torn cities of Midgard.
The lightning flashes like stars exploding. Rain falls with the fury of hammers.
And every eye does lift with fear and wonder...
...to behold the coming...
...of the storm of Thors.

AND THE THORS ARE NOT ALONE IN THEIR RAGE.
NEW YORK CITY.
STREET TEAM TO AIR SUPPORT. TARGETS MOVING INTO THE PARK. LAY DOWN FIRE ON THE TREELINE TWO KLICKS NORTH OF OUR POSITION.
OH, FRANK. YOU'RE SO IN YOUR ELEMENT IT'S PRACTICALLY ADORABLE--
--EVEN WHEN WE'RE FIGHTING 40-FOOT-TALL FROST GIANTS.
WAR IS WAR. GIANTS JUST TAKE MORE BULLETS IS ALL.
KEEP MOVING! BLOCK BY BLOCK!
"DON'T STOP UNTIL WE TAKE THE WHOLE DAMN CITY BACK!"
HEAR ME, DOOMED MORTALS OF MIDGARD!
WE ARE THE SONS OF JOTUNHEIM! BORN OF BLIZZARD, RAISED ON BLOOD AND RIME! AND THIS FROZEN LITTLE LAND IS OURS NOW!
IF YOU WANT IT BACK, YOU'LL HAVE TO PRY IT FROM OUR COLD, DEAD--

SO MUCH FOR THE *FIRE QUEEN.*
NOW WHERE'S THE KING OF THE *SNOWFLAKES?!*
STAND DOWN, LAUFEY! YOUR FIGHT IS LOST!
THE QUEEN OF THE ANGELS IS DEAD. AMORA AND ULIK ARE IN CHAINS. ALL ACROSS MIDGARD, YOUR ALLIES ARE FALLING.
ALLIES? HMPH. LAUFEY NEVER HAD ALLIES.
YOU THINK I EVER GAVE A DAMN ABOUT MALEKITH AND HIS CABAL OF FOOLS?
THIS WAR WAS ONLY ENDING *ONE* WAY! WITH ALL OF MIDGARD FROZEN IN ICE!
NO! THAT'S THE *CASKET OF ANCIENT WINTERS!*
AYE, THE ONE GOOD THING *LOKI* DID WAS STEAL IT FROM ASGARD! BEFORE I *ATE* HIM!

YOU OPEN THAT, YOU'LL KILL US ALL!
DON'T WORRY, LADY SIF, I WON'T OPEN IT.
BUT I'LL DEFINITELY BE KILLING YOU ALL!
ALL BY MYSELF!
THE BLIZZARD BREATH OF LAUFEY ROARS WITH A COLD BEYOND IMAGINING. EVERY MORTAL IN MIDGARD FEELS THE FROSTBITE DEEP IN THEIR SOULS.
BUT THE REALM IS GUARDED BY MORE THAN JUST MORTALS.
AND SOME GODS DON'T FREEZE EASY.
HAVE AT THEE, SON OF JOTUNHEIM!
IN THE NAME OF HELL'S KITCHEN!

STONEHENGE.

HEAR THAT RUMBLE? HE'S *COMING.*

RACING TO HIS OWN DOOM, ON WINGS OF THUNDER. FOR THOR SO LOVED THE WORLD...

YOUR WAR IS LOST, MALEKITH! RUN FOR YOUR WRETCHED LIFE WHILE YOU STILL CAN!

THE WAR OF THE REALMS HAS BEEN...A THING OF GRISLY *BEAUTY.* WITHOUT A DOUBT ONE OF MY PROUDEST, MOST MURDEROUS MOMENTS.

RIGHT UP THERE WITH MY TAKING THE THORN THRONE OF SVARTALFHEIM. AND FEEDING MY MOTHER TO HER DOGS.

BUT KILLING THOR BEFORE THE EYES OF HIS LOVING PARENTS... THAT WILL BE MY *BLOODY MASTERPIECE.*

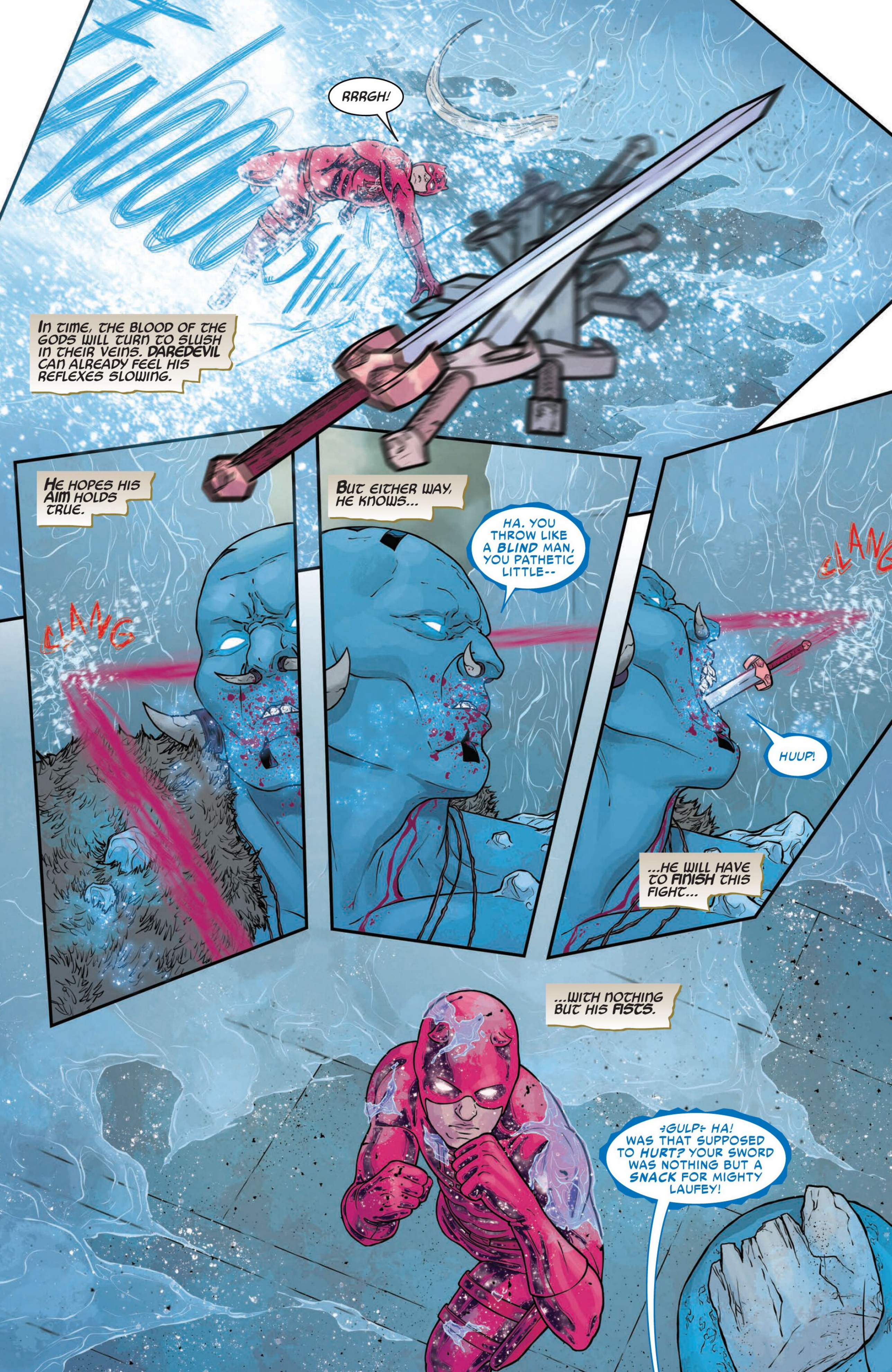
BE READY, MY CHILDREN! THE FINAL *WILD HUNT* BEGINS NOW!

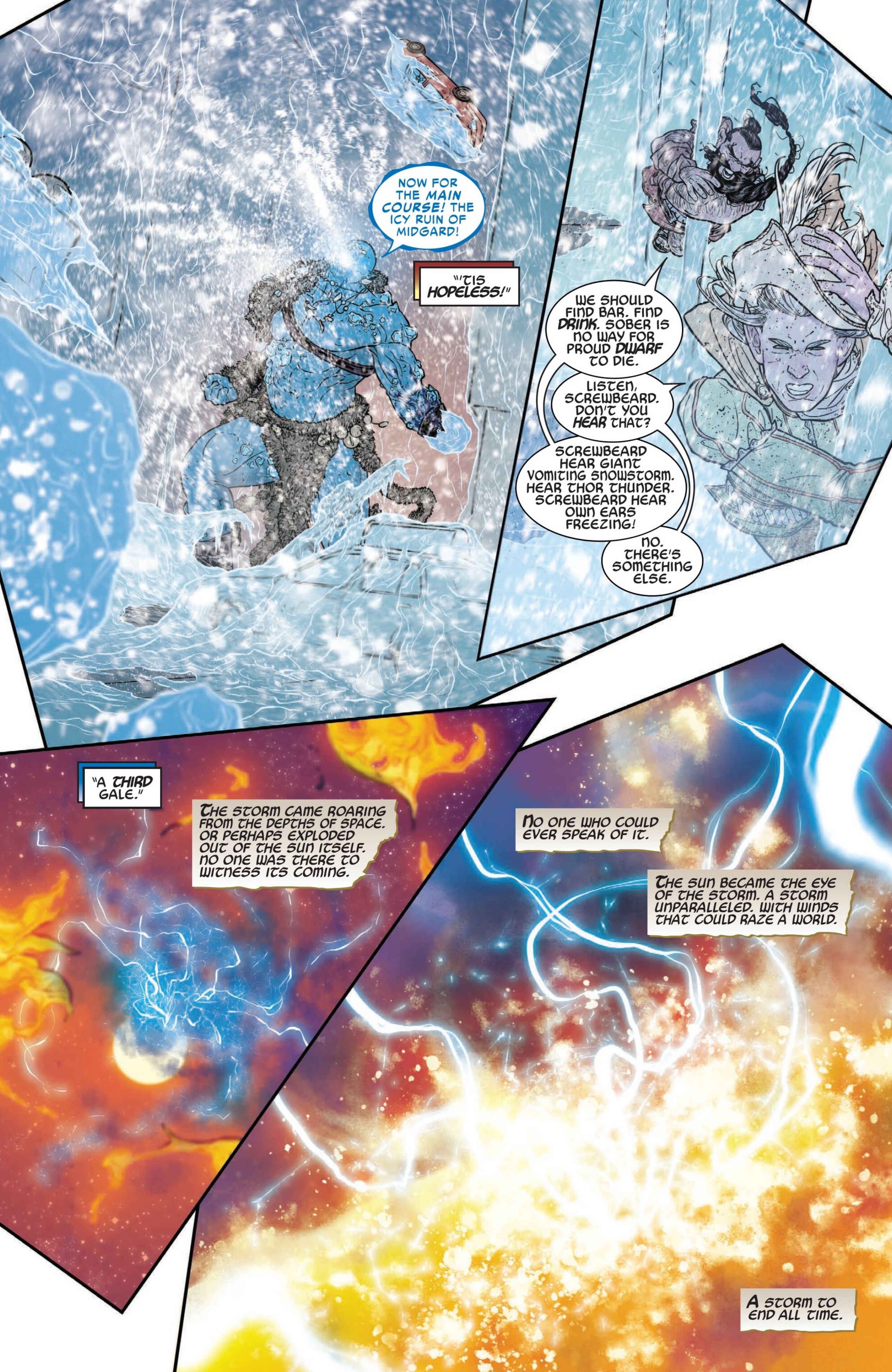
TELL ME, HUSBAND, TO WHOM DO THE *GODS* PRAY IN A MOMENT LIKE THIS?

PRAY TO *THOR* IF YOU LIKE, WIFE. BUT SOMETHING TELLS ME...

"...HE WON'T HEAR YOU OVER THE THUNDER."
MALEKITH!
I'VE COME FOR MY PARENTS!
AND FOR YOUR HEAD, YOU BASTARD!
ISN'T THIS INTERESTING. NO ONE BUT THOR SHOULD BE ABLE TO CROSS THE SPELLS I PLACED AROUND THIS RING OF STONES.
WE'RE ALL THOR, YOU IMBECILE!
SOME OF US ARE MORE THOR THAN OTHERS!
AND ALL THE DARK ELVES IN SVARTALFHEIM CANNOT STAY OUR THUNDEROUS WRATH!
HEH.
WELL, LUCKY FOR ME I BROUGHT MORE THAN JUST DARK ELVES...

THE SYMBIOTE OF KNULL HAS BEEN ENGORGED BY MY MAGIC.
CALL IT THE SYMBIO SWORD. THE VENOM BLADE. CALL IT WHATEVER YOU LIKE.
JUST CALL ME THE BUTCHER OF THORS!
KILL THE PARENTS! BUT THE THUNDERERS BELONG TO ME!
SPIDER ELVES.
MALEKITH.
GREAT. I GET THE DOGS, I GUESS.
PARENTS.
AS THE TEMPERATURE PLUMMETS ALL ACROSS THE REALM...EVEN THE THORS CAN FEEL IT.


RRRGH!
IN TIME, THE BLOOD OF THE GODS WILL TURN TO SLUSH IN THEIR VEINS. DAREDEVIL CAN ALREADY FEEL HIS REFLEXES SLOWING.
HE HOPES HIS AIM HOLDS TRUE.
CLANG
BUT EITHER WAY, HE KNOWS...
HA. YOU THROW LIKE A BLIND MAN, YOU PATHETIC LITTLE--
CLANG
HUUP!
...HE WILL HAVE TO FINISH THIS FIGHT...
...WITH NOTHING BUT HIS FISTS.
-GULP- HA! WAS THAT SUPPOSED TO HURT? YOUR SWORD WAS NOTHING BUT A SNACK FOR MIGHTY LAUFEY!


NOW FOR THE MAIN COURSE! THE ICY RUIN OF MIDGARD!
"'TIS HOPELESS!"
WE SHOULD FIND BAR. FIND DRINK. SOBER IS NO WAY FOR PROUD DWARF TO DIE.
LISTEN, SCREWBEARD. DON'T YOU HEAR THAT?
SCREWBEARD HEAR GIANT VOMITING SNOWSTORM. HEAR THOR THUNDER. SCREWBEARD HEAR OWN EARS FREEZING!
NO. THERE'S SOMETHING ELSE.
"A THIRD GALE."
THE STORM CAME ROARING FROM THE DEPTHS OF SPACE. OR PERHAPS EXPLODED OUT OF THE SUN ITSELF. NO ONE WAS THERE TO WITNESS ITS COMING.
NO ONE WHO COULD EVER SPEAK OF IT.
THE SUN BECAME THE EYE OF THE STORM. A STORM UNPARALLELED. WITH WINDS THAT COULD RAZE A WORLD.
A STORM TO END ALL TIME.

OR PERHAPS SAVE IT.
BY ALL THE GODS, HOW CAN YOU BE THIS SLOW?
HOW CAN YOU BE THIS RECKLESS?! WATCH YOUR BACK, BOY! IF YOU GET YOUR FOOL SELF KILLED, WE ALL DIE!
RRRGH, AT WHAT AGE DO I BECOME MY FATHER?
LADY JANE? WHAT HAVE YOU DONE?
IF YOU DIE THIS TIME, WOMAN, I WON'T HAVE THE MAGIC TO BRING YOU BACK.
THE VALKYRIES ARE DEAD. IF ANY OF US DIE...WE'RE ON OUR OWN.
GAAAGH!
ALL THIS WAR, ALL THIS DEATH--ALL TO FEED ONE ELF'S LUST FOR SUFFERING!
THAT SUFFERING ENDS NOW, YOU MONSTER! FOR I PROMISE TO KILL YOU QUICK!
HHHRGH...
YOU JUST REMINDED ME OF SOMETHING... MOST AMUSING, THUNDER GOD.

AAARGGH!
REMEMBER WHEN I LOPPED OFF YOUR ARM WITH YOUR OWN AX?
HMM, I WONDER WHAT SORT OF DAMAGE I COULD DO... WITH THIS?
NO. THAT'S...
THAT'S THE LAST HAMMER IN ALL OF ASGARD, THOR STARTS TO SAY. BUT THE WORDS TURN TO ASH IN HIS MOUTH.
LET'S SEE, SHALL WE?
BEHOLD THE BLACK HAMMER OF THE ACCURSED! BEHOLD THE LAST GASPS OF THOR!
AND THEN THEY TURN TO BLOOD.
NAY, WE THORS ARE HARDER TO KILL THAN YOU CAN IMAGINE!
CLANG

OH, I DON'T KNOW, MY LADY JANE. I CAN IMAGINE QUITE A LOT.
GAAGGH! VERILY, THAT'S DISGUSTING!
AND YOUR POOR HAMMER SEEMS TO BARELY BE HOLDING ITSELF TOGETHER. ONE MORE MIGHTY SWING AND I'M AFRAID IT'S LIABLE TO--
RRRRRGGH!!!
DID YOU JUST...PUNCH YOUR OWN HAMMER?
HA, CONGRATULATIONS, THOR! I SEE YOU'VE FINALLY GONE MAD!
AYE! IF MADNESS IS WHAT IT TAKES!
THEN BEHOLD THE BERSERKER MADNESS OF THOR!
RRRRRGGH!!!
WHAT'S HAPPENING? WHY IS HE PUNCHING THE HAMMER? AND AM I THE ONLY ONE WHO HEARS THE SPACE STORM THAT'S EATING THE SUN?
YES! LET IT GO, THOR! THIS IS NOT MADNESS! THIS IS THE WISDOM OF THE FIRE! THIS IS WHY YOU GAVE YOUR EYE! LET GO OF EVERYTHING...
"...BUT THE THUNDER IN YOUR FISTS!"
YOU THINK YOU'RE GOING TO BEAT ME WITH LIGHTNING? THE THUNDERBOLTS OF A THOUSAND THORS COULDN'T STOP THE GREATEST SORCERER IN ALL THE REALMS!
I WILL BEAT YOU TO DEATH WITH YOUR OWN DAMNED HAMMER!

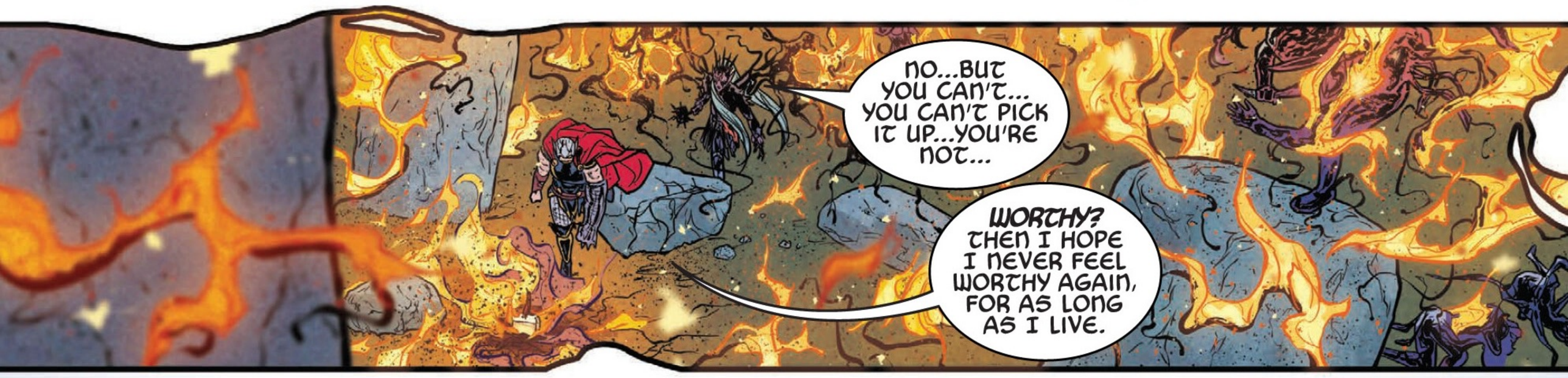
NO! MALEKITH'S GOING TO KILL HIM!
HE HEARS IT! HE HAS TO HEAR IT! IT CAME BACK FROM OBLIVION BECAUSE OF HIM! ALL HE HAS TO DO IS WIELD IT!
AYE, BOY. DO WHAT EVEN YOUR ALL-FATHER NEVER TRULY COULD.
"AND WIELD THE MOTHER STORM!"
DAREDEVIL THREW AWAY HEIMDALL'S SWORD! THE MORTAL HAS DOOMED US ALL!
THEN WHY IS HE SMILING?
WIELD...THE STORM.
"THE STORM OF STORMS."
"WIELD THE STORM." GRRGH, WHAT DO THEY THINK I'VE BEEN DOING SINCE THE TREE EXPLODED?
IN THE END, YOU WERE NOTHING BUT FISTS AND SURLY WEATHER! HERE'S HOPING ONE OF THESE OTHER THORS GIVES ME MORE OF A CHALLENGE!
ONCE THEY'VE WATCHED YOU DIE SCREAMING!
WON'T NEED MY FISTS. WON'T EVEN NEED THUNDER.
ALL I'LL NEED TO FINISH YOU, MALEKITH...
...IS A GOOD, HARD RAIN.

"AH. OKAY. NOW SCREWBEARD HEAR IT."
FIRE AND ICE.
"IN THE BEGINNING, THERE WAS ONLY DARKNESS. THEN FROM THE SOUTH CAME ROARING FIRE, AND FROM THE NORTH SWIRLING ICE AND MIST."
DO YOU KNOW WHAT THIS MEANS, BROTHER DWARF?
NOW WE BURN TO DEATH INSTEAD OF FREEZE?
THIS IS HOW LIFE WAS CREATED. THIS MEANS...
"...SOMETHING IS ABOUT TO BE BORN."
RRRGH, IS THIS ALL YOU'VE GOT? IN SVARTALFHEIM IT RAINS FIRE EVERY THORNSDAY!
I KNOW FIRE IS YOUR SYMBIOTE'S WEAKNESS.
BUT I HAVEN'T BEEN WIELDING THE GOD TEMPEST THIS ENTIRE TIME JUST SO I COULD MAKE IT RAIN.
MOTHER OF MAGGOTS... WHAT IS...

WHOSOEVER HOLDS THIS HAMMER, IF THEY BE WORTHY, SHALL POSSESS THE POWER OF...
THOR
I USED IT FOR FORGING.
HELLO, OLD FRIEND.

BY ALL THE GODS. HE DID IT.
WELCOME BACK, MJOLNIR. YOU BEAUTIFUL MALLET, YOU.

IF THE MISSING HAMMER WAS THE KEY, WHY DIDN'T YOU JUST GIVE HIM YOURS?
IT WASN'T THE HAMMER THAT WAS MISSING.
HEL... WHAT A GOD I WAS.

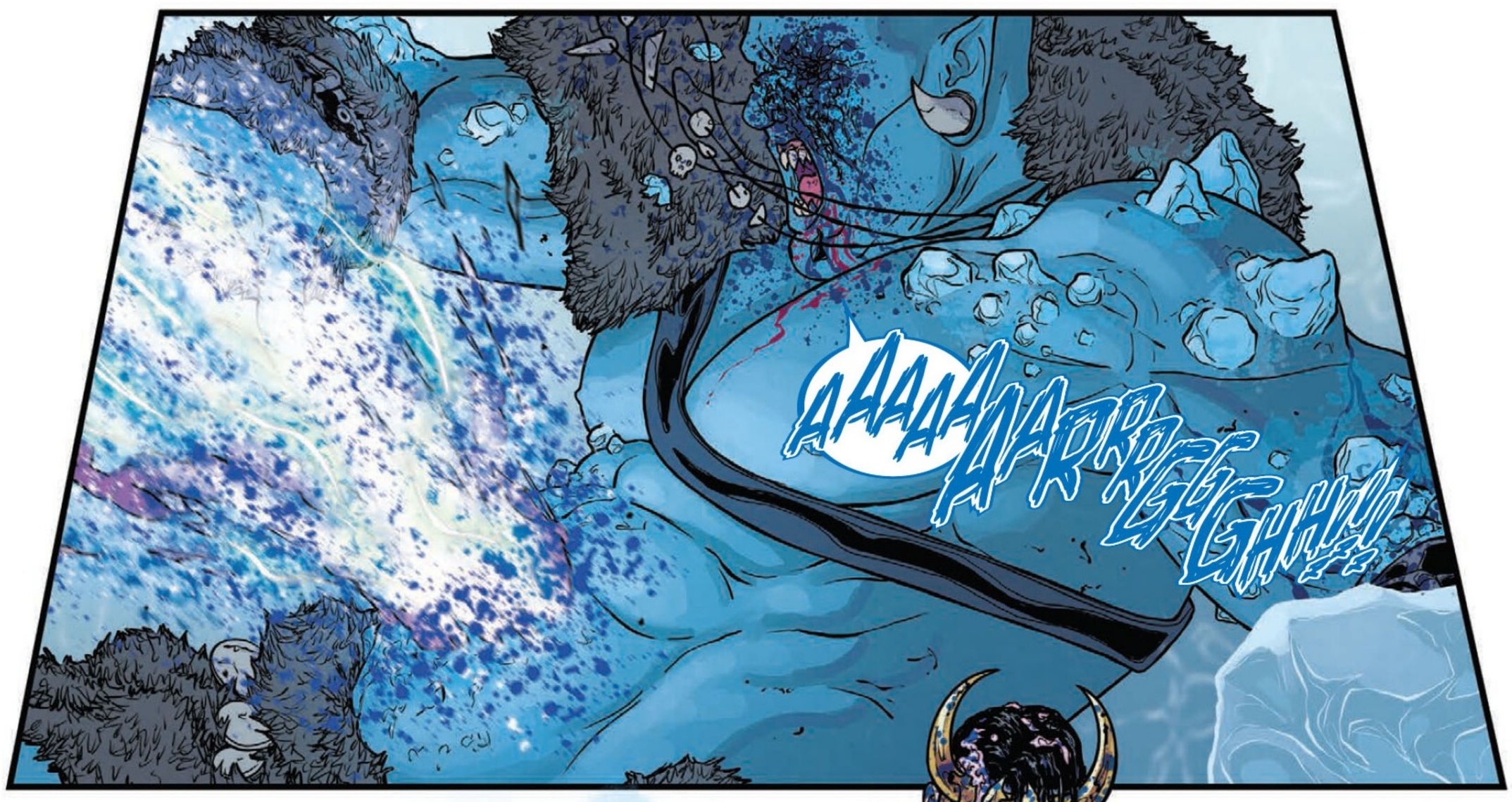

NO...BUT YOU CAN'T... YOU CAN'T PICK IT UP...YOU'RE NOT...
WORTHY? THEN I HOPE I NEVER FEEL WORTHY AGAIN, FOR AS LONG AS I LIVE.

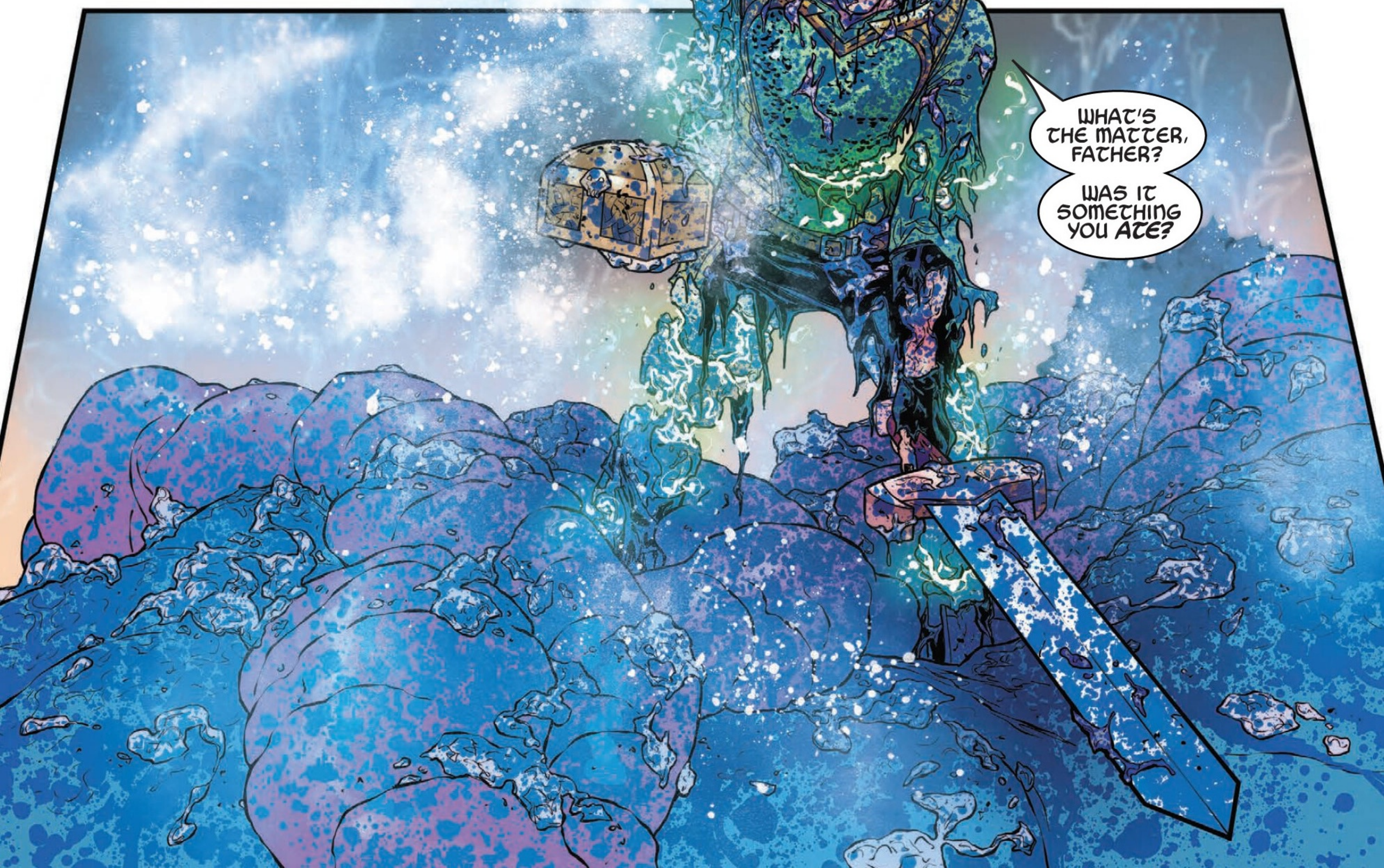
IT'S ONLY THE STRUGGLE THAT COUNTS.
"GORR WAS RIGHT." BUT KNOWING THAT IS WHAT MAKES ME STRONG. NOT THE HAMMERS. NOT THE THUNDER.
WHAT I TRULY AM, MALEKITH, NOW AND FOREVER-MORE...
...IS THE GOD OF THE UNWORTHY.

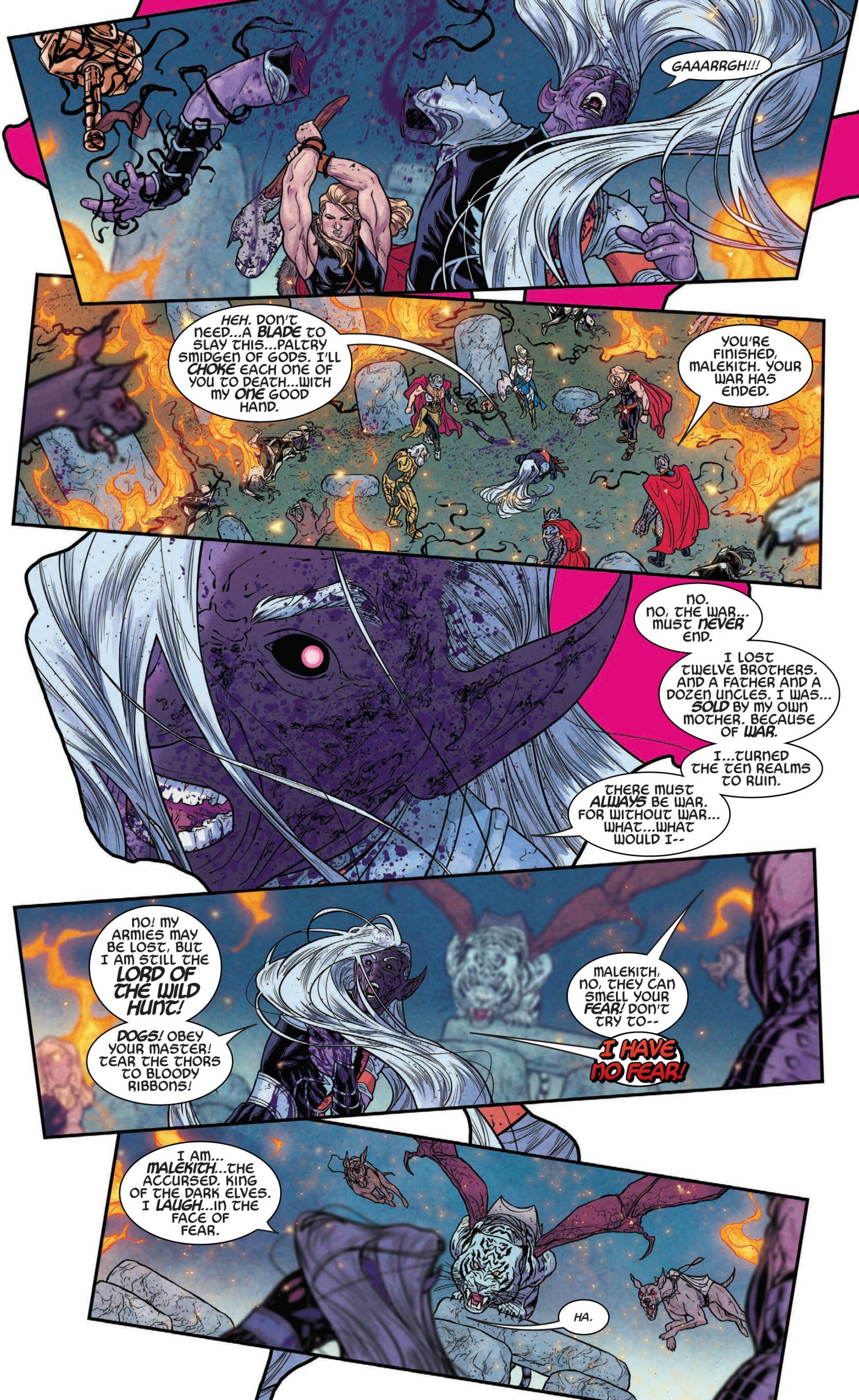
AND THE END OF THIS THOR-DAMNED WAR!

THE HAMMER DOESN'T MAKE THE THOR. THE THOR MAKES THE HAMMER.
THIS TIME, QUITE LITERALLY.
I KNEW YOU'D REMEMBER THAT EVENTUALLY, ODINSON.
I HAD A FINE TEACHER, LADY JANE.
SPEAKING OF HAMMERS... YOURS ISN'T LONG FOR THIS WORLD.
AYE. LIKE MALEKITH SAID, 'TIS LIKELY ONLY GOOD FOR ONE LAST HURL.
"AND I THINK I KNOW JUST WHO TO HURL IT AT."
SO ENDS THE WAR OF THE REALMS! AND BEGINS THE NEW AGE OF GIANTS! DIE, YOU PATHETIC--
GOYYYGHH!!!
RRRRGH, WHO THREW THAT?
WHO'S THE MISERABLE LITTLE SPECK OF GRISTLE WHO JUST ASSURED THEMSELVES A PLACE IN MY GULLET?! WHEN I FIND YOU, I'LL DIGEST YOU FOR DAYS, YOU--

WHAA?


AAAAAARRGGHHH!


WHAT'S THE MATTER, FATHER?
WAS IT SOMETHING YOU ATE?


GAAARRGH!!!
HEH. DON'T NEED...A BLADE TO SLAY THIS...PALTRY SMIDGEN OF GODS. I'LL CHOKE EACH ONE OF YOU TO DEATH...WITH MY ONE GOOD HAND.
YOU'RE FINISHED, MALEKITH. YOUR WAR HAS ENDED.
NO. NO, THE WAR... MUST NEVER END.
I LOST TWELVE BROTHERS. AND A FATHER AND A DOZEN UNCLES. I WAS... SOLD BY MY OWN MOTHER. BECAUSE OF WAR.
I...TURNED THE TEN REALMS TO RUIN.
THERE MUST ALWAYS BE WAR. FOR WITHOUT WAR... WHAT...WHAT WOULD I--
NO! MY ARMIES MAY BE LOST, BUT I AM STILL THE LORD OF THE WILD HUNT!
DOGS! OBEY YOUR MASTER! TEAR THE THORS TO BLOODY RIBBONS!
MALEKITH, NO, THEY CAN SMELL YOUR FEAR! DON'T TRY TO--
I HAVE NO FEAR!
I AM... MALEKITH...THE ACCURSED. KING OF THE DARK ELVES. I LAUGH...IN THE FACE OF FEAR.
HA.

HAAAA!
HAGGGH!
HAARRRRGGGH!!!
AAARRRRRRRREEEEEIIGGH!!!

And so screams turn to cheers.

Gods be praised.

Oh man. Are you guys seeing what I'm seeing?

I'd say that's a fairly good sign that we just *won*.

Party on *Yancy Street* tonight!

So ends the war of the realms.

Frank... let me buy you a beer. Enjoy the end of the war for five minutes.

Your war might've ended, Logan.

Mine never does.

And so begins the healing.

Daredevil. Are you all right, my friend?

I had the mind of a god. And now it's gone. It's like...going blind all over again.

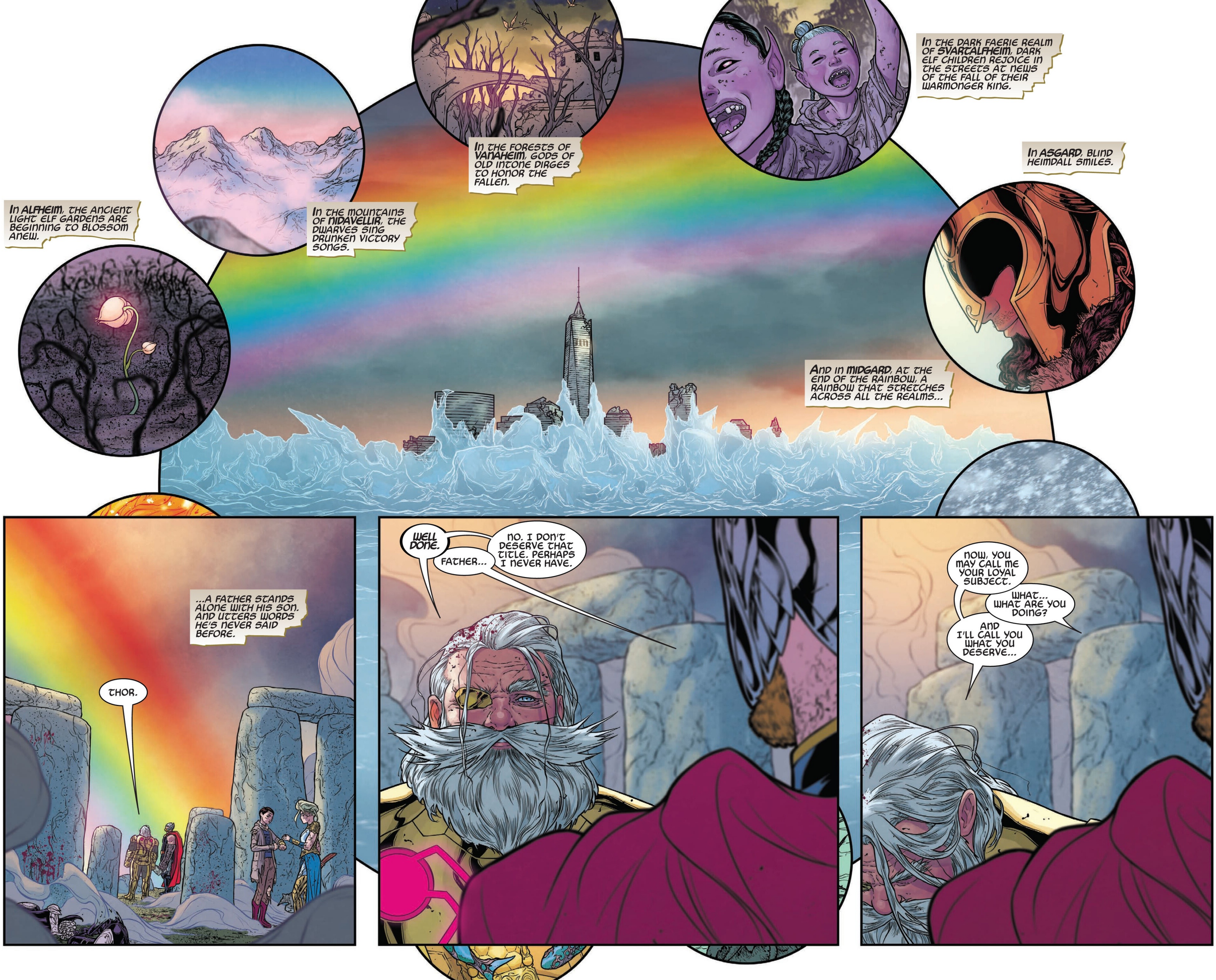
I think... I need to *pray* now.

Or the road to wars yet to come.

Dark magic... healed broken mind. Now...must be ready...

...for the coming *carnage*.

It is a time for celebration.
The power's fading. Hammer almost spent. It was WORTH it, though. Worth it just to feel the storm one last...
But also for saying goodbye.
GRRRRRGGH!!!
Goodbye to the old. As we make way for the NEW.
WHOA.
WHAT THE HELL JUST HAPPENED?
Or perhaps learn that they can COEXIST.
THEY STILL HAVE MEAD IN THIS TIME? FEELS LIKE I HAVEN'T HAD A DRINK FOR A THOUSAND YEARS.
BOY. PREPARE TO FALL MORE IN LOVE WITH MIDGARD THAN EVER. AS I INTRODUCE YOU TO THE ERA THAT FUTURE HISTORIANS WILL COME TO CALL...THE GOLDEN AGE OF CRAFT BEER.
In peace. Across all the realms.
THE KING OF THE FROST GIANTS IS DEAD.
LONG LIVE THE KING.


In the mountains of NIDAVELLIR, the dwarves sing drunken victory songs.
In the forests of VANAHEIM, gods of old intone dirges to honor the fallen.
In the dark faerie realm of SVARTALFHEIM, dark elf children rejoice in the streets at news of the fall of their warmonger king.
In ALFHEIM, the ancient light elf gardens are beginning to blossom anew.
In ASGARD, blind Heimdall smiles.
And in MIDGARD, at the end of the rainbow, a rainbow that stretches across all the realms...
...A father stands alone with his son. And utters words he's never said before.
Thor.
Well done.
Father...
No. I don't deserve that title. Perhaps I never have.
Now, you may call me your loyal subject.
What... What are you doing?
And I'll call you what you deserve...

ALL HAIL THE RIGHTFUL LORD OF ASGARD.
SAVIOR OF THE REALMS.
ALL HAIL... ALL-FATHER THOR.

THOR #14

To Hel with Hammers

MANY YEARS AGO.
THE WEAPONS HALL OF ASGARD.
TROLLS. FROST GIANTS. MY FATHER. A SHORTAGE OF MEAD.
THESE ARE THINGS SURE TO DRIVE ME TO RAGE. TO ROAR. TO THUNDER.
BUT THERE IS ONE THING IN ALL THE HEAVENS WITH THE POWER TO MAKE ME ANGRIER THAN ALL THE REST COMBINED.
I DON'T EVEN CALL IT BY NAME ANYMORE.
IT'S SIMPLY...THAT HAMMER FROM HEL.
AND BY ALL THE GODS DO I HATE IT.

BUT NOT NEARLY AS MUCH AS IT SEEMS TO HATE ME.
I CAN LIFT EVERY WEAPON IN ASGARD! EVERY SINGLE BOR-DAMNED ONE!
EXCEPT FOR YOU!
YOU MISERABLE LITTLE URU TURD!

I'VE FOUGHT DRAGONS! SLAIN MORE TROLLS THAN THERE ARE WHISKERS ON FATHER'S CHIN!
I'VE SAVED MIDGARD A THOUSAND TIMES OVER! AND YET...
GRRRRRGGGH!!!

I STILL CAN'T BUDGE YOU OFF THAT PEDESTAL! I...
I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT IT TAKES TO BE WORTHY OF YOU, MJOLNIR, YOU WRETCHED MALLET.
BUT AT LONG LAST, I DO KNOW ONE THING...

I NO LONGER GIVE A DAMN.
I AM THOR ODINSON. GOD OF THUNDER. PRINCE OF ASGARD.
AND IF I NEVER SEE ANOTHER HAMMER FOR THE REST OF MY DAYS...THAT WILL BE JUST FINE WITH ME.

BUT I CERTAINLY WOULDN'T SAY NAY TO A GOOD BRAWL RIGHT ABOUT NOW.
THOR OF ASGARD!
EH?
WE HAVE NEED OF YOU. IN THE FUTURE.
YEAH, FOR CLOBBERIN' SOME ELVES.
ELVES? AND WHY SHOULD I BELIEVE A STRANGE WIZARD I'VE NEVER SEEN BEFORE? AND HIS PET TROLL.
MY AUNT PETUNIA DIDN'T RAISE NO TROLLS, PAL.
THE THOR FROM OUR TIME FEARED YOU MIGHT REACT THIS WAY. SO HE SENT SOMEONE HE KNEW YOU'D TRUST.
TOOTHGRINDER?
WAAAAH!
YEAH, LISTEN TO THE GOAT AND LET'S GET ROLLING, GOLDILOCKS. WE GOT A WAR TO GO WIN. BETTER GRAB YOUR HAMMER.
RRRGGGH!!!

NOW.
THE RUINS OF ASGARD.
DAMN IT ALL TO NIFFLEHEIM.
THORS.
WHY DID IT HAVE TO BE THORS?

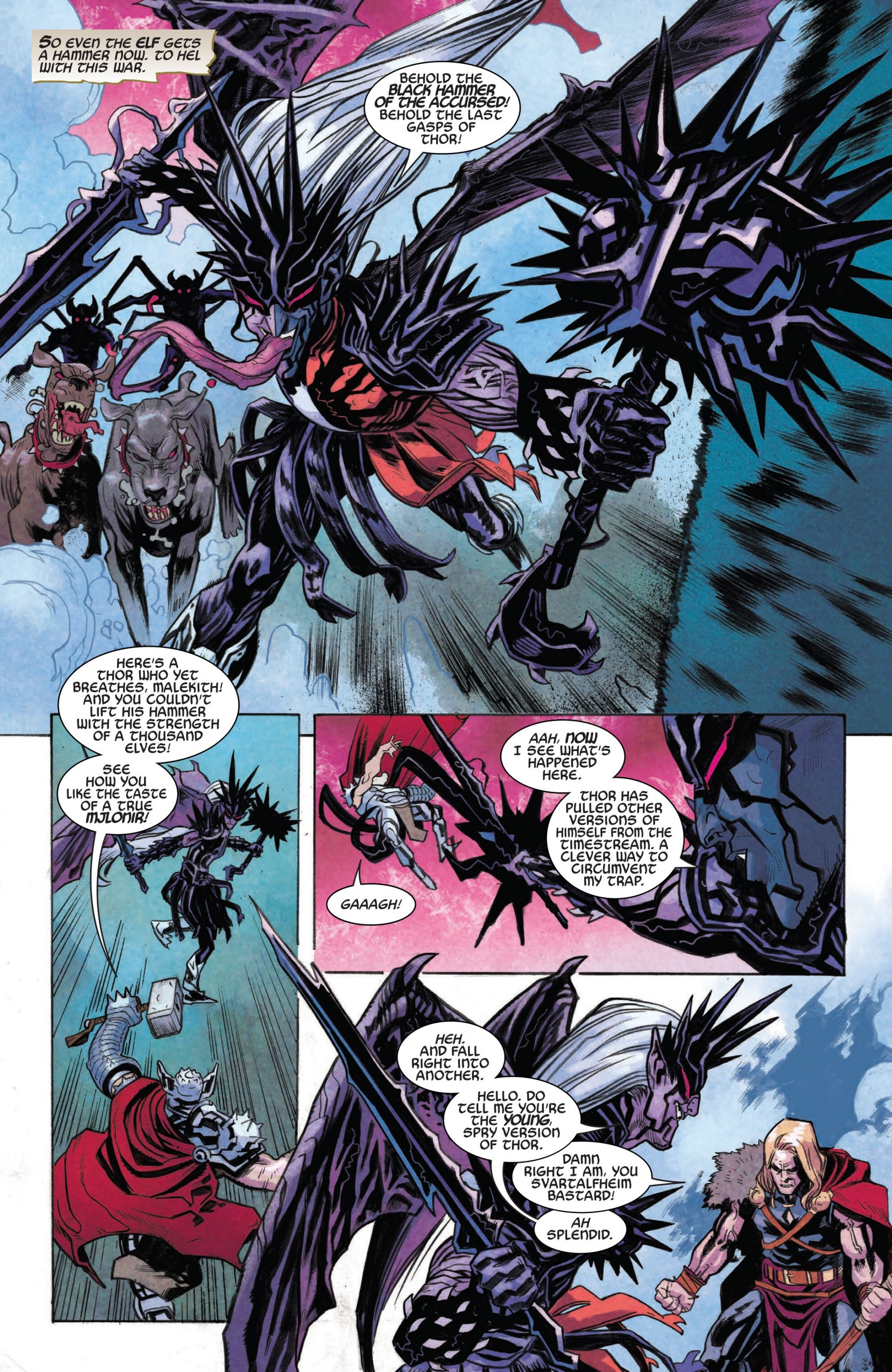
I VAGUELY REMEMBER DOING THIS SORT OF THING ONCE BEFORE. FIGHTING ALONGSIDE MY ELDER SELVES. THREE OF US STOPPED A GOD BUTCHER THAT TIME.
THIS TIME IT'S A WAR OF THE REALMS. I SUPPOSE THAT'S WHY A FOURTH IS WARRANTED.
I'VE ENCOUNTERED THE WENCH BEFORE TOO. IT APPEARS SHE'S FOUND A DIFFERENT HAMMER SINCE THEN. BECAUSE OF COURSE, ALL OTHER THORS GET ALL THE HAMMERS THEY LIKE.
THE NORNS ARE JUST MOCKING ME AT THIS POINT, AREN'T THEY?
GRRRRR. THORS! ENOUGH TALK!
ARE WE HERE TO FIGHT?! OR FELLOWSHIP?!
HRRR. THIS GUY.
WALK WITH ME, BOY.
THOR, I KNOW YOU GAVE YOUR EYE TO THE WORLD TREE FOR WISDOM, BUT SURELY THERE WERE MORE SUITABLE THUNDER GODS YOU COULD'VE RECRUITED.
THE FATE OF MIDGARD IS AT STAKE HERE. HEL, THE FATE OF ALL TEN REALMS. IS THIS TRULY THE VERSION OF YOURSELF YOU WANT TO RELY ON?
I NEVER CHOSE THIS PARTICULAR THOR CORPS, LADY JANE. FATE CHOSE IT FOR US. AND AS FOR THE BOY, ALL I TRULY KNOW...
...IS THAT WITHOUT HIM, NONE OF US WOULD BE HERE.
YOUNG THOR. GOD OF THE VIKINGS.
ALWAYS SO QUICK TO GO RUSHING INTO DANGER. BUT YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT SORT OF DEATH TRAP WE'RE FACING HERE, BOY.
HMPH. SUPPOSE I MUST BE RATHER GOOD AT FACING DEATH, YOU ANCIENT PILE OF DUST AND BEARD, FOR BY THE LOOKS OF YOU, I LIVE TO BE A FEW BILLION YEARS OLD.

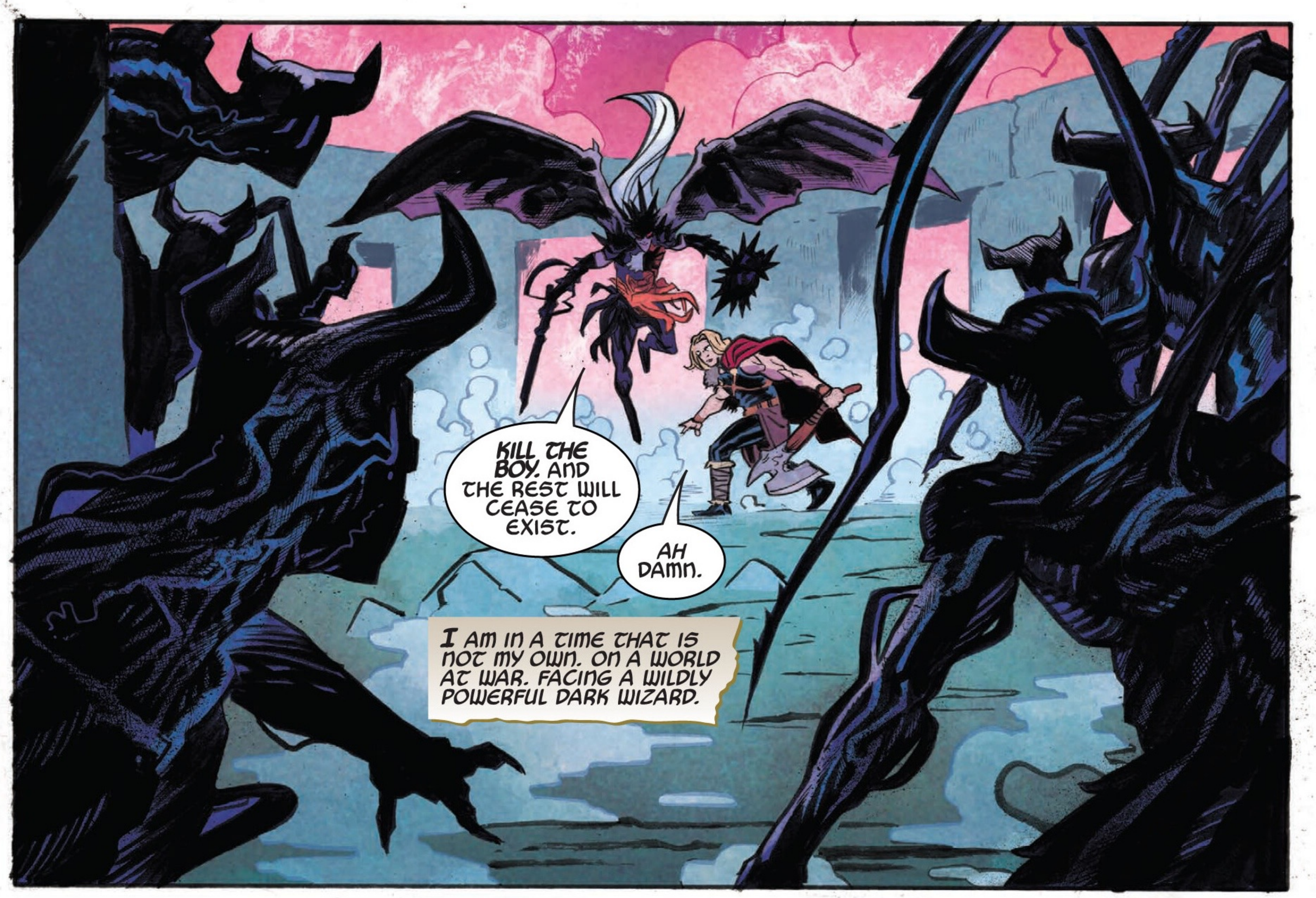
AYE, ALL-FATHER THOR IS OLDER THAN ANY GOD THAT'S EVER LIVED. BUT KNOW THIS, THUNDER BOY...
WE ARE OUTSIDE OUR OWN TIMELINES HERE. WE HAVE GONE WHERE EVEN IMMORTALS WERE NOT MEANT TO TREAD.
WHICH MEANS OUR DESTINIES ARE ANYTHING BUT ASSURED. ANY OF US CAN DIE THIS DAY.
THEN LET US DIE LIKE THORS!
AYE! WITH THUNDER IN OUR HEARTS AND A HAMMER IN OUR FISTS!
AYE!
HEL AYE!
OH. SORRY.
BAH, YOU WITHERED OLD LOT CAN KEEP YOUR DAMNED MALLETS. I HAVE THE STRENGTH OF YOUTH AND THE RAGE OF THE VIKINGS ON MY SIDE!
ALL I NEED IS MY AX, MY THUNDER...

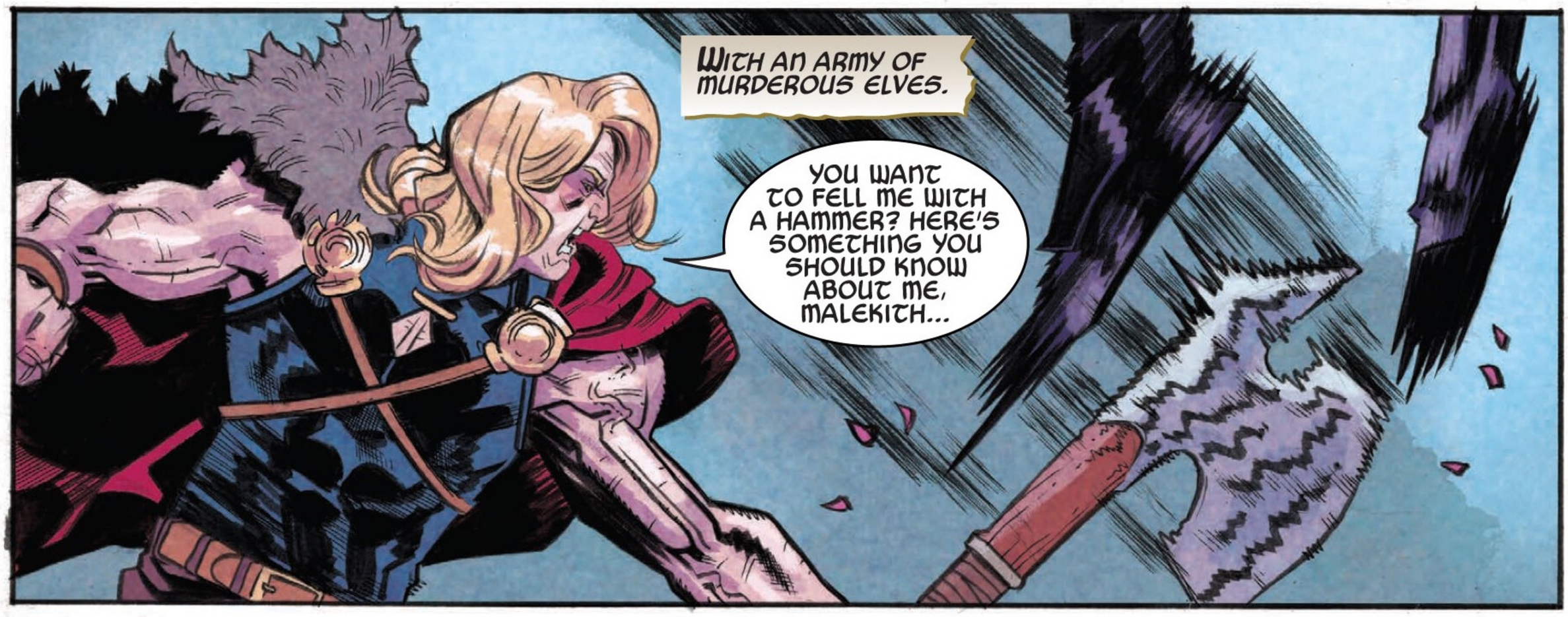
"...AND A GOAT BETWEEN MY LEGS!"
AND SO THE GREATEST THOR IN HISTORY RODE INTO BATTLE IN THE WAR OF THE REALMS. WITH HIS PALE REFLECTIONS BY HIS SIDE. TO FACE...
...SOME SORT OF ELVES OR SOMESUCH.
APPARENTLY THE KING OF SVARTALFHEIM HAD TAKEN OUR PARENTS HOSTAGE. AND THE ELF'S DARK MAGIC WOULD ENSURE THAT IF ANYONE OTHER THAN THOR SHOWED UP TO FACE HIM, ODIN AND FREYJA WOULD DIE HORRIBLY.
BUT LITTLE DID THE ELF KING KNOW, HE WAS GETTING MORE THOR THAN HE'D BARGAINED FOR.
FOUR THORS FOR ONE ELF. BY THE FIERY BEARD OF SURTUR...JUST HOW IMPRESSIVE COULD THIS ELF POSSIBLY BE?

MIDGARD.
STONEHENGE.
THE SYMBIOTE OF KNULL HAS BEEN ENGORGED BY MY MAGIC.
CALL IT THE SYMBIO SWORD. THE VENOM BLADE. CALL IT WHATEVER YOU LIKE.
JUST CALL ME THE BUTCHER OF THORS!
HAA HA HA HA HAAA!
HEL.
WE SHOULD'VE BROUGHT MORE THORS.

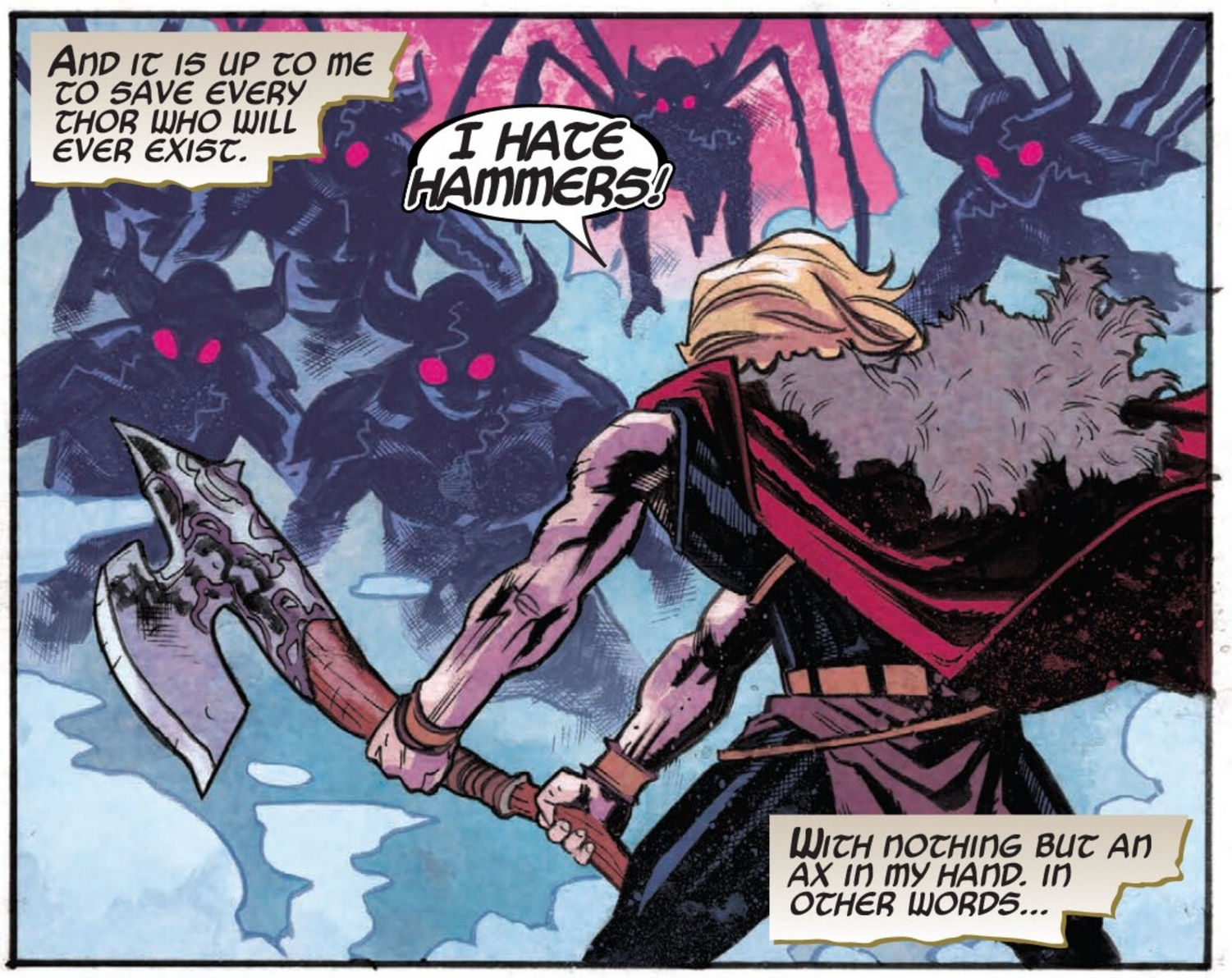
ALL THIS WAR, ALL THIS DEATH, ALL TO FEED ONE ELF'S LUST FOR SUFFERING!
THAT SUFFERING ENDS NOW, YOU MONSTER! FOR I PROMISE TO KILL YOU QUICK!
HE'S ALSO BROUGHT ALONG HIS DERANGED DARK ELF ACOLYTES AND THE RABID DOGS HE COMMANDS AS LORD OF THE WILD HUNT.
ODIN, FREYJA, GET CLEAR OF THE SPIDER ELVES AND LEAVE THIS TO YOUR SONS AND I!
SONS? BY MY BEARD.
'TWOULD APPEAR OUR SON HAS TRIPLED THE DANGER HE'S PLACED HIMSELF IN. IN OTHER WORDS, JANE...WE'RE NOT GOING ANYWHERE!
HA HAA HA!
THE ELF'S NAME IS MALEKITH. AND HE WIELDS A DARK WEAPON SIMILAR TO THE GOD BUTCHER'S NECROSWORD.
WHILE WE THORS... HAVE BROUGHT THE THUNDER.
RRRGGGH!
TOGETHER WE HAVE SUMMONED A STORM SO MIGHTY IT ECHOES ACROSS THE REALMS.
SO WHY DOES IT FEEL LIKE SOMETHING IS STILL MISSING?
GAAAGH! NO, HE TOOK MY LAST--


SO EVEN THE ELF GETS A HAMMER NOW. TO HEL WITH THIS WAR.
BEHOLD THE BLACK HAMMER OF THE ACCURSED! BEHOLD THE LAST GASPS OF THOR!
HERE'S A THOR WHO YET BREATHES, MALEKITH! AND YOU COULDN'T LIFT HIS HAMMER WITH THE STRENGTH OF A THOUSAND ELVES!
SEE HOW YOU LIKE THE TASTE OF A TRUE MJLONIR!
AAH, NOW I SEE WHAT'S HAPPENED HERE.
THOR HAS PULLED OTHER VERSIONS OF HIMSELF FROM THE TIMESTREAM. A CLEVER WAY TO CIRCUMVENT MY TRAP.
GAAAGH!
HEH. AND FALL RIGHT INTO ANOTHER.
HELLO. DO TELL ME YOU'RE THE YOUNG, SPRY VERSION OF THOR.
DAMN RIGHT I AM, YOU SVARTALFHEIM BASTARD!
AH SPLENDID.


KILL THE BOY. AND THE REST WILL CEASE TO EXIST.
AH DAMN.
I AM IN A TIME THAT IS NOT MY OWN. ON A WORLD AT WAR. FACING A WILDLY POWERFUL DARK WIZARD.

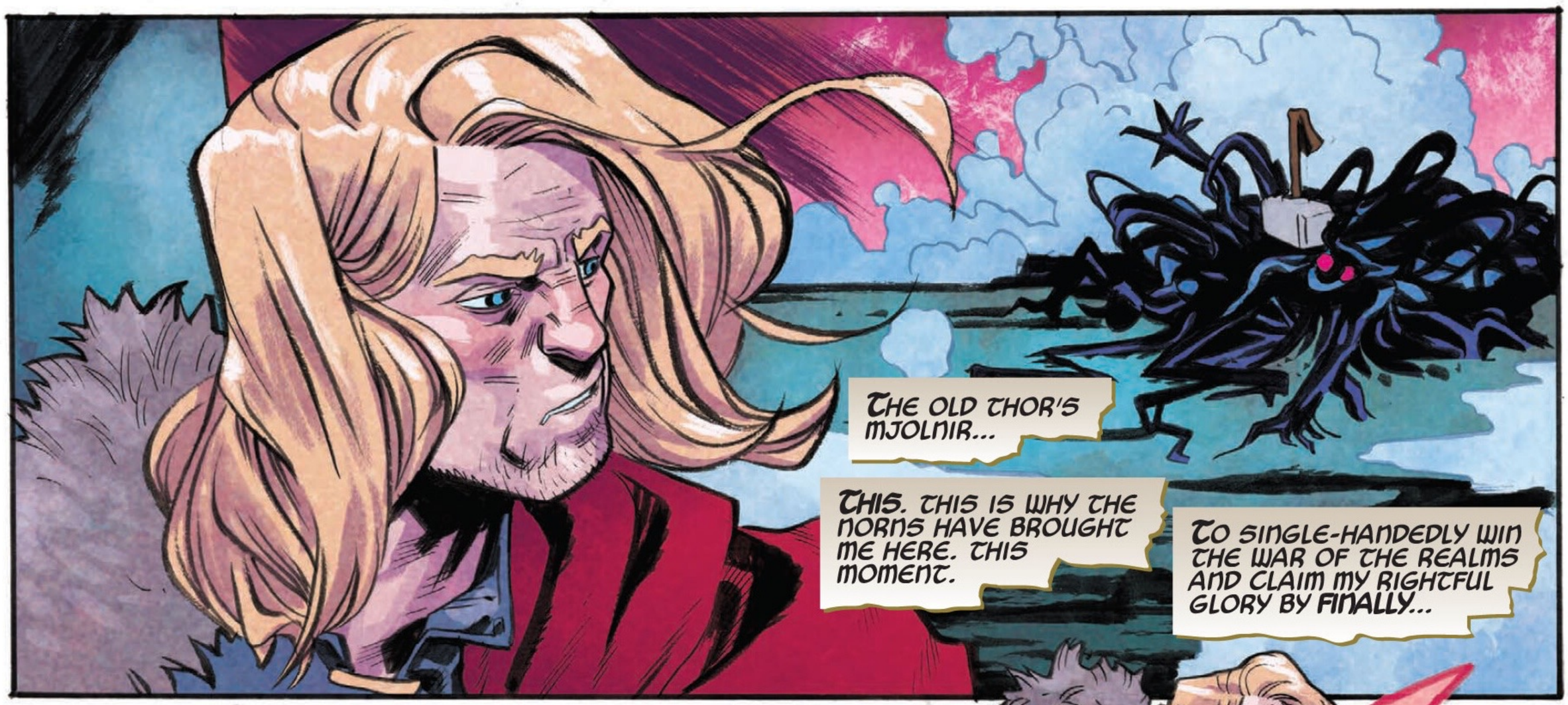

WITH AN ARMY OF MURDEROUS ELVES.
YOU WANT TO FELL ME WITH A HAMMER? HERE'S SOMETHING YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT ME, MALEKITH...

BOY! NO, GET AWAY FROM...


AND IT IS UP TO ME TO SAVE EVERY THOR WHO WILL EVER EXIST.
I HATE HAMMERS!
WITH NOTHING BUT AN AX IN MY HAND. IN OTHER WORDS...

...THIS IS THE GREATEST DAY OF MY LIFE.
HA!
OR IT WAS. FOR ABOUT FIVE SECONDS.
GAAAGH!!!
GRRRGH!!!
AAARRGH!!
STRIKE THE YOUNG THOR, AND THE OTHERS ALL FEEL THE EFFECT. OH, THIS IS BAD.

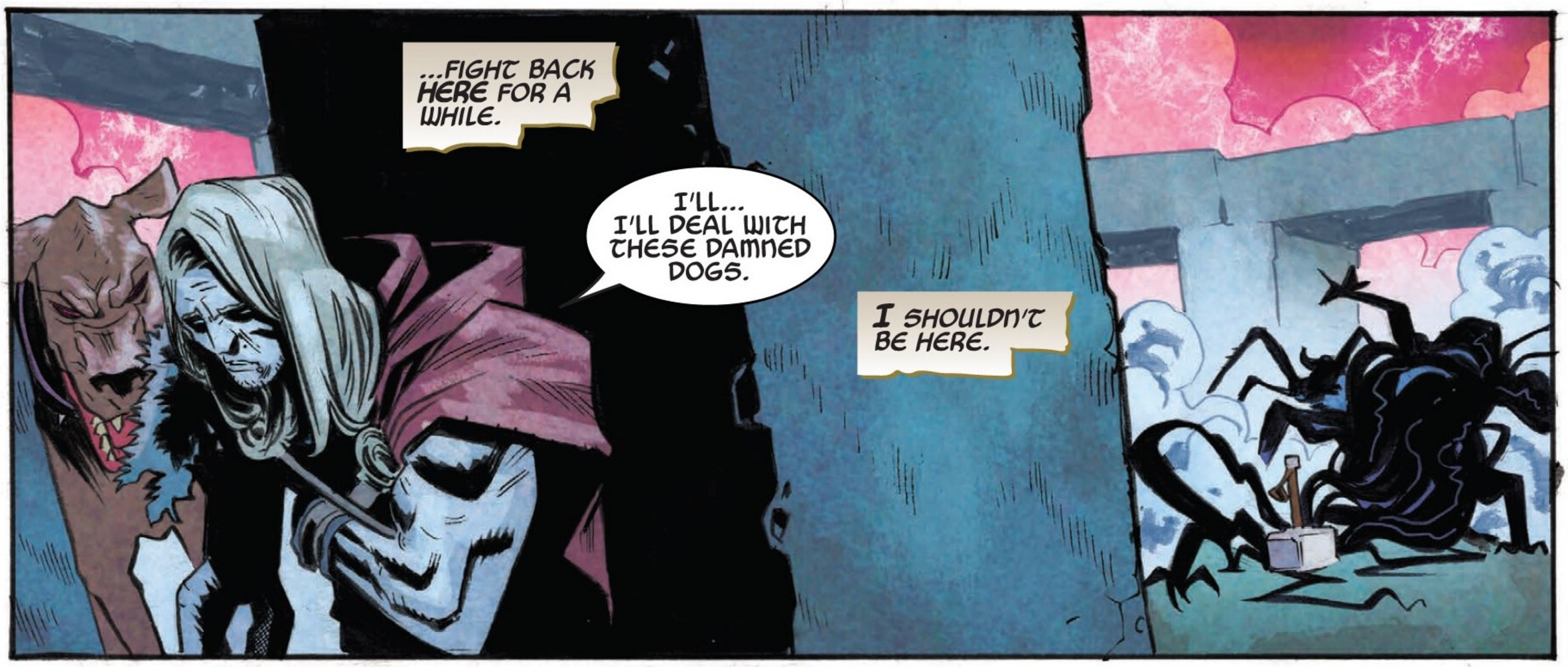
YOU'LL HAVE TO KILL ME A LOT HARDER THAN THAT, ELF! FOR THOR BLEEDS LIGHTNING! AND SHARPENED URU!
YES, AND ALSO BLOOD.
TEAR HIM TO PIECES.
GET BACK, BOY! LEAVE MALEKITH TO ME! YOU DEAL WITH HIS MINIONS!
I'M NOT A CHILD! I'VE SLAIN DRAGONS BIGGER THAN...
ALL-FATHER THOR?! HA, ALL-FATHER OF WHAT? THESE REALMS ARE MINE!
NO, THINE ASS IS MINE, MALEKITH!
HAVE AT THEE, DARK ELF BASTARD!


THE OLD THOR'S MJOLNIR...
THIS. THIS IS WHY THE NORNS HAVE BROUGHT ME HERE. THIS MOMENT.
TO SINGLE-HANDEDLY WIN THE WAR OF THE REALMS AND CLAIM MY RIGHTFUL GLORY BY FINALLY...

GRRRGGH!
NAY. MUST BE ANOTHER REASON.

SLASH
GAAAGH!!!

GO, BOY! HIDE! WE'LL DEAL WITH MALEKITH!
I AM THOR ODINSON. GOD OF THE VIKINGS. I DON'T HIDE. I'M JUST GOING TO...

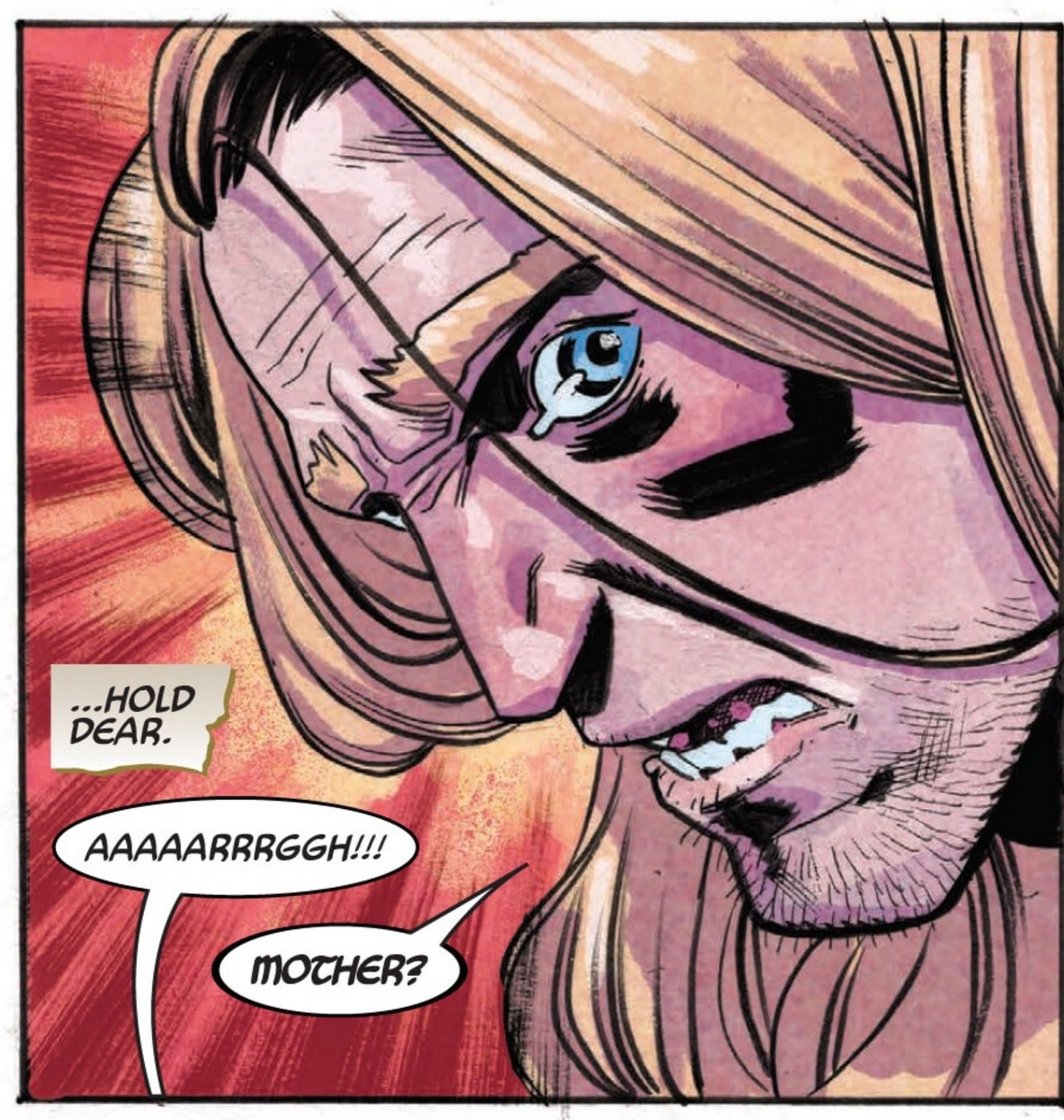

...FIGHT BACK HERE FOR A WHILE.
I'LL... I'LL DEAL WITH THESE DAMNED DOGS.
I SHOULDN'T BE HERE.

I AM SHAMING MYSELF.

ENDANGERING MY OWN FUTURE.
GUUURRGH!!!

THE FUTURE OF THE REALMS.

AND OF EVERYTHING I...


...HOLD DEAR.
AAAAARRRGGH!!!
MOTHER?

WHAT...IN THE NAME OF ALL THAT'S UNHOLY...ARE YOU?

WE ARE SVARTALFVENOM.
WE ARE YOUR RUIN.
I HEAR THE CRIES OF MY MOTHER.
HHRRRRAAGH!
AND MY FATHER TOO, I SUPPOSE.
AND MY MIND... GOES RED.

And suddenly I no longer give a damn whether I die and take every other Thor along with me.
My only thoughts are for the one parent who's always shown me love and compassion over the years.
Even when I didn't deserve it.
Especially when I didn't deserve it.
I think of her and I am moving instinctually, punching her monstrous attacker over and over.
With all the power in my fists.
Yet something... feels DIFFERENT somehow.
In some way...

...THAT I CAN'T QUITE PUT MY FINGER ON.

BOY!

THAT MINE?
WHAT? IS WHAT YOURS...

OH.
OH. MY. GODS.

THOR AND JANE ARE DEALING WITH MALEKITH. AND CAN YOU FEEL THE SIZE OF THE STORM WE'VE BREWED UP TOGETHER? THE SKIES ARE ABOUT TO START RAINING FIRE.
KEEP MJOLNIR FOR A BIT, IF YOU LIKE.

YOU'VE EARNED IT.
IT'S... NOT HEAVY AT ALL.
IT'S ACTUALLY LIGHTER THAN AIR.
TURNS OUT I DO STILL GIVE A DAMN ABOUT HAMMERS.

I'VE JUST LEARNED TO GIVE A DAMN ABOUT OTHER THINGS AS WELL.
NAH. TRADE YOU, OLD MAN.
MY NAME IS THOR ODINSON. GOD OF THUNDER. PRINCE OF ASGARD. AND TODAY IS NOT THE GREATEST DAY OF MY LIFE.
IT'S JUST ANOTHER DAY.
BECAUSE THEY'RE ALL PRETTY BOR-DAMNED GREAT WHEN YOU'RE ME.

THOR #15

War's End

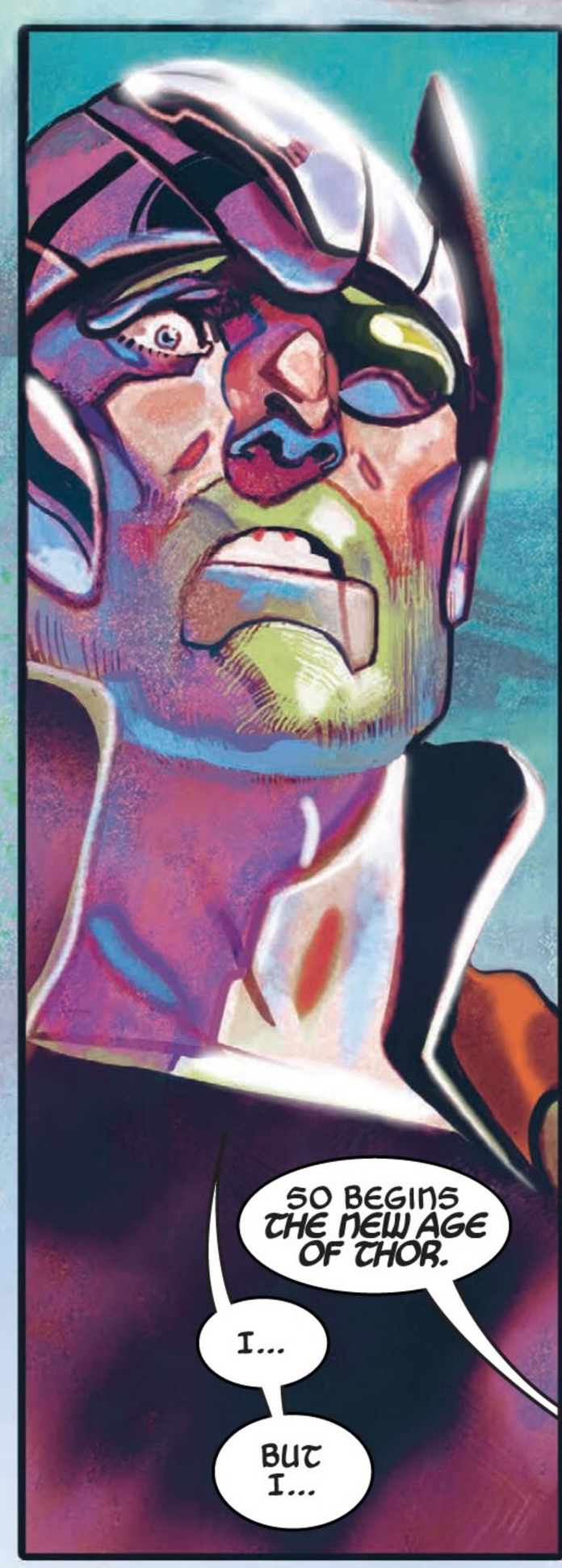
MALEKITH THE ACCURSED IS DEAD.
THE INVADING ARMIES OF HIS DARK CABAL HAVE FALLEN.
THE WAR OF THE REALMS HAS ENDED, AND MIDGARD IS SAVED.
THE MIGHTY THOR STANDS VICTORIOUS, HIS MJOLNIR RETURNED TO HIS HAND AFTER WHAT SEEMS LIKE YEARS WITHOUT IT.
AT LONG LAST, HE IS ONCE MORE PROVED WORTHY. AND RESTORED TO HIS FULL THUNDEROUS GLORY.
SO WHY DOES HE FIND HIMSELF SUDDENLY OVERCOME...
...WITH ABSOLUTE DREAD?

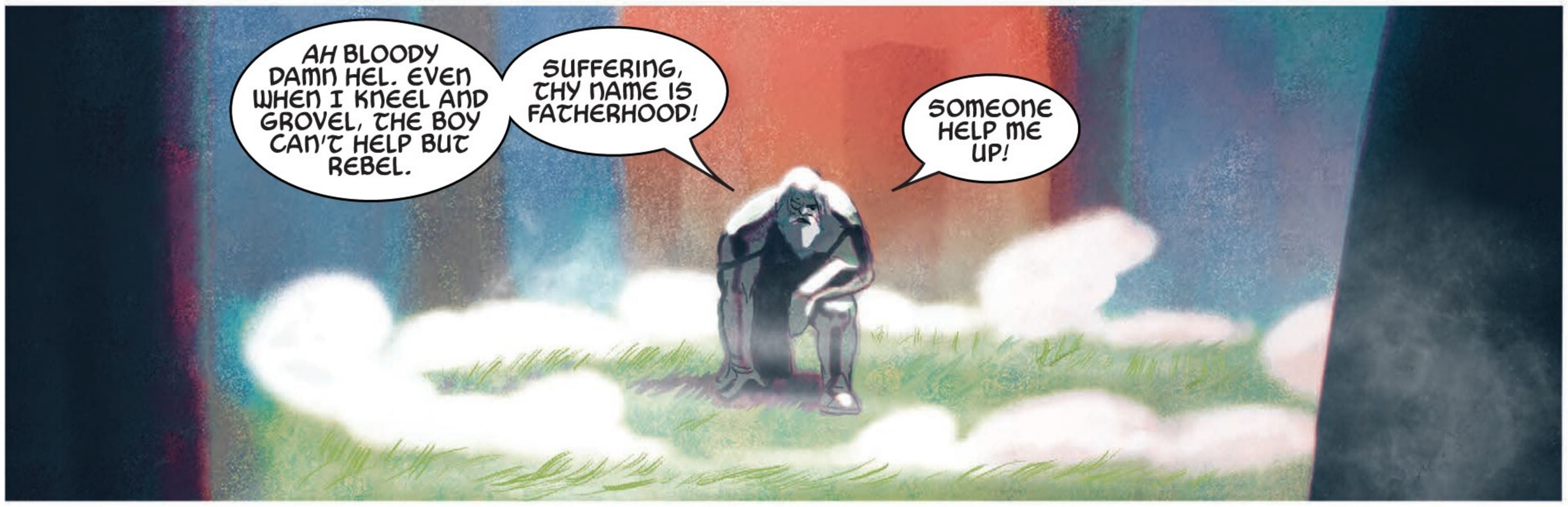
PERHAPS BECAUSE OF THE WORDS NOW POURING FROM HIS FATHER'S MOUTH.

ALL HAIL ALL-FATHER THOR.

LORD OF ASGARD.

SAVIOR OF THE REALMS.

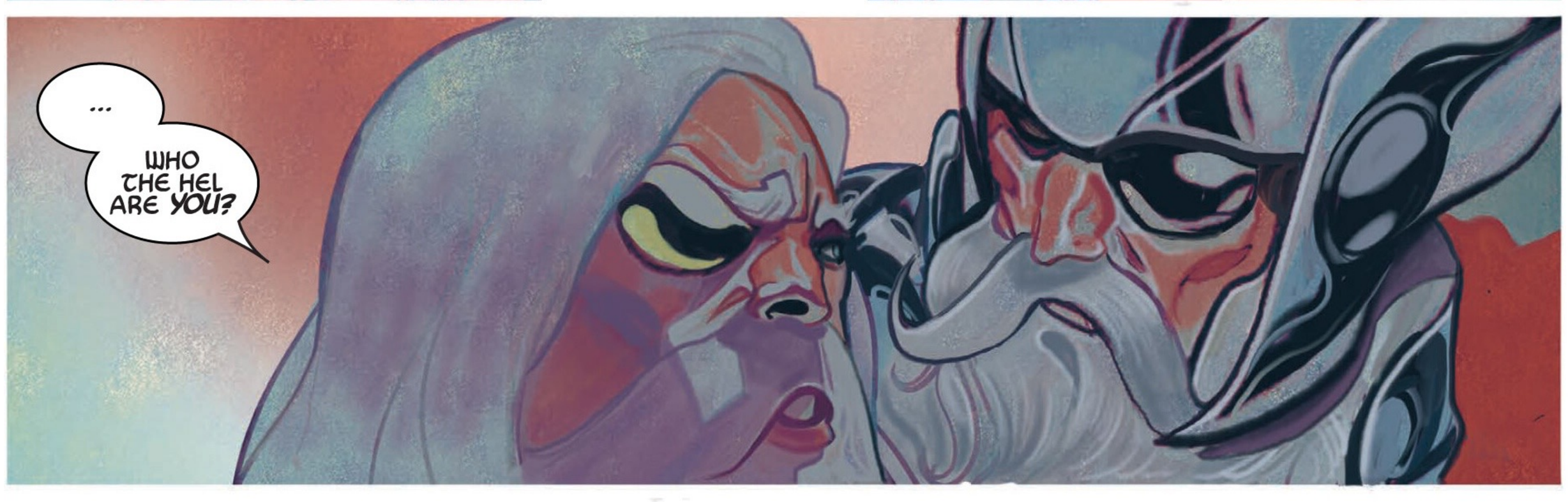



AH BLOODY DAMN HEL. EVEN WHEN I KNEEL AND GROVEL, THE BOY CAN'T HELP BUT REBEL.
SUFFERING, THY NAME IS FATHERHOOD!
SOMEONE HELP ME UP!

LADY JANE, WHAT HAVE YOU DONE TO YOURSELF?
WHAT HAPPENED TO THE HAMMER OF THE WAR THOR?
IT BROKE APART AS I WAS CALLING IT BACK... AND I...

I ABSORBED IT.
I THINK... IT'S A PART OF ME NOW.

MALEKITH'S DEFINITELY DEAD. TORN TO PIECES BY HIS OWN DOGS. WHAT SHOULD WE DO WITH THEM? PUT THEM DOWN OR GIVE THEM MEDALS?
DON'T TAKE YOUR SON'S REJECTION TOO HARD, ODIN. HE'S HAD A TOUGH WAR. GIVE HIM A WHILE TO COME AROUND.
HMPH. BOY GAVE HIS EYE FOR WISDOM. PERHAPS HE SHOULD'VE GIVEN THEM BOTH FOR ALL HE'S...

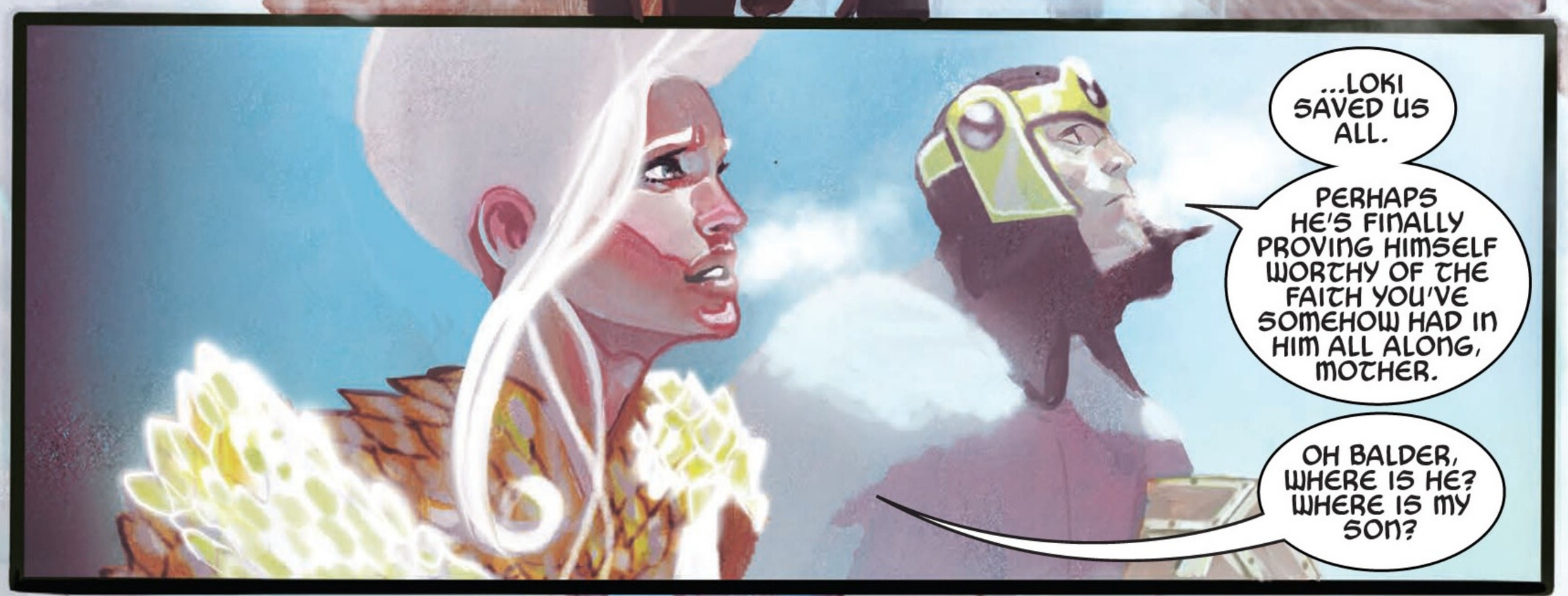

...
WHO THE HEL ARE YOU?

After carving a trail of destruction through the Ten Realms, the War of Wars has been stopped in the last realm standing.
Midgard.
Now the healing begins.
Sindr of Muspelheim. You are under arrest in the name of Asgard.
And Queens!
You will answer for your war crimes before a tribunal of the realms.
Heh. You think those were crimes? That was me just getting started.
The grieving.

LOKI IS ALIVE.

ALIVE ENOUGH TO HAVE SLAIN HIS FATHER.

LAUFEY WAS EMPOWERED WITH THE CASKET OF ANCIENT WINTERS. HE WOULD'VE FROZEN THE ENTIRE REALM. I CANNOT BELIEVE I'M SAYING THIS, BUT...



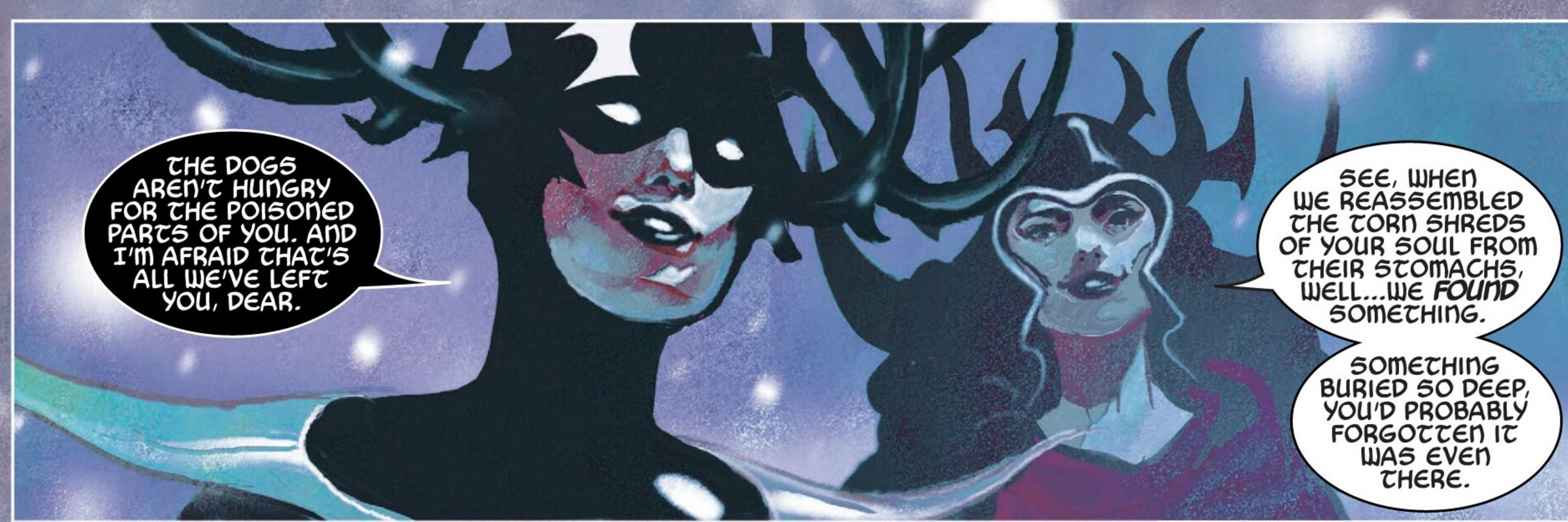
"WHERE IS LOKI, HERO OF THE REALMS?"
JOTUNHEIM. REALM OF GIANTS.
KING LAUFEY IS DEAD. THE FIERCEST OF ALL THE FROST GIANTS HAS FALLEN IN THE WAR OF THE REALMS AT THE HANDS OF HIS GREATEST ENEMY.
ME.
HIS LOVING LITTLE SON.
DO YOU FROZEN FOOLS KNOW WHAT THAT MEANS?!
ALL HAIL LOKI, KING OF THE FROST GIANTS!
HEH. DADDY WOULD BE SO PROUD.
IF I HADN'T CARVED HIS HEART OUT FROM THE INSIDE.

NIFFLEHEIM.
LAND OF THE DEAD.
no.
NOT THE SHORE OF CORPSES.
NOT THIS WRETCHED, ELF-FORSAKEN PLACE.
NOT AGAIN.
I AM NOT GOING BACK IN THE PIT OF WOE.
I AM MALEKITH THE ACCURSED, AND NO PRISON CAN HOLD ME!
NOT EVEN DEATH!
YOU'RE QUITE RIGHT.

YOU ESCAPED FROM THE HALL OF NASTROND ONCE BEFORE. THE SPIDER WARDENS ARE STILL QUITE CROSS ABOUT THAT.
BUT THE REALM OF THE DEAD IS UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT NOW. AND THE QUEENS OF HEL HAVE OTHER PLANS FOR THE GRAND ARCHITECT OF THE GREATEST WAR IN HISTORY.
HELA. KARNILLA. IT WILL TAKE FAR MORE THAN MY BEING TORN APART BY DOGS BEFORE I'M WILLING TO BOW BEFORE YOU OR ANYONE ELSE IN THESE BOG-DAMNED REALMS.
OH MALEKITH. ARROGANT EVEN IN THE FACE OF UTTER DEFEAT AND RUIN.
DEATH ALONE, NO MATTER HOW HORRIBLE AND HUMILIATING, SIMPLY ISN'T ENOUGH TO HUMBLE AN EGOMANIAC OF YOUR CALIBER, IS IT?
THAT'S WHY YOU WON'T BE GOING TO THE HALL OF NASTROND. AND AS FOR THOSE DOGS YOU SPOKE OF...

DID YOU KNOW THEY ALL DROPPED DEAD SOON AFTER EATING YOU? APPARENTLY ALL THAT DARK MAGIC ROTTING YOUR INSIDES PROVED QUITE POISONOUS TO THEM.
STRANGELY ENOUGH, IT ALSO LEFT THEM... STARVING FOR MORE.

HA. SO THIS IS YOUR PLAN? TO HAVE ME DEVOURED BY MY OWN WAR BEASTS OVER AND OVER AGAIN FOR ALL ETERNITY?
NOT BAD. I DO RESPECT YOUR ATTEMPT AT DEPRAVITY.
BUT YOU WILL NEVER BREAK ME. NOT WITH A THOUSAND DOGS AND A BILLION ETERNITIES.
HEH. HE DOESN'T REALIZE, KARNILLA, DOES HE?


THE DOGS AREN'T HUNGRY FOR THE POISONED PARTS OF YOU. AND I'M AFRAID THAT'S ALL WE'VE LEFT YOU, DEAR.
SEE, WHEN WE REASSEMBLED THE TORN SHREDS OF YOUR SOUL FROM THEIR STOMACHS, WELL...WE FOUND SOMETHING.
SOMETHING BURIED SO DEEP, YOU'D PROBABLY FORGOTTEN IT WAS EVEN THERE.

WE WEREN'T SURE WHAT IT WAS AT FIRST... SO...WE ASKED IT.
MOTHER OF MAGGOTS, IT CAN'T BE...
AND IT TOLD US QUITE A TRAGIC TALE.

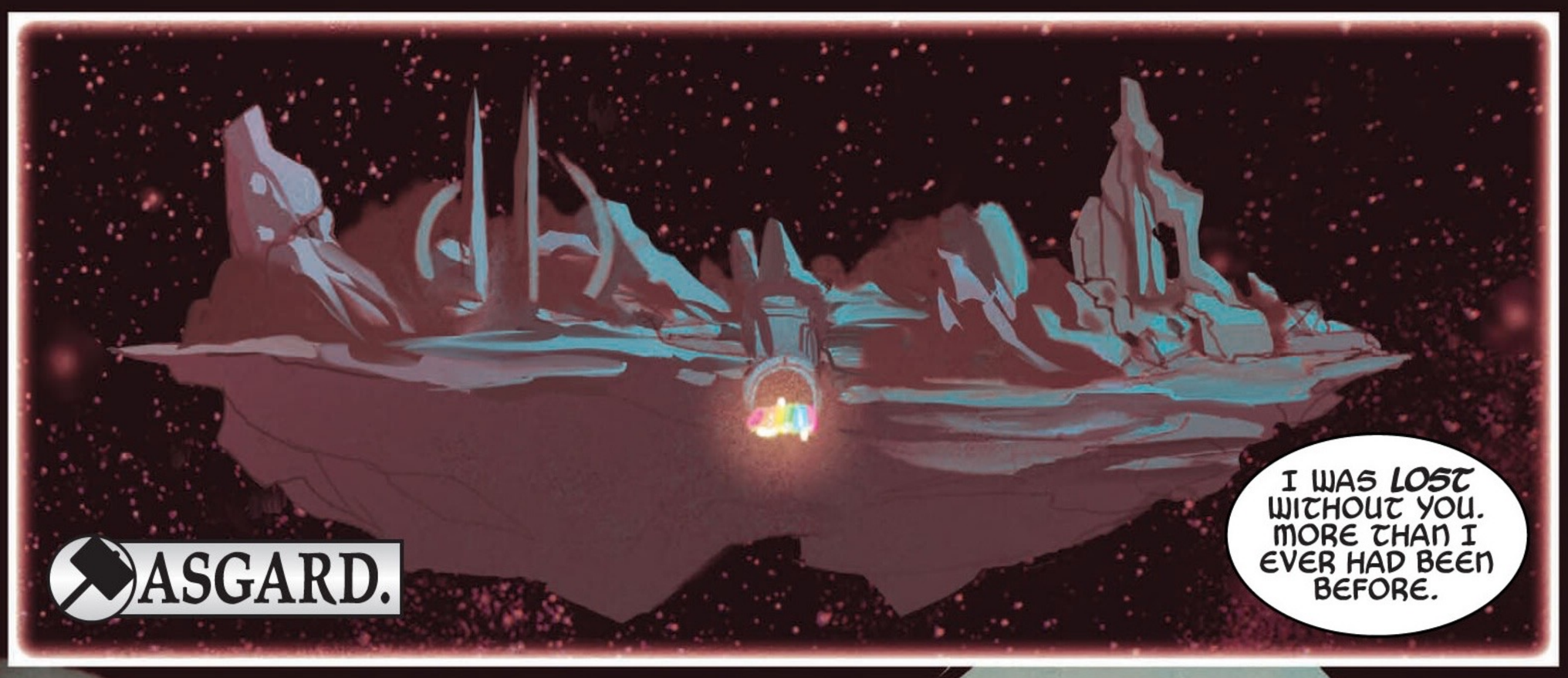
IS THE WAR FINALLY OVER?
CAN I STOP BURNING BODIES NOW?

A TALE OF A YOUNG ELF SOLD INTO SLAVERY.
FOR TWO SACKS OF SNAKE LIVERS AND HALF A BARREL OF PICKLED TOADS.
SOLD BY HIS OWN MOTHER.
SOLD INTO WAR.
NO... HE'S...ME AS A BOY.
WAR IS THE FIRE THAT FORGES ELVES' SOULS. SO LONG AS MALEKITH LIVES, THERE WILL ALWAYS BE WAR.

AND THERE MUST ALWAYS BE WAR. FOR WITHOUT WAR... WHAT ARE YOU?
YOU MONSTERS! HE'S ALL I HAVE LEFT OF MYSELF!
MY TRUE SELF. LEAVE HIM BE!

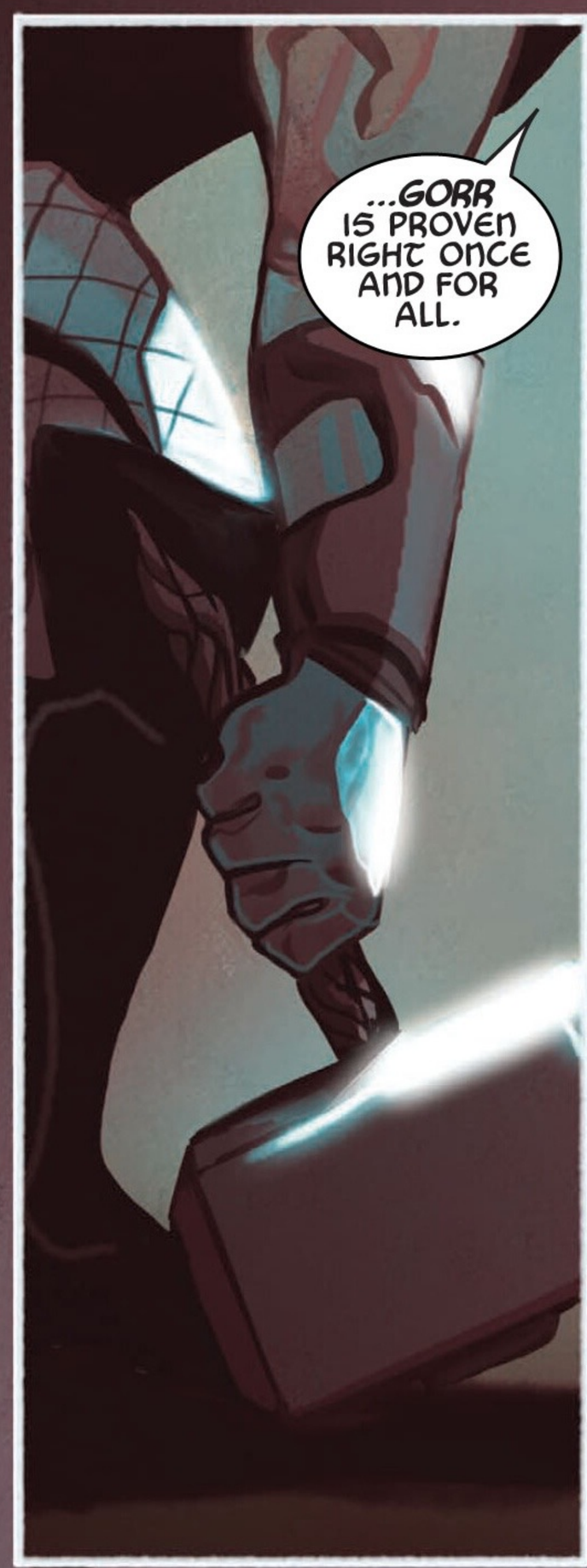
HE'S WHY YOU FIGHT. HE'S WHY YOU'LL NEVER STOP WAGING WAR, EVEN IN DEATH.
SO IF WE WANT TO MAKE YOU SUFFER, TRULY SUFFER--
AND WE DO.
--IF WE WANT TO END YOUR WAR ONCE AND FOR ALL...THE ANSWER IS CLEAR.
THE DOGS WON'T BE SPENDING ETERNITY WITH YOU, MALEKITH.

THEY'LL BE WITH HIM.
NOOOO!!!
DID...DID I DO SOMETHING WRONG?



'TWAS A HARD LESSON TO LEARN. ESPECIALLY FOR A GOD WHO MOVES MOONS AND HOLDS THUNDERSTORMS IN HIS HANDS.

EVEN AFTER ALL THESE MANY YEARS, AFTER A LIFE LIVED AMONG THE HIGHEST HEAVENS AND THE NETHERMOST HELLS...



YOU ARE ALIVE. JUST AS SURE AS YOU'VE GIVEN LIFE TO ME.

WE ARE BOUND IN BLOOD AND THUNDER FOREVER, MY FRIEND. BOTH OF US REBORN, RENEWED.

AND NOW, WITH THE GREAT WAR FINALLY AT AN END, TOGETHER WE MUST DECIDE...

...WHO WE ARE MEANT TO BE.

I CAN ANSWER THAT FOR YOU.

YOU'RE MEANT TO BE *ME*, THOR.

THE KING OF ASGARD.

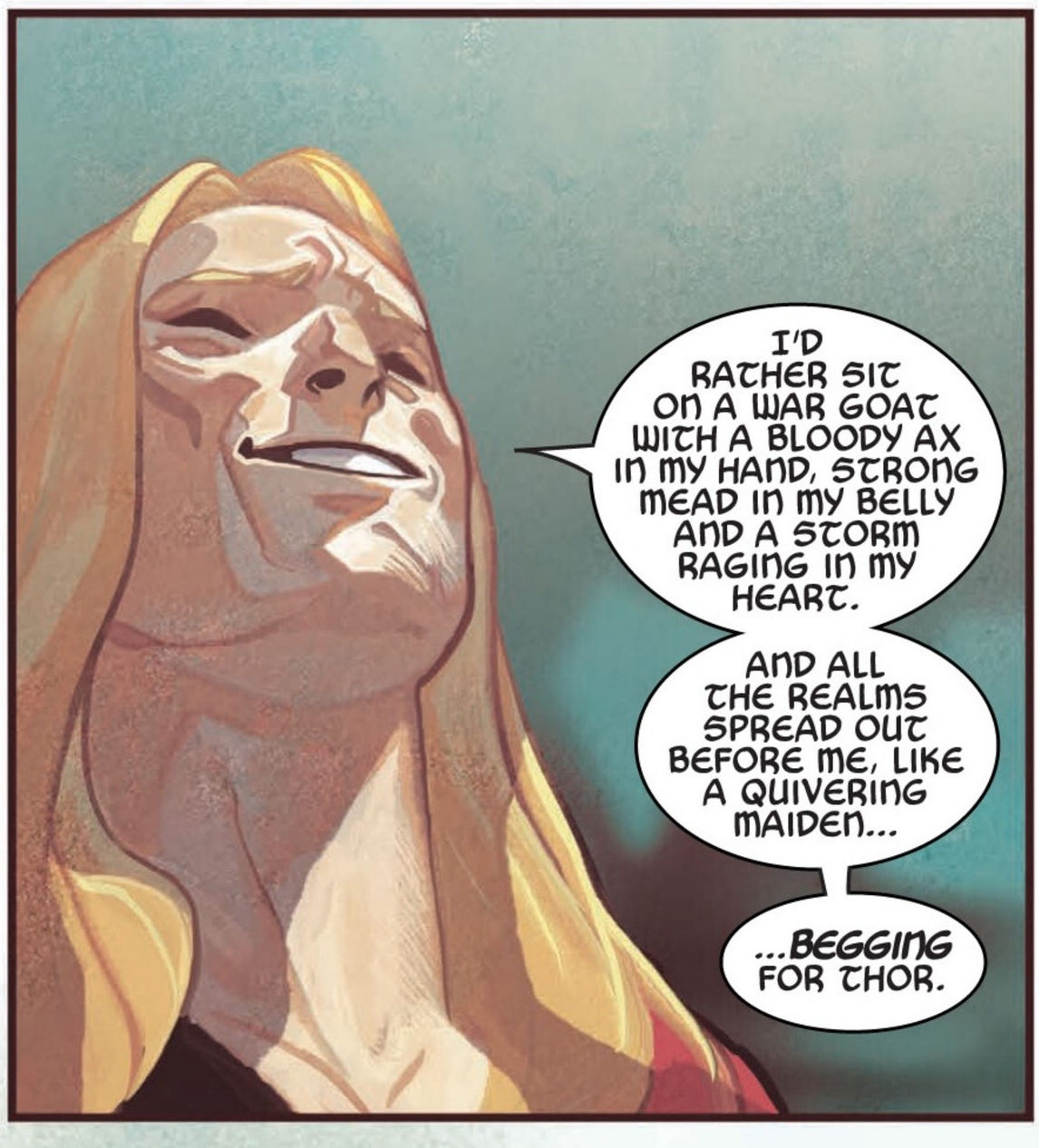
THE GREATEST ALL-FATHER WHO EVER LIVED.

AND ALSO THE WORST.

BUT I'LL LET YOU FIGURE THAT PART OUT FOR YOURSELF.

TO HEL WITH ADORNING CHAIRS!

I DON'T WANT TO GROW UP TO BE EITHER DAMN ONE OF YOU!


I'D RATHER SIT ON A WAR GOAT WITH A BLOODY AX IN MY HAND, STRONG MEAD IN MY BELLY AND A STORM RAGING IN MY HEART.
AND ALL THE REALMS SPREAD OUT BEFORE ME, LIKE A QUIVERING MAIDEN...
...BEGGING FOR THOR.

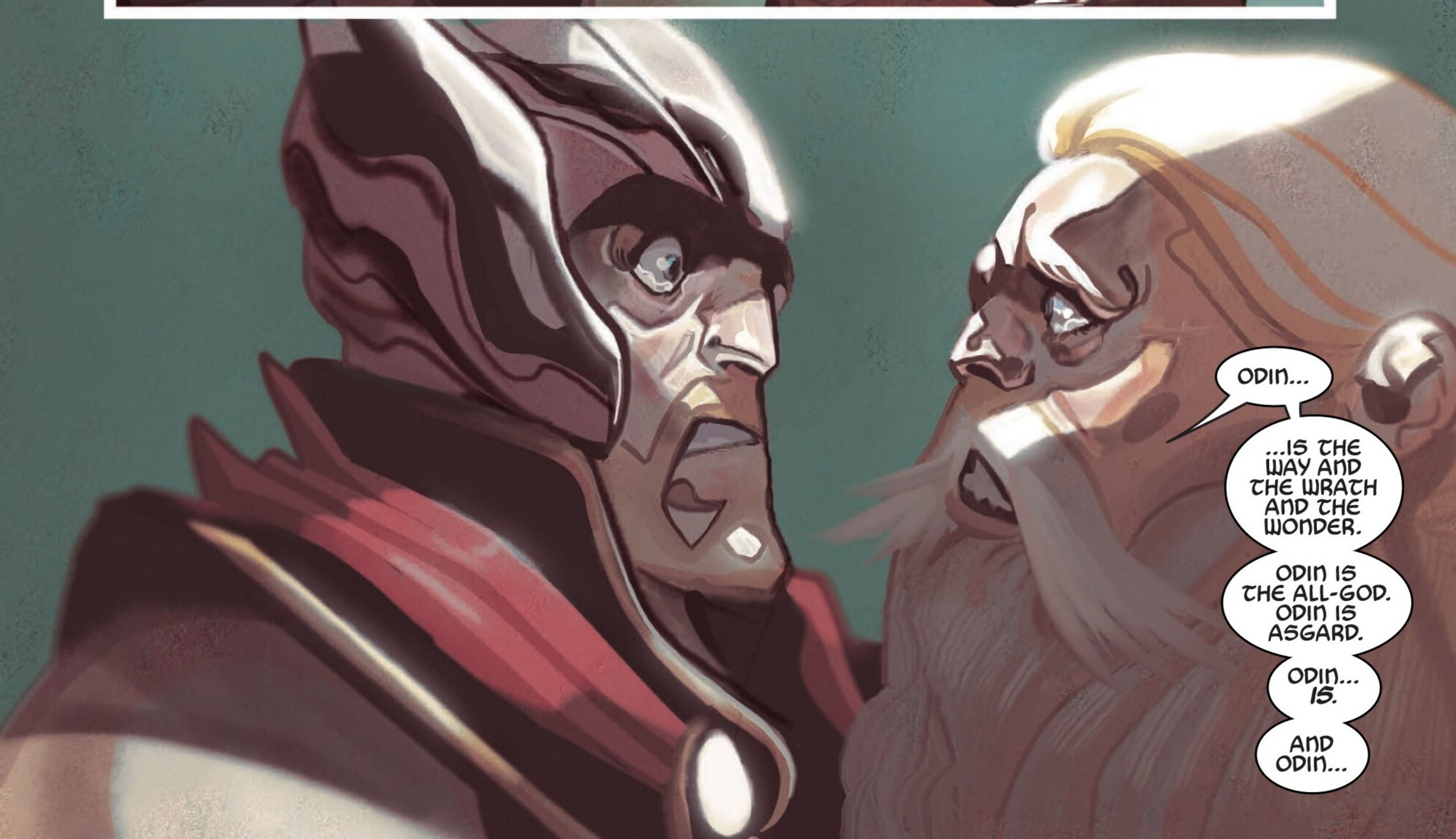
BEGGING YOU TO SHUT YOUR CHILDISH MOUTH, NO DOUBT.
GODS, TO THINK OF ALL THE YEARS I SQUANDERED, BEING AS YOUNG AND FOOLISH AS YOU.
BETTER A YOUNG FOOL THAN A WITHERED OLD ONE! PERHAPS IT'S TIME I PUT MYSELF OUT OF MY STINKING--
STOP IT!

THIS ISN'T ABOUT EITHER OF YOU. IT'S ABOUT ME.
AND WHILE THERE MAY BE A VESTIGE OF EACH OF YOU INSIDE ME, I AM STILL MY OWN THOR.

I WILL NEVER ABANDON THE REALMS.
YET I CANNOT TURN MY BACK ON ASGARD. ESPECIALLY NOW, IN ITS HOUR OF GREATEST RUIN.
BUT IF THIS IS THE PATH I MUST WALK...I FEAR THERE IS STILL ONE THING I NEED.

I KNOW WHAT YOU NEED, THUNDER GOD.

I'VE ALWAYS KNOWN.
I WAS JUST TOO WEAK, TOO MUCH OF A DAMNED COWARD.
BUT NOT ANYMORE.


ODIN...
...IS THE WAY AND THE WRATH AND THE WONDER.
ODIN IS THE ALL-GOD. ODIN IS ASGARD.
ODIN... IS.
AND ODIN...

ODIN IS PROUD OF YOU, THOR.
IN THE NAME OF ALL THE GODS...
...I AM PROUD OF MY SON.
THE HORRORS OF WAR SOMETIMES BRING MORE THAN RUIN.
WAR CAN GIVE BIRTH TO MIRACLES AS WELL.

And war can bring advancement. Destiny fulfilled.

All right.

So I'm finally the greatest giant in all of Jotunheim.

Now what?

New leases on life. Through death.

There must always be...

...a Valkyrie.

The spawning of almighty new legends.

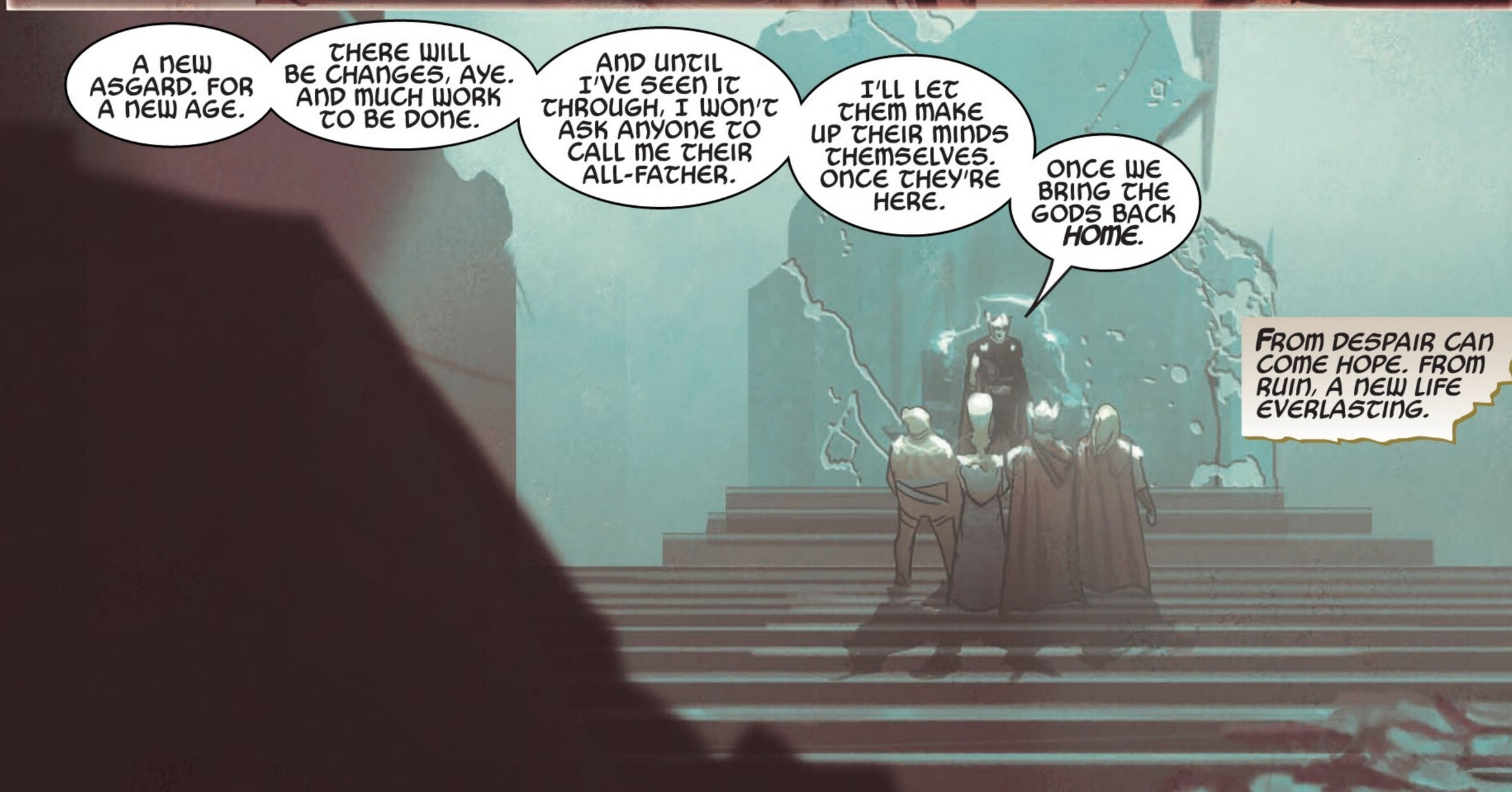
If I do this, if I take this throne... know...

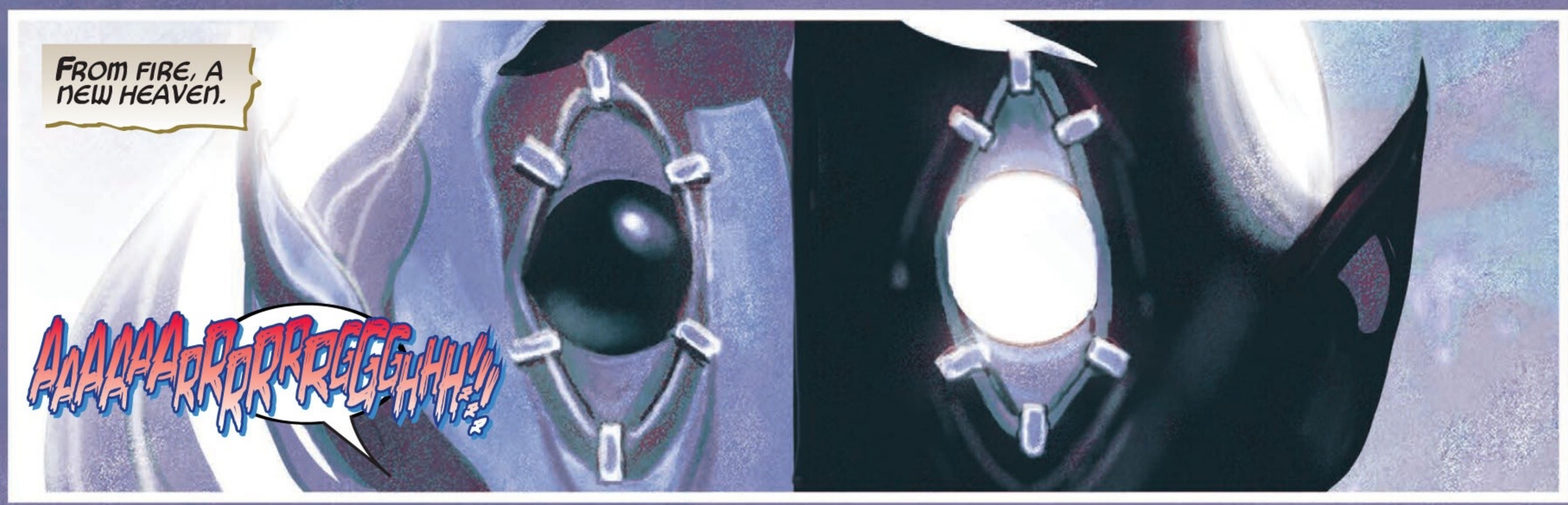
...I cannot do it alone.

AYE. TOGETHER WE WILL REBUILD THESE RUINS.
ONCE WE'VE CLEANED UP OUR MESS IN MIDGARD.
WE WILL MAKE ASGARD THE GOLDEN REALM ETERNAL ONCE AGAIN.
NO.

IF I AM TO BE THE ALL-FATHER... WE WILL MAKE OF THIS REALM... SOMETHING NEW.
SO BE IT. SO LONG AS YOU DON'T GO CHANGING TOO--

HUSBAND.
I'M DOING IT ALREADY, AREN'T I?
THEY SAY IT'S HARD TO TEACH AN OLD ALL-FATHER NEW TRICKS.
THEY ALSO SAY THAT WHAT'S OLD AND THOUGHT LOST...CAN BE MADE NEW AGAIN.
THAT THEY DO, MY LOVE. THAT THEY DO.


A NEW ASGARD. FOR A NEW AGE.
THERE WILL BE CHANGES, AYE. AND MUCH WORK TO BE DONE.
AND UNTIL I'VE SEEN IT THROUGH, I WON'T ASK ANYONE TO CALL ME THEIR ALL-FATHER.
I'LL LET THEM MAKE UP THEIR MINDS THEMSELVES. ONCE THEY'RE HERE.
ONCE WE BRING THE GODS BACK HOME.
FROM DESPAIR CAN COME HOPE. FROM RUIN, A NEW LIFE EVERLASTING.


FROM FIRE, A NEW HEAVEN.
AAAAAARRRRRRGGGHHH!!

FROM HORROR, A BEAUTY TO BOGGLE THE MIND AND TAKE THE BREATH AWAY, EVEN AMONG THE BREATHLESS.
NOOOOOOO!!! MAKE IT STOP!!! PLEASE, I BEG YOU, I'LL DO ANYTHING!!!
JUST PLEASE DON'T MAKE ME WATCH!!!

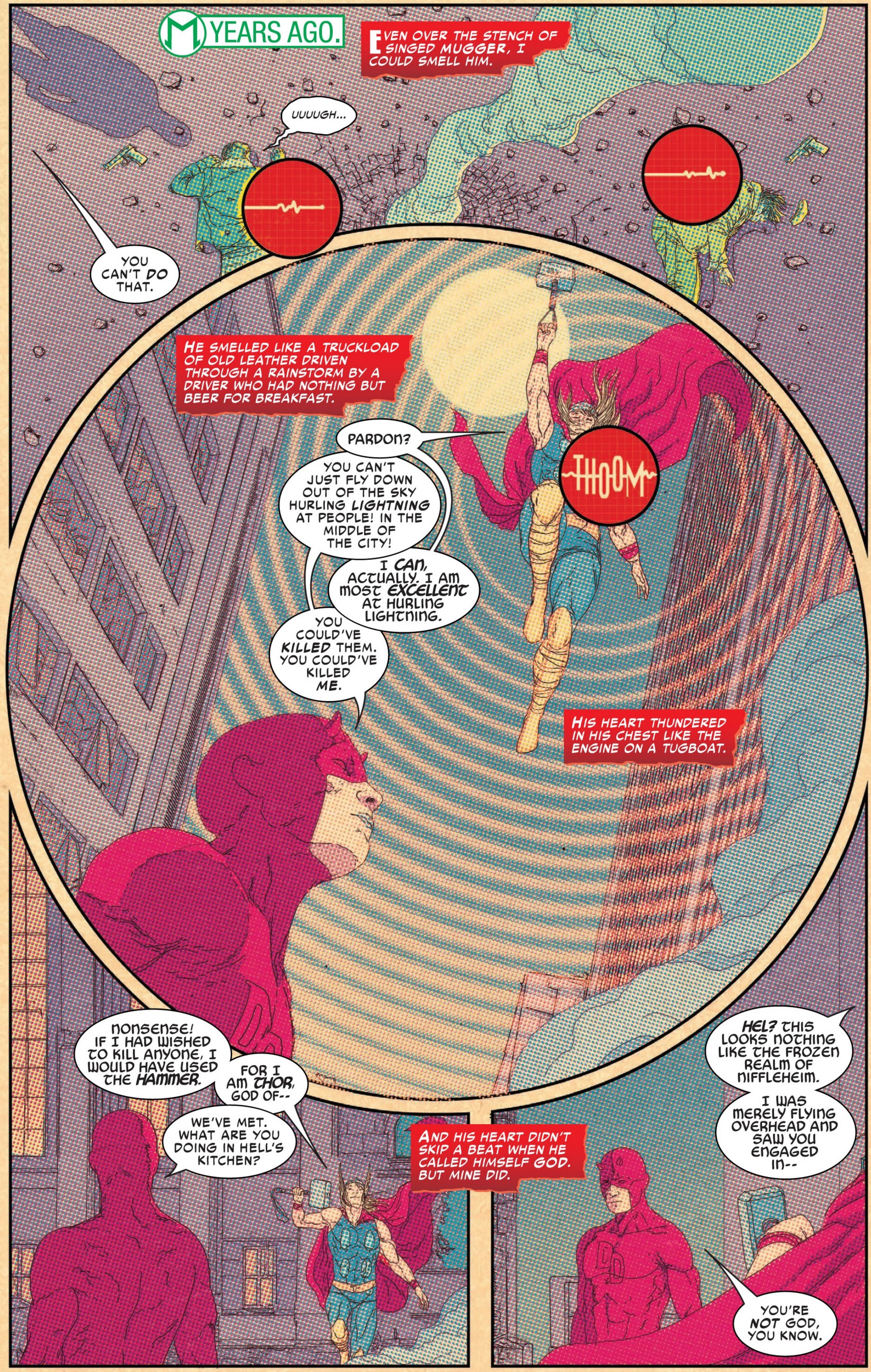
FROM SUFFERING COMES JUSTICE.
HRRRAAAAGGH!!!
NICE TOUCH SEWING HIS EYES OPEN.
YES, I DO BELIEVE WE'VE FOUND THE PERFECT PUNISHMENT FOR THE ARCHITECT OF THE WAR OF THE REALMS.
FORCED TO LOOK UPON HIS GREATEST HORROR FOR ALL ETERNITY. I BELIEVE THIS CALLS FOR A TOAST.

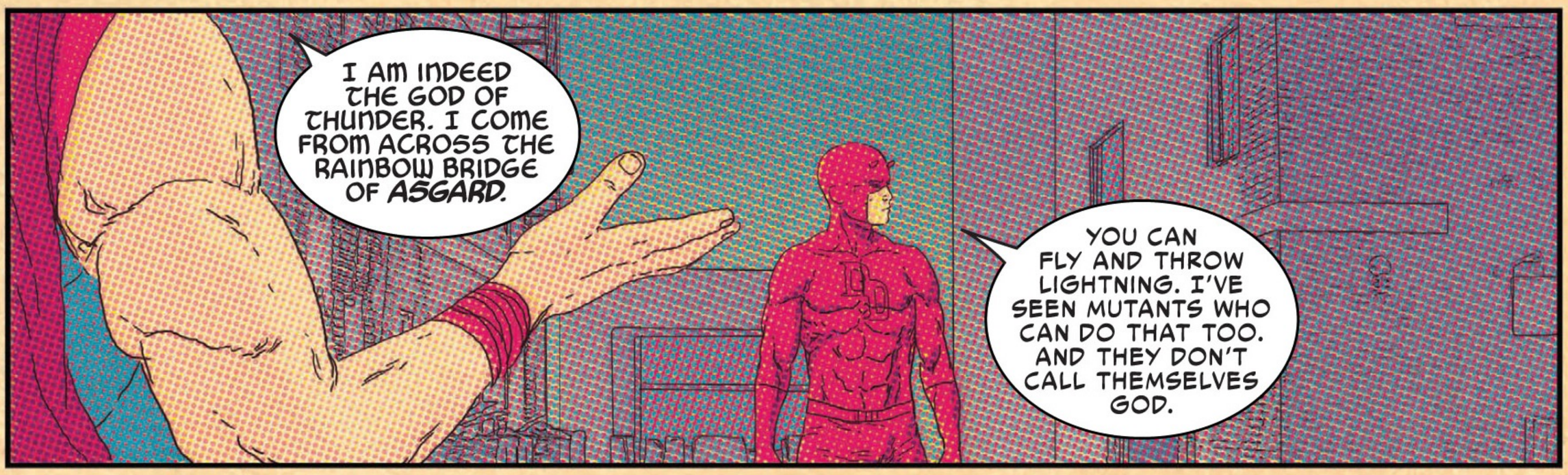
FROM SIN, DIVINE RETRIBUTION.
HERE'S TO MALEKITH THE ACCURSED. LONG MAY HE SUFFER.
INDEED.
AND HERE'S TO MALEKITH THE ELF BOY, THE CORPSE BURNER, THE WAR SLAVE...

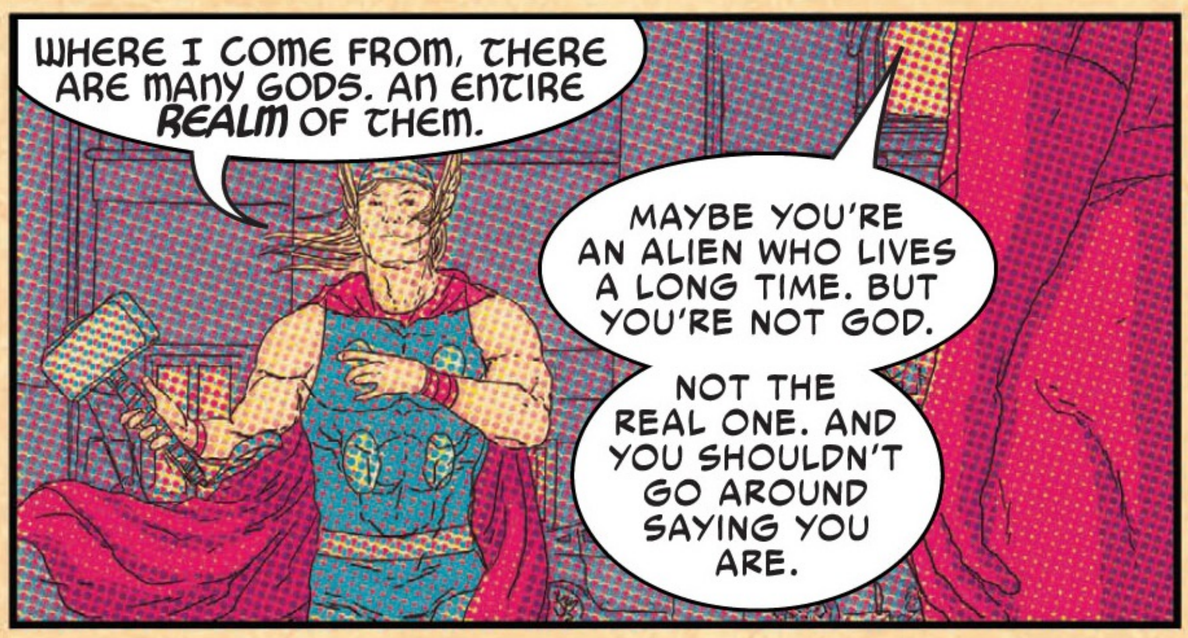
Through war comes peace.
Long may he frolic.
And freedom never-ending.
Never-ending, like the screams of Malekith.
Screaming for the loss of his self.
And the horror of what could have been.
AAAAAAAAARRRRGGGHH!!

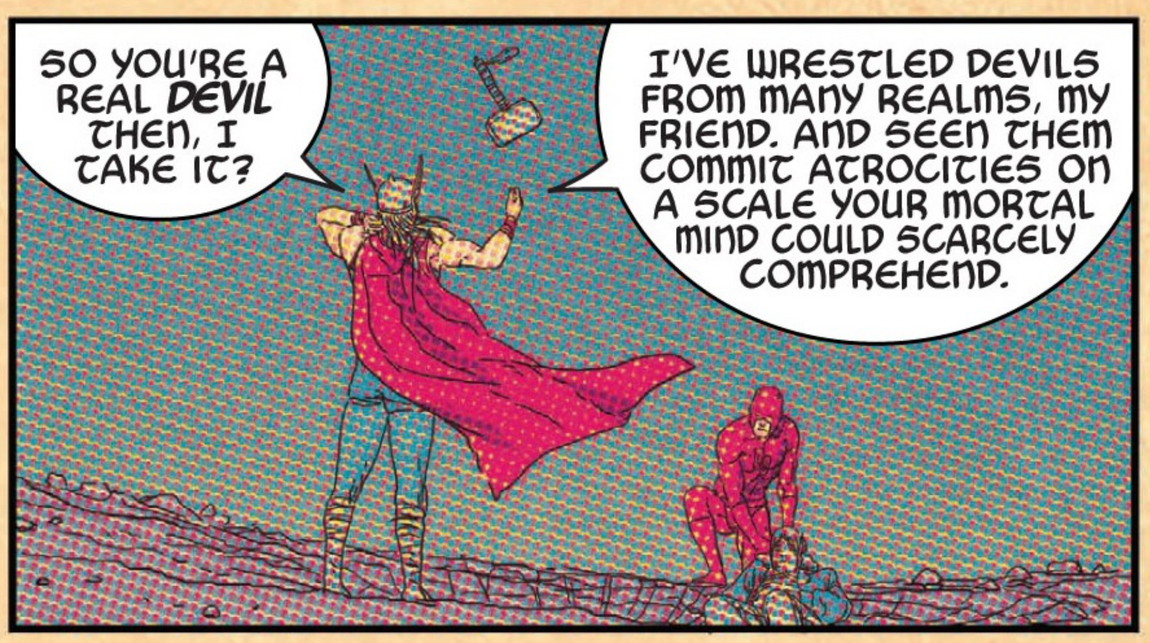
WAR OF THE REALMS: WAR SCROLLS #1

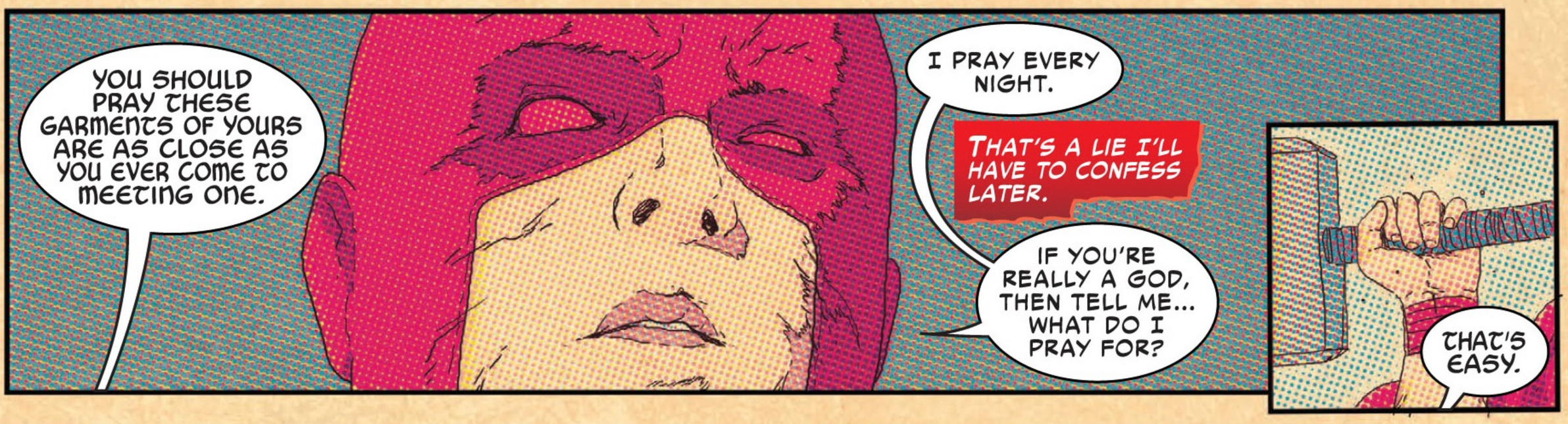
The God without Fear · The Warriors Three (Or Four)
Nice Shot, Frank · Waugh of the Realms

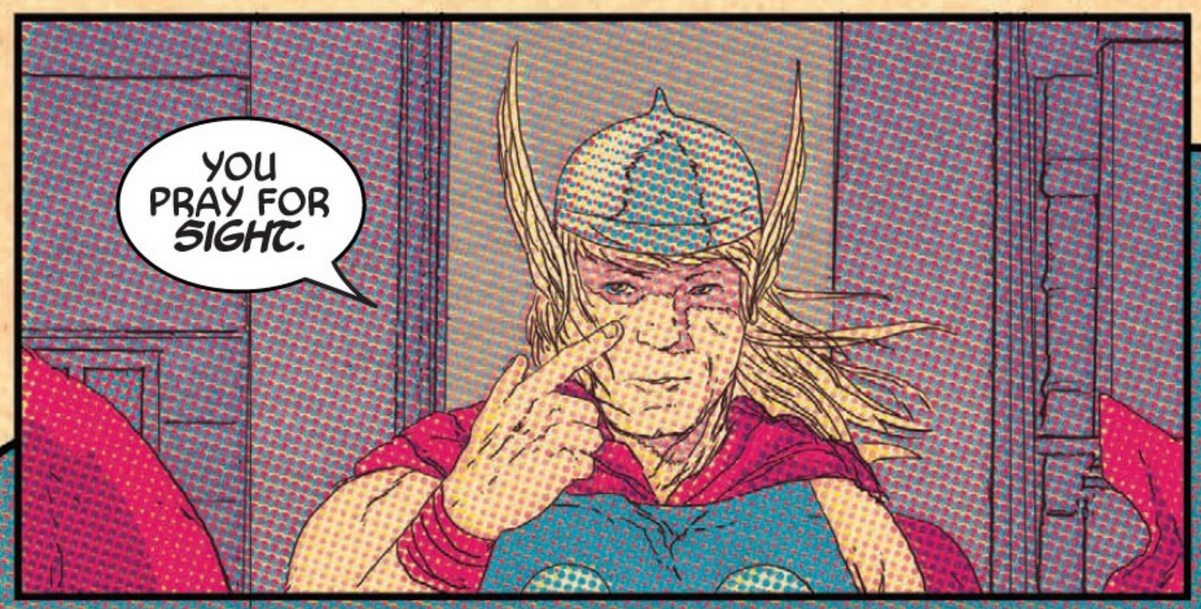

YEARS AGO.
EVEN OVER THE STENCH OF SINGED MUGGER, I COULD SMELL HIM.
UUUUGH...
YOU CAN'T DO THAT.
HE SMELLED LIKE A TRUCKLOAD OF OLD LEATHER DRIVEN THROUGH A RAINSTORM BY A DRIVER WHO HAD NOTHING BUT BEER FOR BREAKFAST.
PARDON?
YOU CAN'T JUST FLY DOWN OUT OF THE SKY HURLING LIGHTNING AT PEOPLE! IN THE MIDDLE OF THE CITY!
I CAN, ACTUALLY. I AM MOST EXCELLENT AT HURLING LIGHTNING.
YOU COULD'VE KILLED THEM. YOU COULD'VE KILLED ME.
THOOM
HIS HEART THUNDERED IN HIS CHEST LIKE THE ENGINE ON A TUGBOAT.
NONSENSE! IF I HAD WISHED TO KILL ANYONE, I WOULD HAVE USED THE HAMMER.
FOR I AM THOR, GOD OF--
WE'VE MET. WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN HELL'S KITCHEN?
AND HIS HEART DIDN'T SKIP A BEAT WHEN HE CALLED HIMSELF GOD. BUT MINE DID.
HEL? THIS LOOKS NOTHING LIKE THE FROZEN REALM OF NIFFLEHEIM.
I WAS MERELY FLYING OVERHEAD AND SAW YOU ENGAGED IN--
YOU'RE NOT GOD, YOU KNOW.

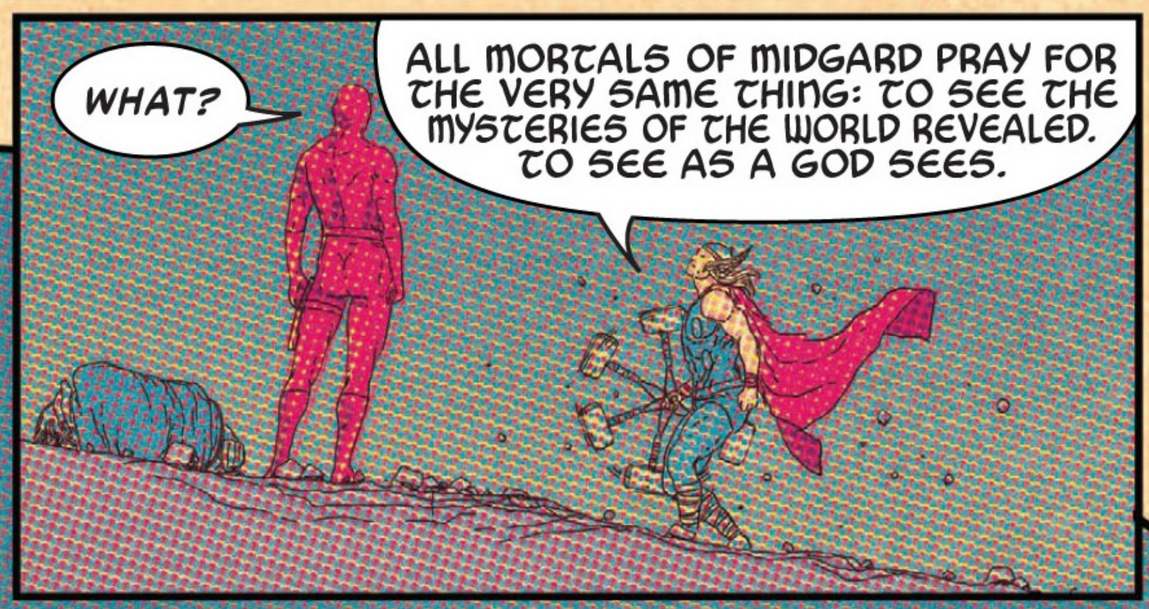

I AM INDEED THE GOD OF THUNDER. I COME FROM ACROSS THE RAINBOW BRIDGE OF ASGARD.
YOU CAN FLY AND THROW LIGHTNING. I'VE SEEN MUTANTS WHO CAN DO THAT TOO. AND THEY DON'T CALL THEMSELVES GOD.

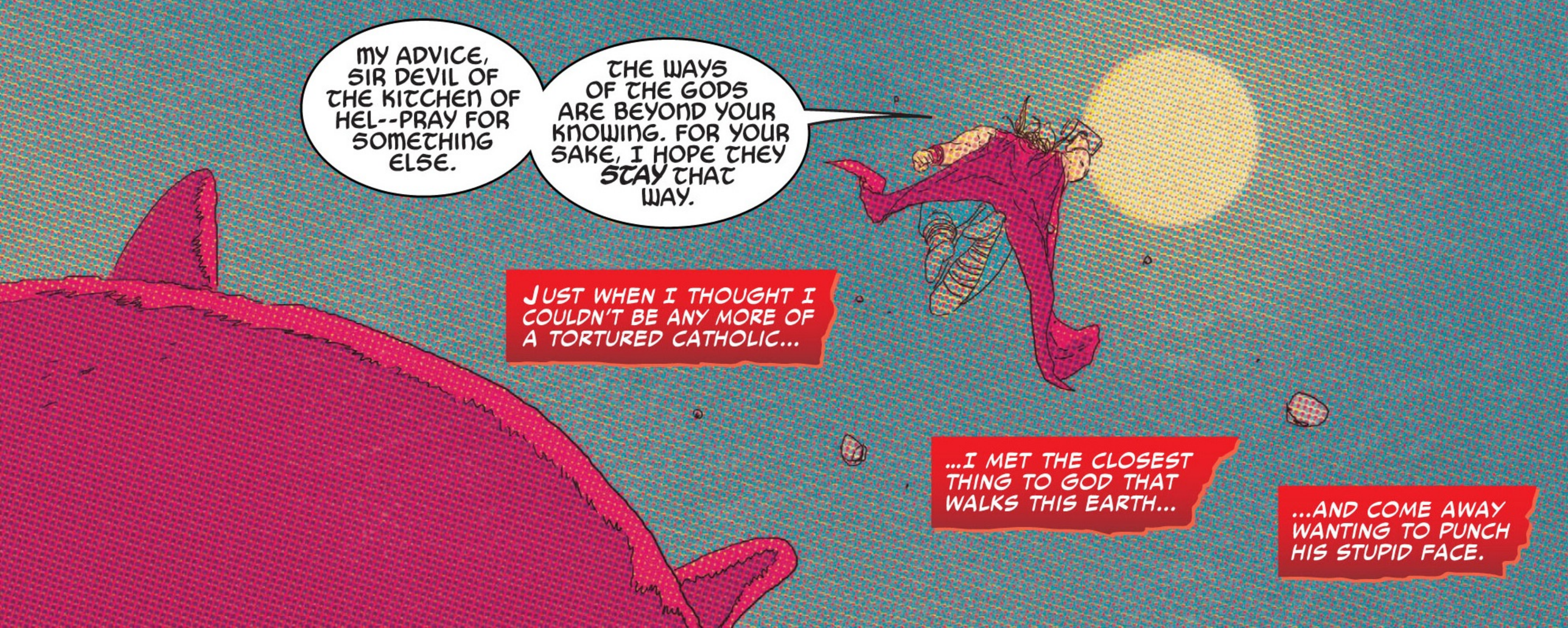

WHERE I COME FROM, THERE ARE MANY GODS. AN ENTIRE REALM OF THEM.
MAYBE YOU'RE AN ALIEN WHO LIVES A LONG TIME. BUT YOU'RE NOT GOD.
NOT THE REAL ONE. AND YOU SHOULDN'T GO AROUND SAYING YOU ARE.


SO YOU'RE A REAL DEVIL THEN, I TAKE IT?
I'VE WRESTLED DEVILS FROM MANY REALMS, MY FRIEND. AND SEEN THEM COMMIT ATROCITIES ON A SCALE YOUR MORTAL MIND COULD SCARCELY COMPREHEND.

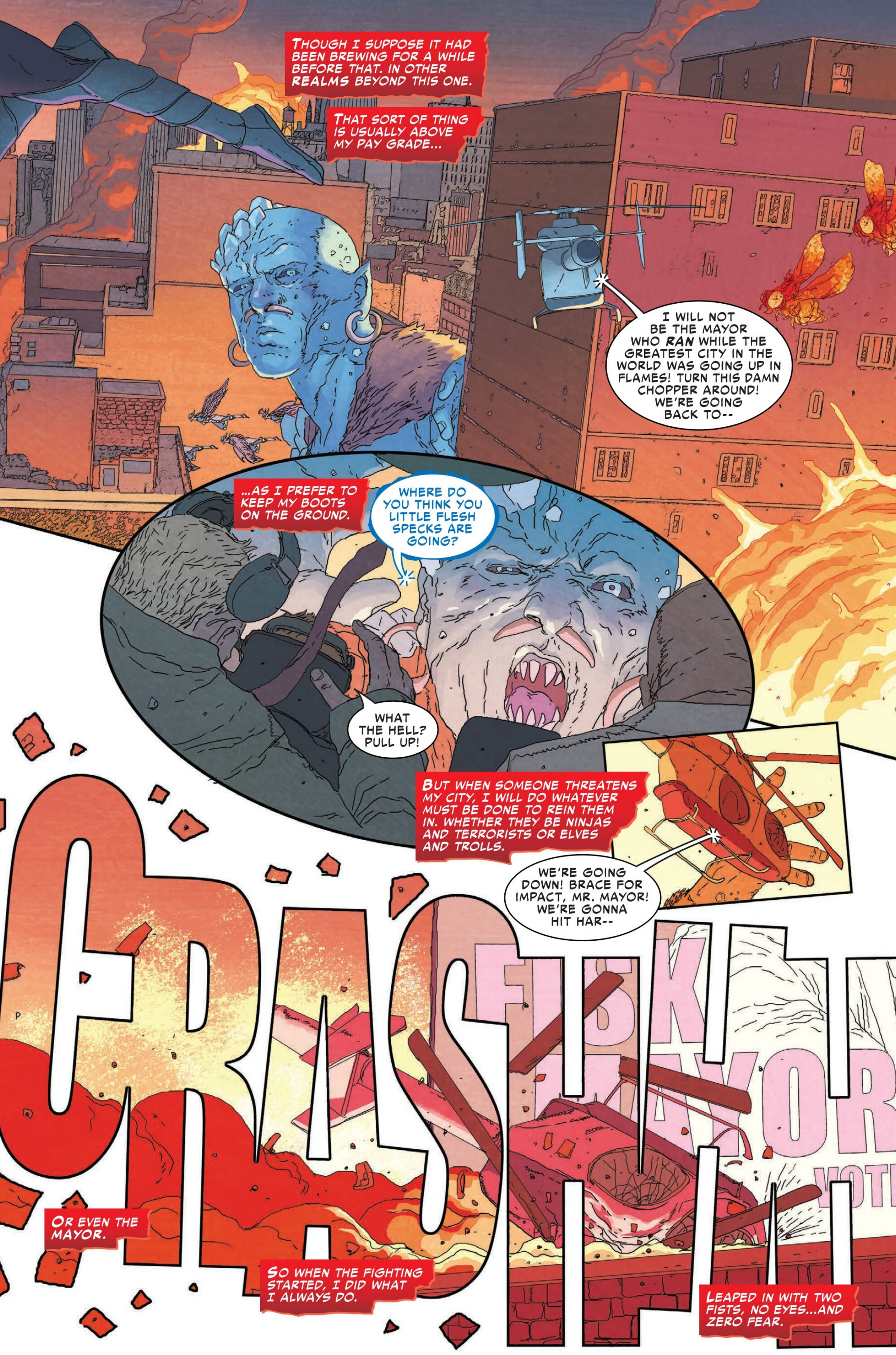

YOU SHOULD PRAY THESE GARMENTS OF YOURS ARE AS CLOSE AS YOU EVER COME TO MEETING ONE.
I PRAY EVERY NIGHT.
THAT'S A LIE I'LL HAVE TO CONFESS LATER.
IF YOU'RE REALLY A GOD, THEN TELL ME... WHAT DO I PRAY FOR?
THAT'S EASY.


YOU PRAY FOR SIGHT.


WHAT?
ALL MORTALS OF MIDGARD PRAY FOR THE VERY SAME THING: TO SEE THE MYSTERIES OF THE WORLD REVEALED. TO SEE AS A GOD SEES.


MY ADVICE, SIR DEVIL OF THE KITCHEN OF HEL--PRAY FOR SOMETHING ELSE.
THE WAYS OF THE GODS ARE BEYOND YOUR KNOWING. FOR YOUR SAKE, I HOPE THEY STAY THAT WAY.
JUST WHEN I THOUGHT I COULDN'T BE ANY MORE OF A TORTURED CATHOLIC...
...I MET THE CLOSEST THING TO GOD THAT WALKS THIS EARTH...
...AND COME AWAY WANTING TO PUNCH HIS STUPID FACE.

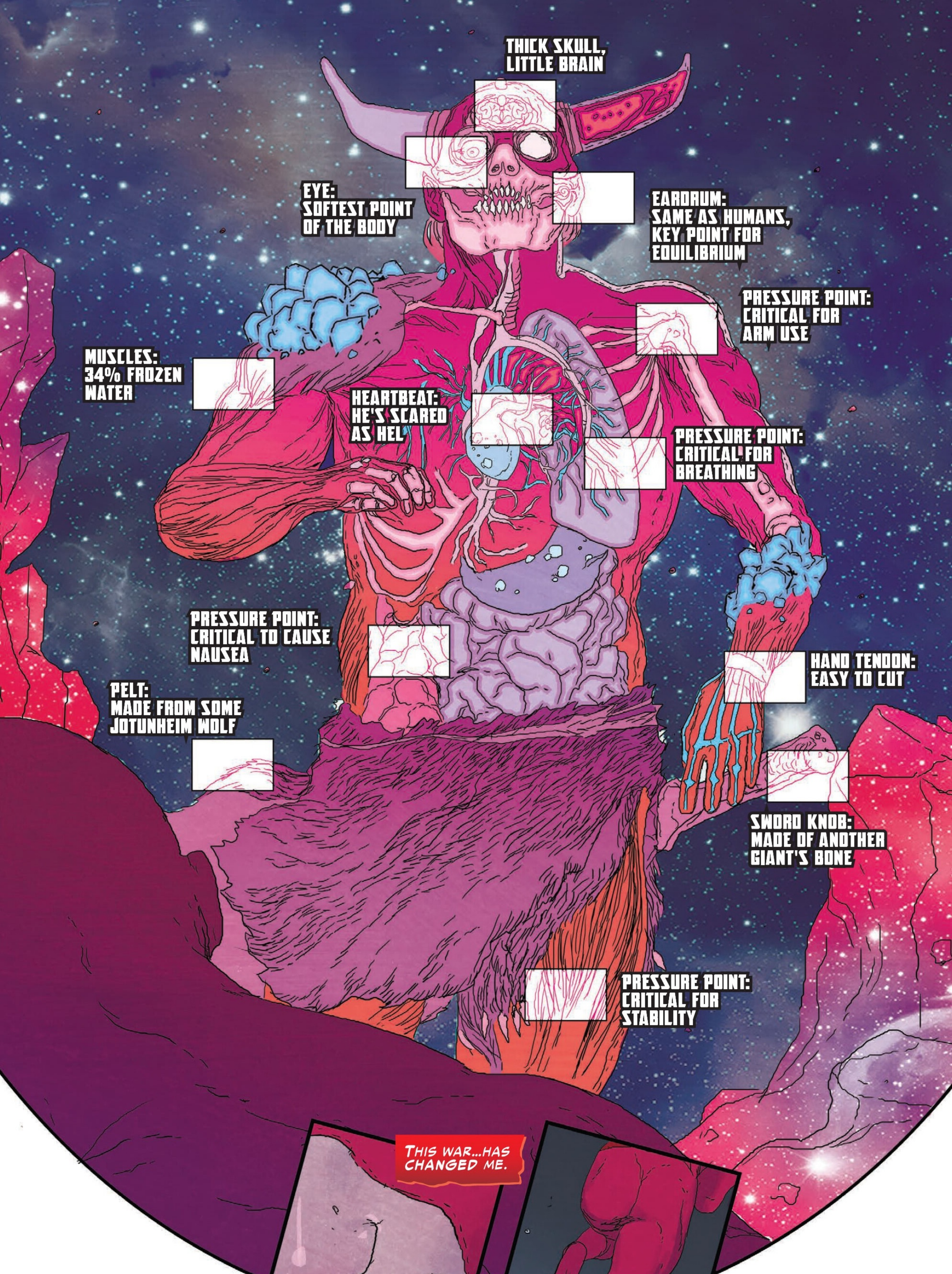
DAYS AGO.
WE ARE EN ROUTE TO JFK! I WANT THE MAYOR'S PLANE PREPPED AND READY FOR TAKEOFF!
NOW! THIS IS A NOT A DRILL!
CANCEL THAT. I AM NOT ABANDONING THE CITY.
MAYOR FISK, WE HAVE NO IDEA OF THE SCALE OF THIS THING, EXCEPT THAT IT IS EXPANDING RAPIDLY! WE HAVE TO GET YOU TO SAFETY!
HMPH. ONE LOOK AT THIS MADNESS AND EVEN AN IDIOT LIKE YOU SHOULD KNOW...
...THERE WON'T BE A SAFE PLACE ON EARTH.
IT STARTED WHEN AN ARMY OF OTHERWORLDLY MONSTERS SHOWED UP IN TIMES SQUARE.

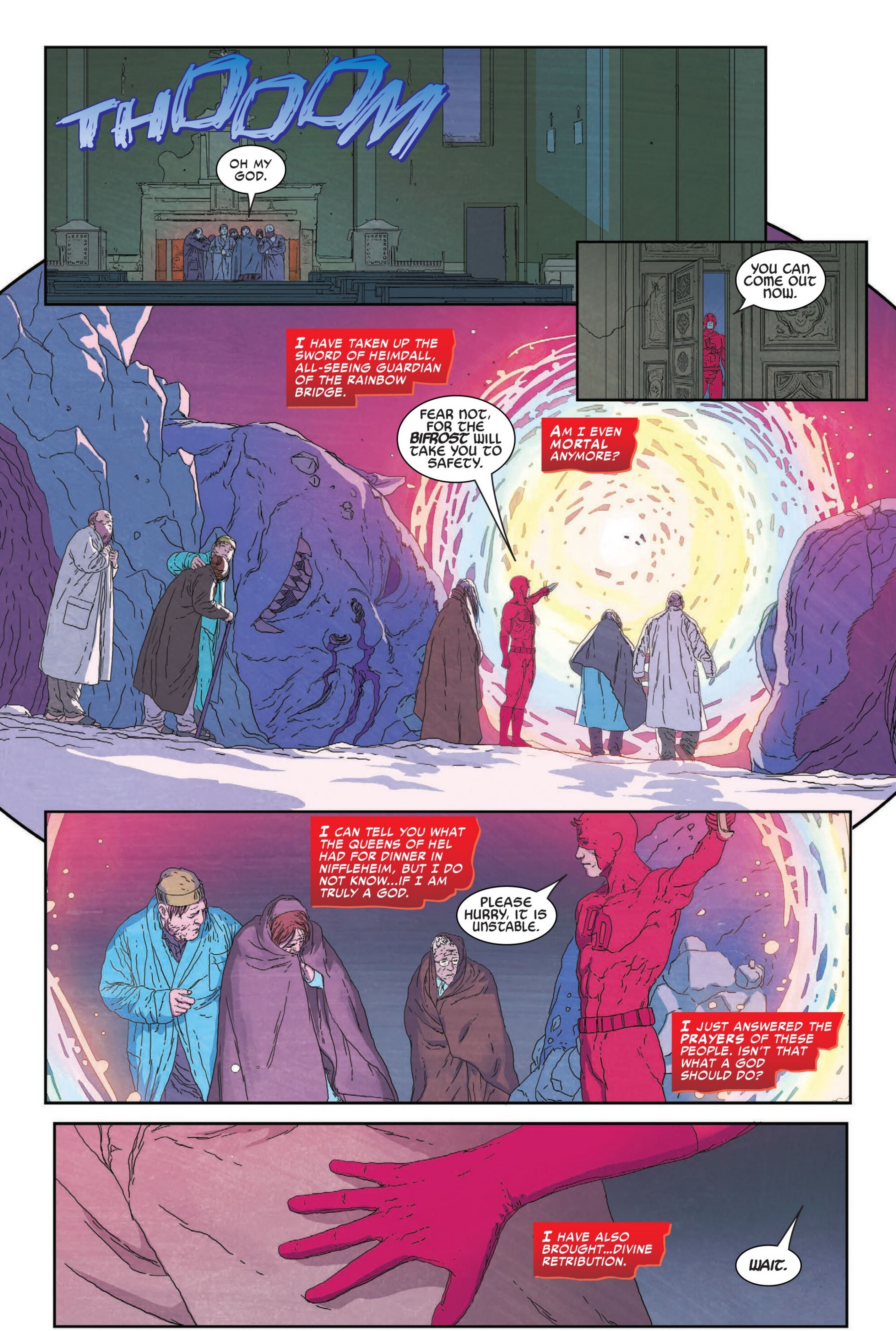

THOUGH I SUPPOSE IT HAD BEEN BREWING FOR A WHILE BEFORE THAT. IN OTHER REALMS BEYOND THIS ONE.
THAT SORT OF THING IS USUALLY ABOVE MY PAY GRADE...
I WILL NOT BE THE MAYOR WHO RAN WHILE THE GREATEST CITY IN THE WORLD WAS GOING UP IN FLAMES! TURN THIS DAMN CHOPPER AROUND! WE'RE GOING BACK TO--
...AS I PREFER TO KEEP MY BOOTS ON THE GROUND.
WHERE DO YOU THINK YOU LITTLE FLESH SPECKS ARE GOING?
WHAT THE HELL? PULL UP!
BUT WHEN SOMEONE THREATENS MY CITY, I WILL DO WHATEVER MUST BE DONE TO REIN THEM IN. WHETHER THEY BE NINJAS AND TERRORISTS OR ELVES AND TROLLS.
WE'RE GOING DOWN! BRACE FOR IMPACT, MR. MAYOR! WE'RE GONNA HIT HAR--
CRASH
OR EVEN THE MAYOR.
SO WHEN THE FIGHTING STARTED, I DID WHAT I ALWAYS DO.
LEAPED IN WITH TWO FISTS, NO EYES...AND ZERO FEAR.

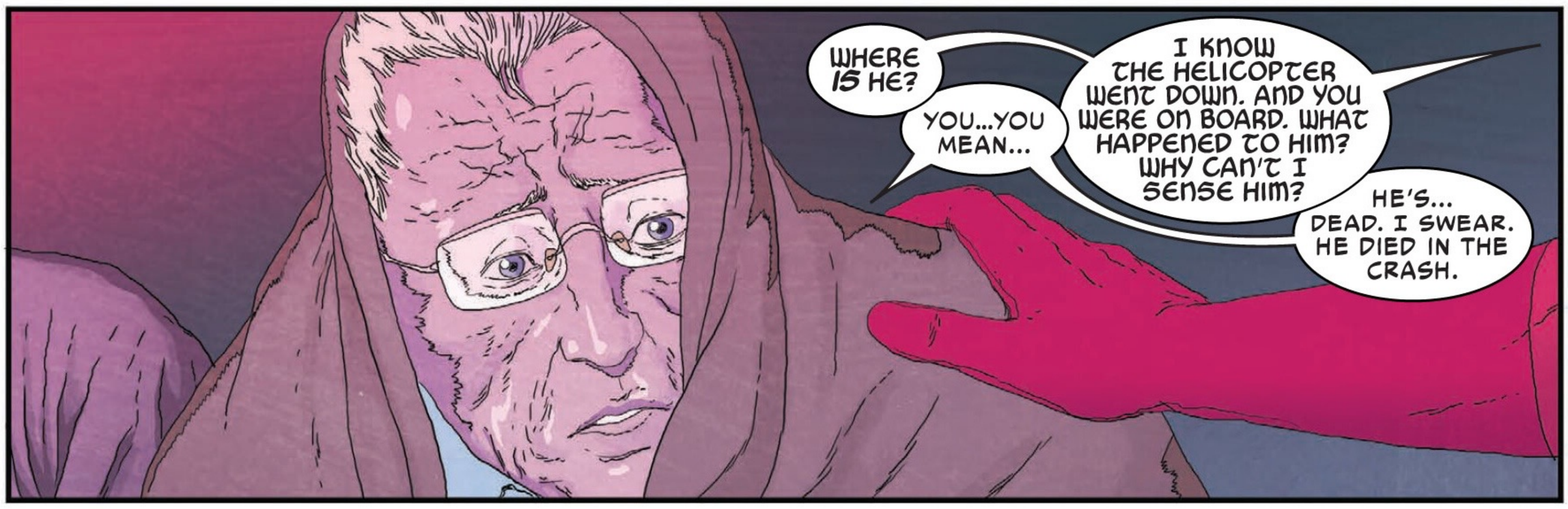
NOW.
GOD HELP ME. THAT SEEMS LIKE A MILLION YEARS AGO NOW.
DEAR GOD. PLEASE DELIVER US FROM THIS RUIN.
PLEASE, LORD.
DEAR LORD, PLEASE SAVE YOUR SERVANTS.
GOD, PLEASE SEND AN ANGEL.
I KNEW I SMELLED SOME WARM LITTLE NUGGETS!
NO!!!
ONCE THE WAR ERUPTED, DOCTOR STRANGE AND THE AVENGERS DID THEIR BEST TO EVACUATE THE CIVILIANS.
HA, I THINK THE MORTALS WANT TO PLAY!
HOW ABOUT HIDE AND STOMP!
BUT IN A CITY OF EIGHT MILLION PEOPLE, THERE WERE BOUND TO BE SOME STRAGGLERS LEFT BEHIND.
RRRRGHA!!

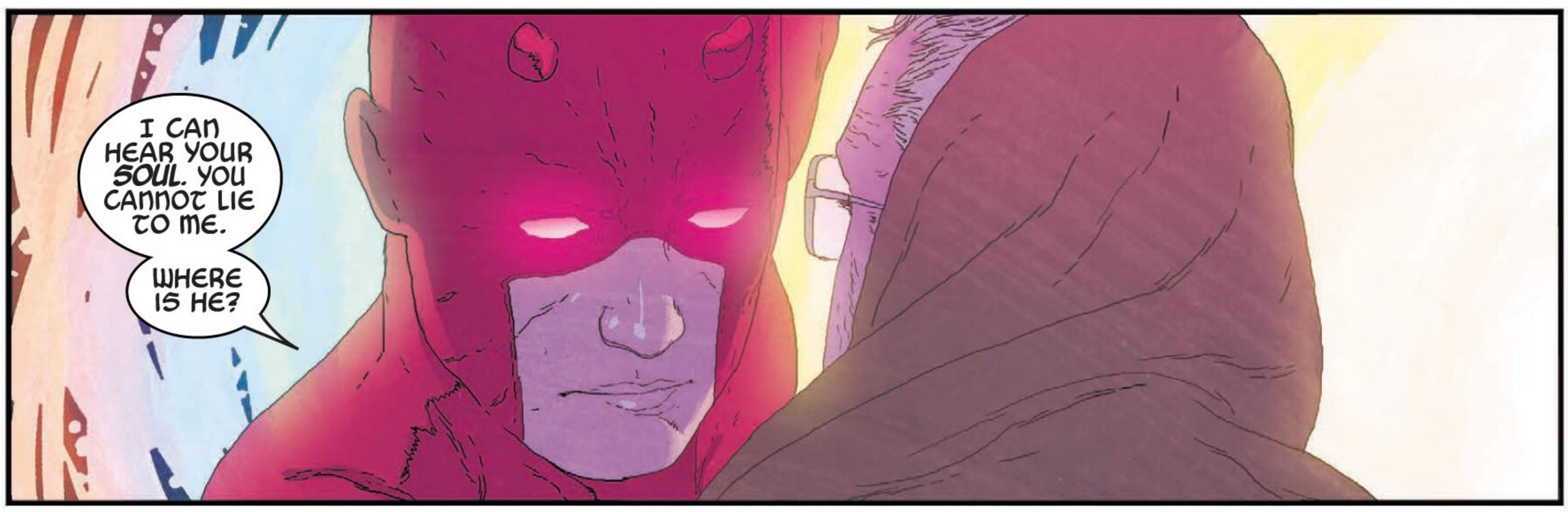
SHHHK
DAMN. THAT'S GONNA HURT WHEN I SOBER UP.
WHAT THE HEL ARE YOU SUPPOSED TO BE?
I'VE BEEN TRACKING THEM DOWN, LISTENING FOR HEARTBEATS. BUT IT'S BEEN HARDER THAN USUAL TO PICK THEM OUT.
AND THAT'S NOT BECAUSE OF THE NOISE OF A CITY OVERRUN WITH FROST GIANTS.
IT'S BECAUSE I DON'T JUST HEAR FIVE BOROUGHS.
STAND DOWN.
I HEAR TEN REALMS.
IN THE NAME OF ASGARD.

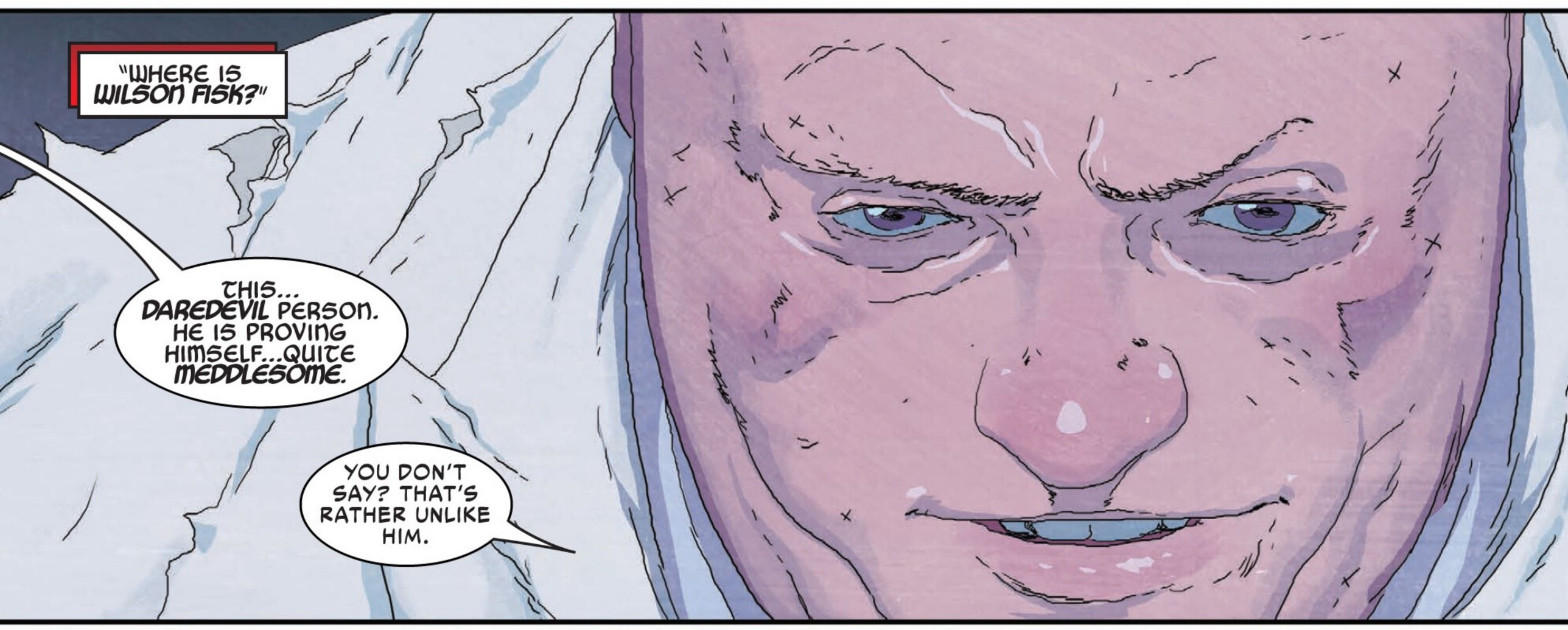
I HEAR DWARVES SHARPENING THEIR AXES IN THE CAVES OF NIDAVELLIR.
KILL THE LITTLE DEVIL BUG!
DARK ELVES CACKLING IN THE SWAMPS OF SVARTALFHEIM.
THOR SCREAMING IN JOTUNHEIM.
BUT I FORCE MYSELF TO FOCUS ON THE RUSH OF ICY BLOOD THROUGH THE ARTERIES OF THESE GIANTS.
THE SHATTERING OF BONE, LIKE CRACKS IN A FROZEN POND.
THE RUPTURING OF TENDONS.
THE PULSING OF PRESSURE POINTS.

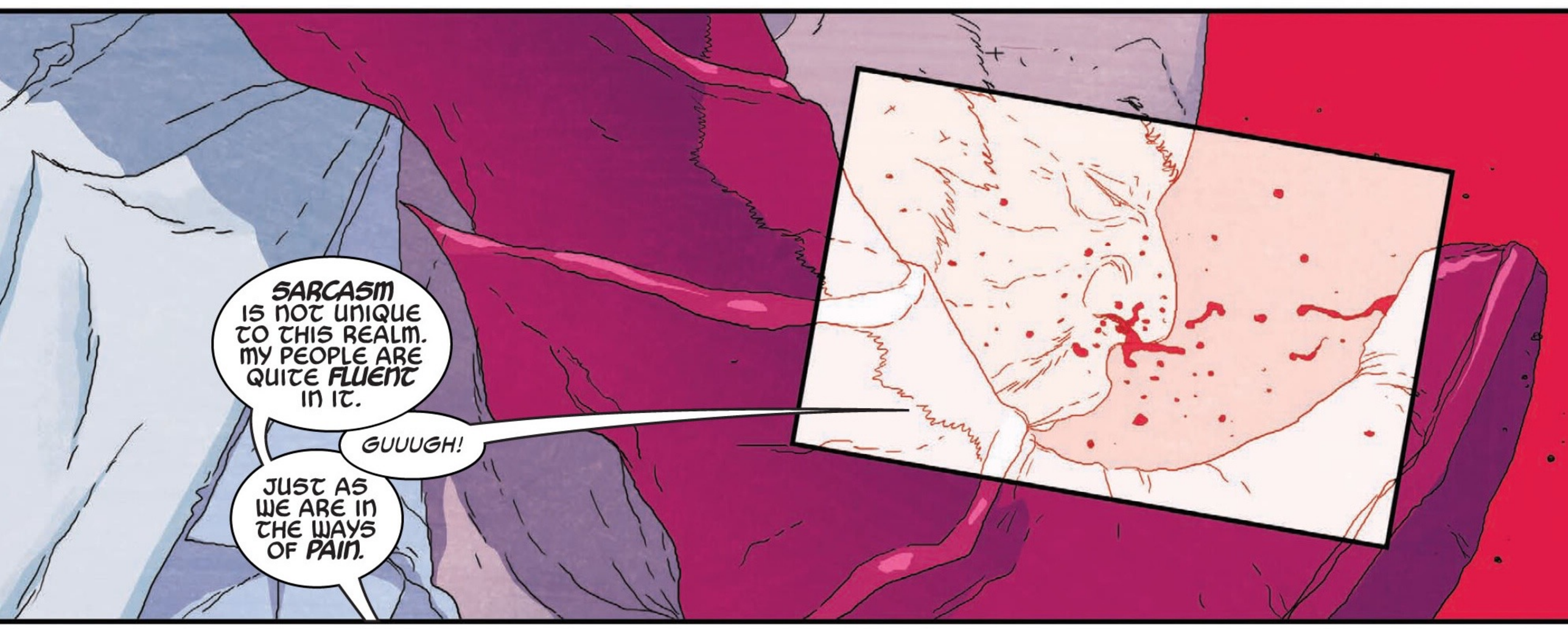

THICK SKULL, LITTLE BRAIN
EYE: SOFTEST POINT OF THE BODY
EARDRUM: SAME AS HUMANS, KEY POINT FOR EQUILIBRIUM
PRESSURE POINT: CRITICAL FOR ARM USE
MUSCLES: 34% FROZEN WATER
HEARTBEAT: HE'S SCARED AS HEL
PRESSURE POINT: CRITICAL FOR BREATHING
PRESSURE POINT: CRITICAL TO CAUSE NAUSEA
HAND TENDON: EASY TO CUT
PELT: MADE FROM SOME JOTUNHEIM WOLF
SWORD KNOB: MADE OF ANOTHER GIANT'S BONE
PRESSURE POINT: CRITICAL FOR STABILITY
THIS WAR...HAS CHANGED ME.
IN SOME WAYS.


THOOM
OH MY GOD.
YOU CAN COME OUT NOW.
I HAVE TAKEN UP THE SWORD OF HEIMDALL, ALL-SEEING GUARDIAN OF THE RAINBOW BRIDGE.
FEAR NOT, FOR THE BIFROST WILL TAKE YOU TO SAFETY.
AM I EVEN MORTAL ANYMORE?
I CAN TELL YOU WHAT THE QUEENS OF HEL HAD FOR DINNER IN NIFFLEHEIM, BUT I DO NOT KNOW...IF I AM TRULY A GOD.
PLEASE HURRY, IT IS UNSTABLE.
I JUST ANSWERED THE PRAYERS OF THESE PEOPLE. ISN'T THAT WHAT A GOD SHOULD DO?
I HAVE ALSO BROUGHT...DIVINE RETRIBUTION.
WAIT.


WHERE IS HE?
YOU...YOU MEAN...
I KNOW THE HELICOPTER WENT DOWN. AND YOU WERE ON BOARD. WHAT HAPPENED TO HIM? WHY CAN'T I SENSE HIM?
HE'S... DEAD. I SWEAR. HE DIED IN THE CRASH.

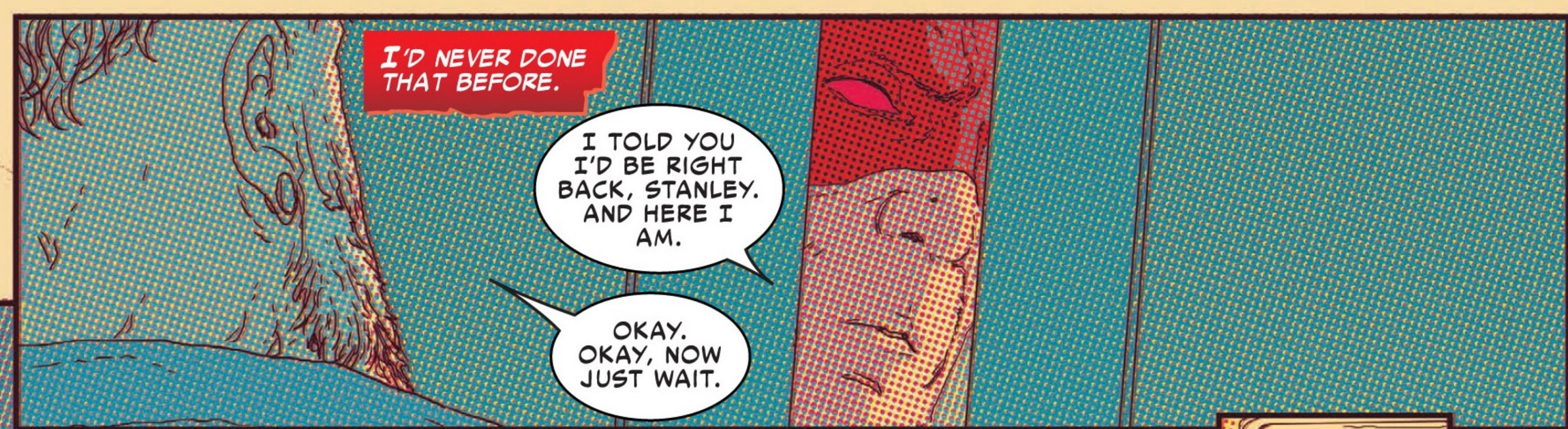

I CAN HEAR YOUR SOUL. YOU CANNOT LIE TO ME.
WHERE IS HE?

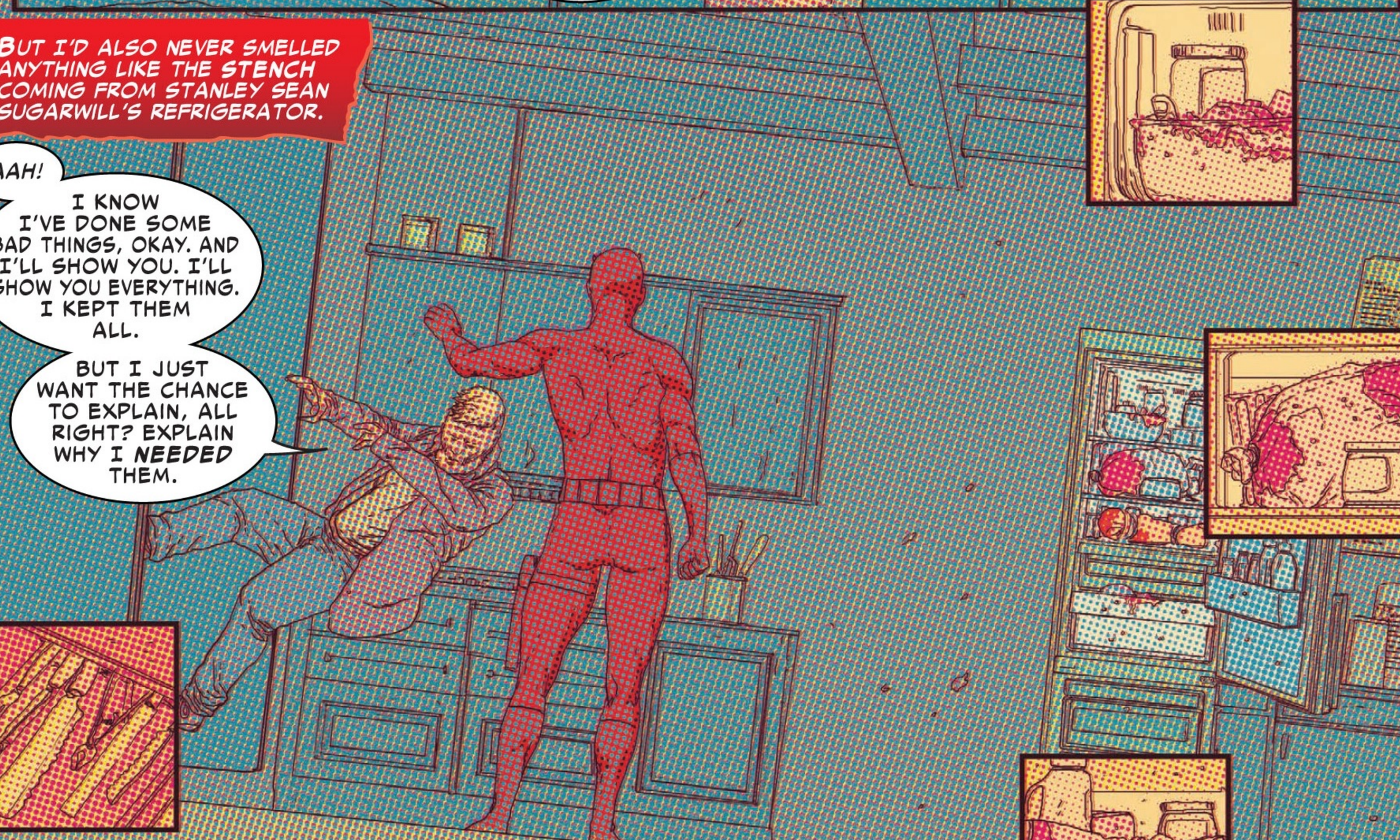

"WHERE IS WILSON FISK?"
THIS... DAREDEVIL PERSON. HE IS PROVING HIMSELF...QUITE MEDDLESOME.
YOU DON'T SAY? THAT'S RATHER UNLIKE HIM.

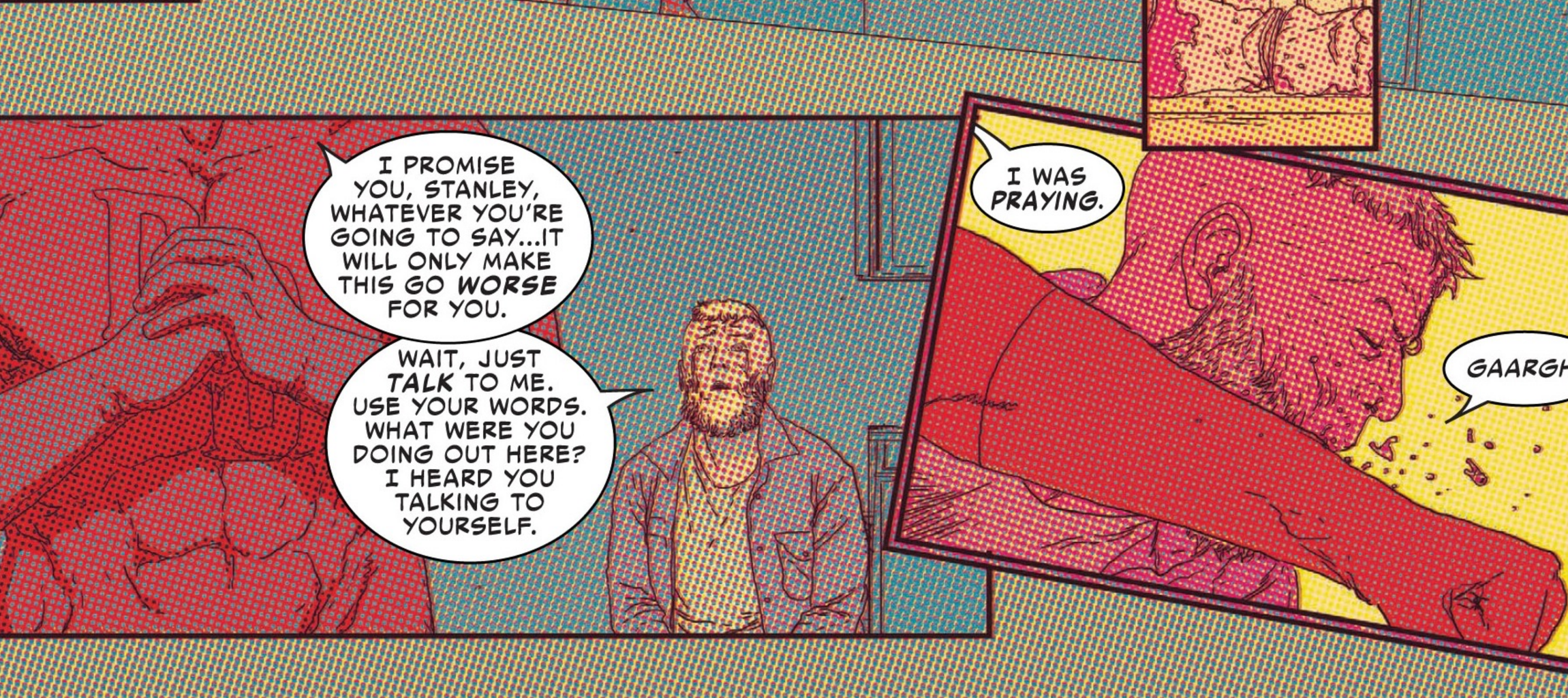

SARCASM IS NOT UNIQUE TO THIS REALM. MY PEOPLE ARE QUITE FLUENT IN IT.
GUUUGH!
JUST AS WE ARE IN THE WAYS OF PAIN.

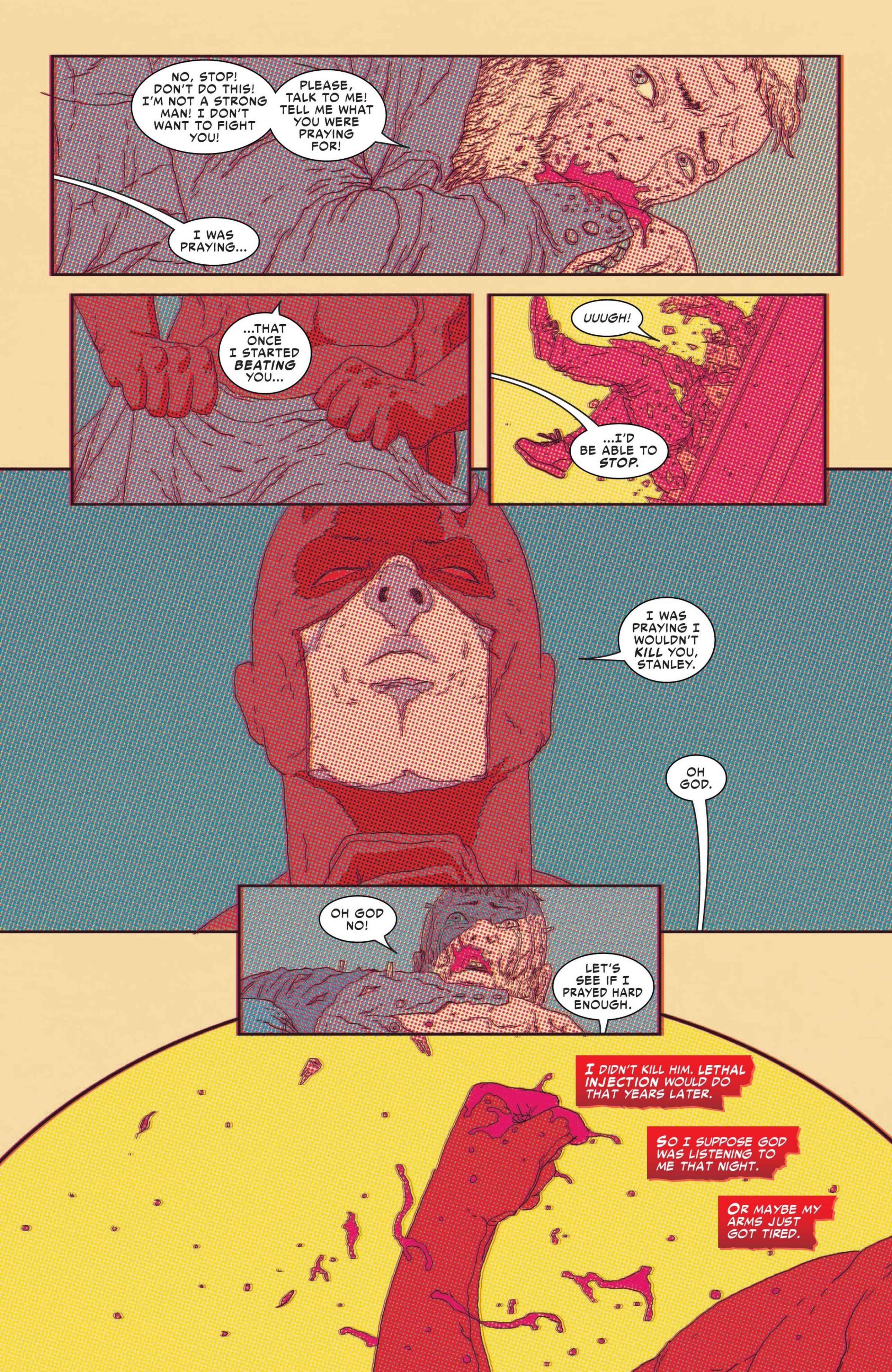
I UNDERSTAND YOU WERE A MAN OF SOME MEAGER IMPORTANCE IN THIS LAND. A LAND THAT NOW BELONGS TO ME.
MALEKITH, KING OF SVARTALFHEIM.
AND I AM TOLD YOU KNOW EVERYTHING THERE IS TO KNOW ABOUT THE DEMON FROM THE KITCHEN OF HEL.
TELL ME HOW TO HURT HIM OR KURSE WILL KEEP HURTING YOU.
TELL ME HOW TO BREAK THE DAREDEVIL.
HEH.
HA!
HA HA HAAA HA HA!

M YEARS AGO.
HEY! I KNOW YOU'RE STILL OUT THERE! I CAN HEAR YOU TALKING! LET ME OUT!
I LOCKED HIM IN HIS OWN CLOSET FOR FIVE MINUTES. I NEEDED A MOMENT ALONE.


I'D NEVER DONE THAT BEFORE.
I TOLD YOU I'D BE RIGHT BACK, STANLEY. AND HERE I AM.
OKAY. OKAY, NOW JUST WAIT.


BUT I'D ALSO NEVER SMELLED ANYTHING LIKE THE STENCH COMING FROM STANLEY SEAN SUGARWILL'S REFRIGERATOR.
AAH!
I KNOW I'VE DONE SOME BAD THINGS, OKAY. AND I'LL SHOW YOU. I'LL SHOW YOU EVERYTHING. I KEPT THEM ALL.
BUT I JUST WANT THE CHANCE TO EXPLAIN, ALL RIGHT? EXPLAIN WHY I NEEDED THEM.


I PROMISE YOU, STANLEY, WHATEVER YOU'RE GOING TO SAY...IT WILL ONLY MAKE THIS GO WORSE FOR YOU.
WAIT, JUST TALK TO ME. USE YOUR WORDS. WHAT WERE YOU DOING OUT HERE? I HEARD YOU TALKING TO YOURSELF.
I WAS PRAYING.
GAARGH!


NO, STOP! DON'T DO THIS! I'M NOT A STRONG MAN! I DON'T WANT TO FIGHT YOU!
PLEASE, TALK TO ME! TELL ME WHAT YOU WERE PRAYING FOR!
I WAS PRAYING...
...THAT ONCE I STARTED BEATING YOU...
UUUGH!
...I'D BE ABLE TO STOP.
I WAS PRAYING I WOULDN'T KILL YOU, STANLEY.
OH GOD.
OH GOD NO!
LET'S SEE IF I PRAYED HARD ENOUGH.
I DIDN'T KILL HIM. LETHAL INJECTION WOULD DO THAT YEARS LATER.
SO I SUPPOSE GOD WAS LISTENING TO ME THAT NIGHT.
OR MAYBE MY ARMS JUST GOT TIRED.

M NOW.

KURSE CAN KEEP THIS UP ALL NIGHT, FISK.

HHRRGH!

CAN YOUR FLESHY MORTAL FACE SAY THE SAME?

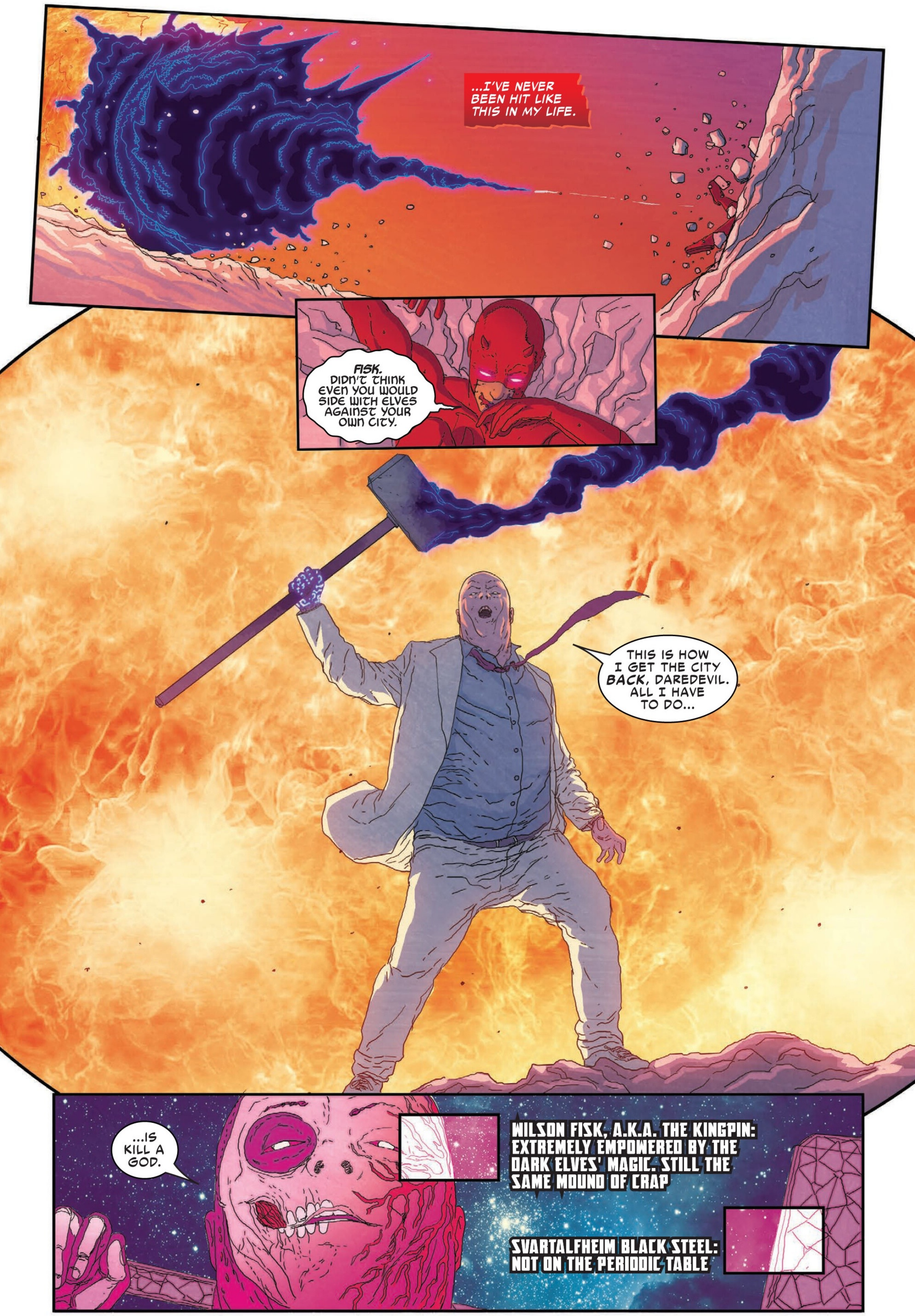
BELIEVE ME, I'VE BEEN PUNCHED BY WEIRDER THINGS THAN YOUR LADY FRIEND HERE. SHE DO ALL YOUR FIGHTING FOR YOU?

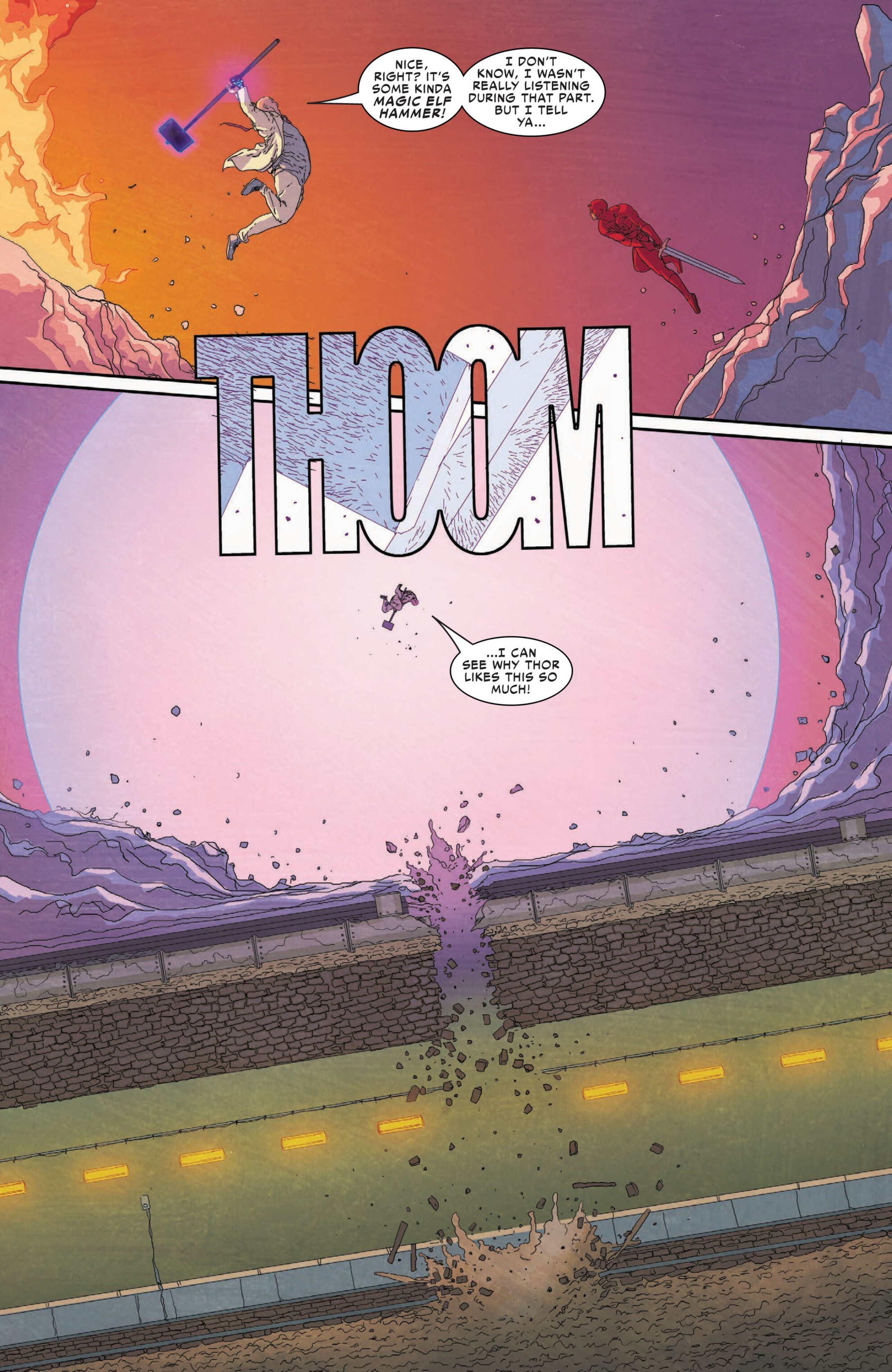
HOW ABOUT WE DECIDE THE FATE OF NEW YORK CITY RIGHT HERE AND NOW, MALEKITH? JUST YOU AND ME.

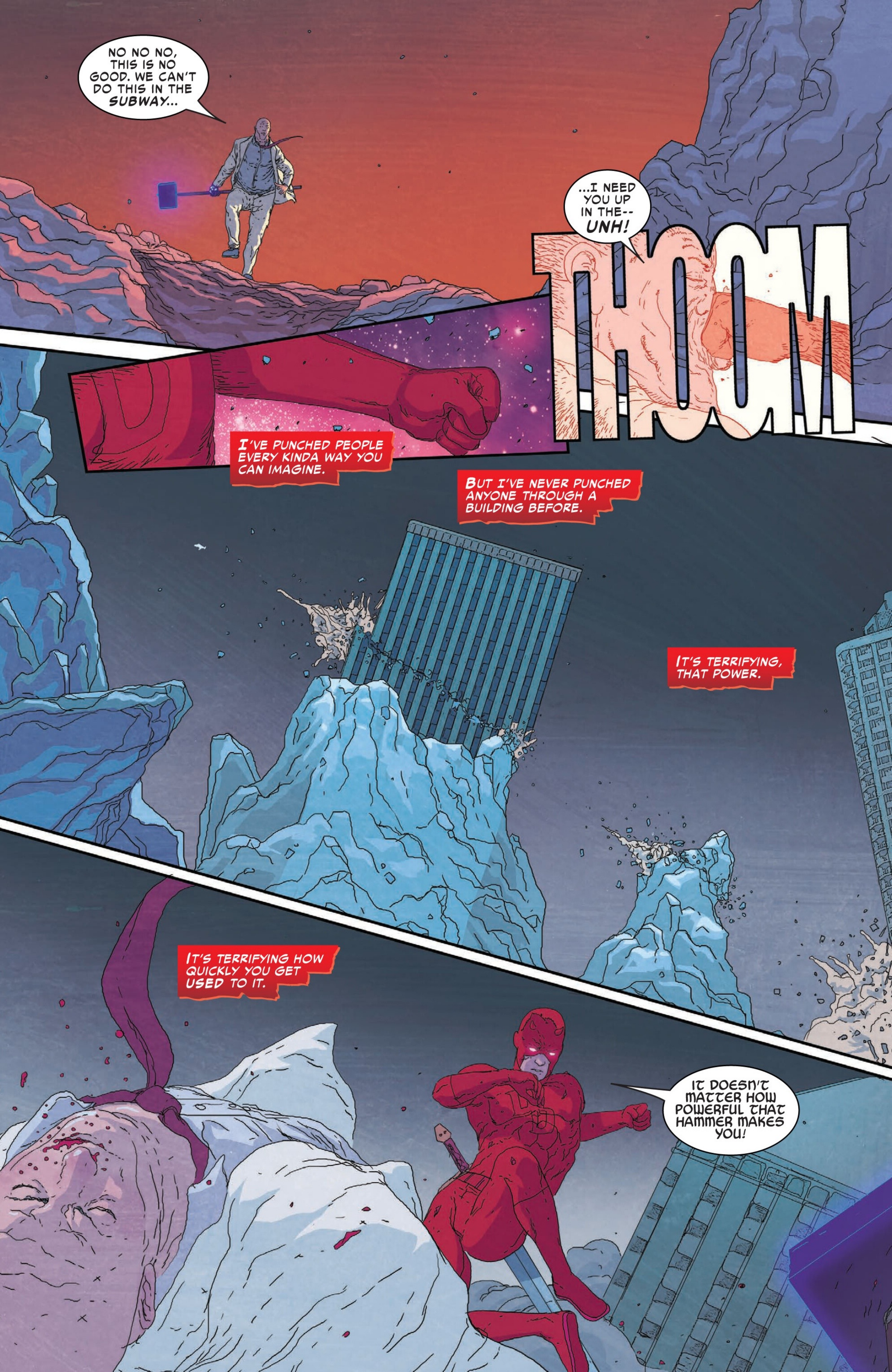
ARE YOU *BLIND?*

YOUR CITY IS OVERRUN WITH FROST GIANTS! YOUR ENTIRE *REALM* IS OVERRUN! *MIDGARD HAS LOST!*

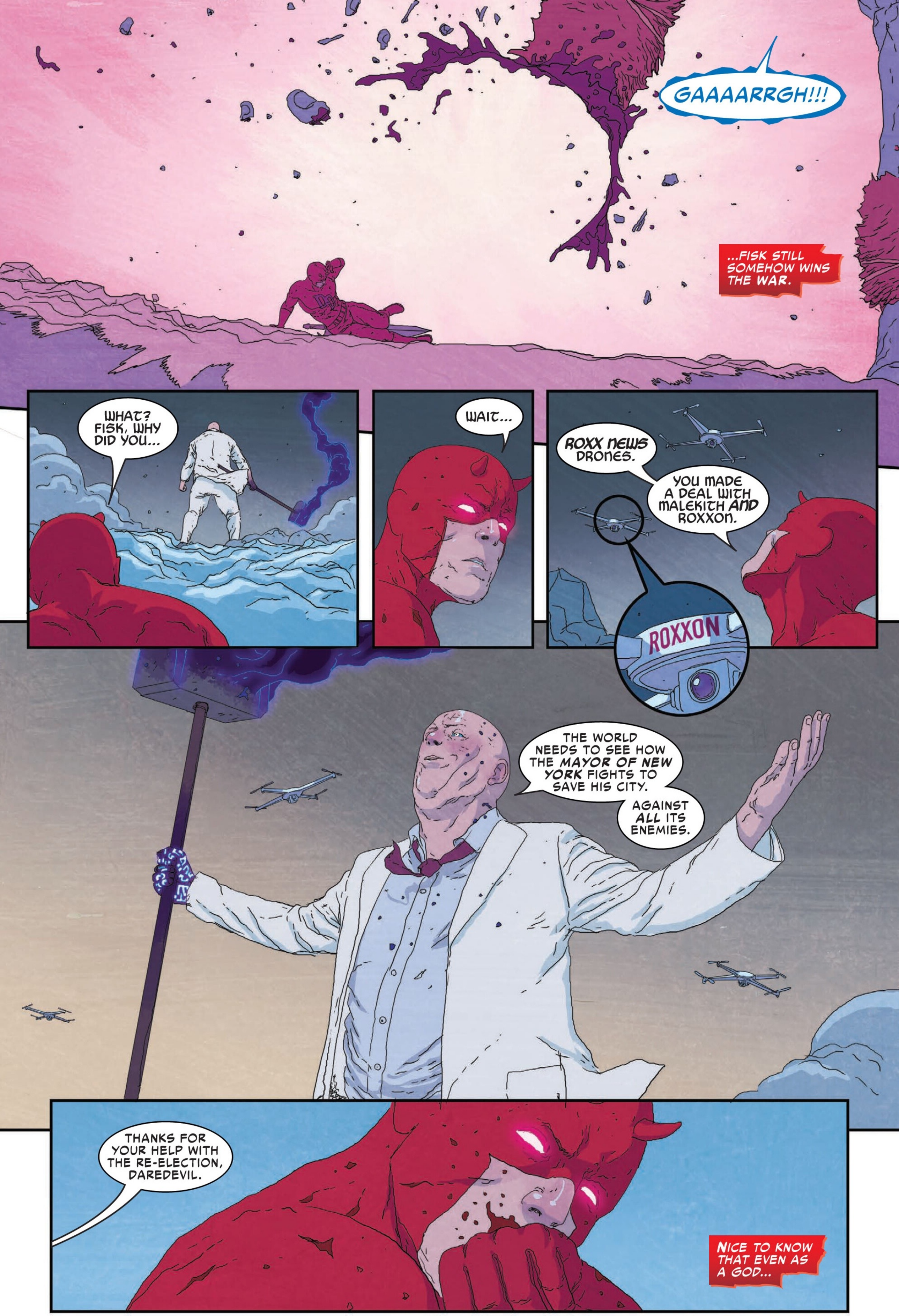
BURN THE GOD HOUSES!
BURN EVERY GOD HOUSE IN THE NEW CITY OF YORK!
RRRRRGGGHH!!!
THEY KNOW HOW TO DRAW ME OUT.
AND RIGHT AWAY I KNOW WHY.
EVEN BEFORE I SMELL HIM.
THE GOOD NEWS IS, I BLOCK HIS STRIKE. THE BAD NEWS IS...

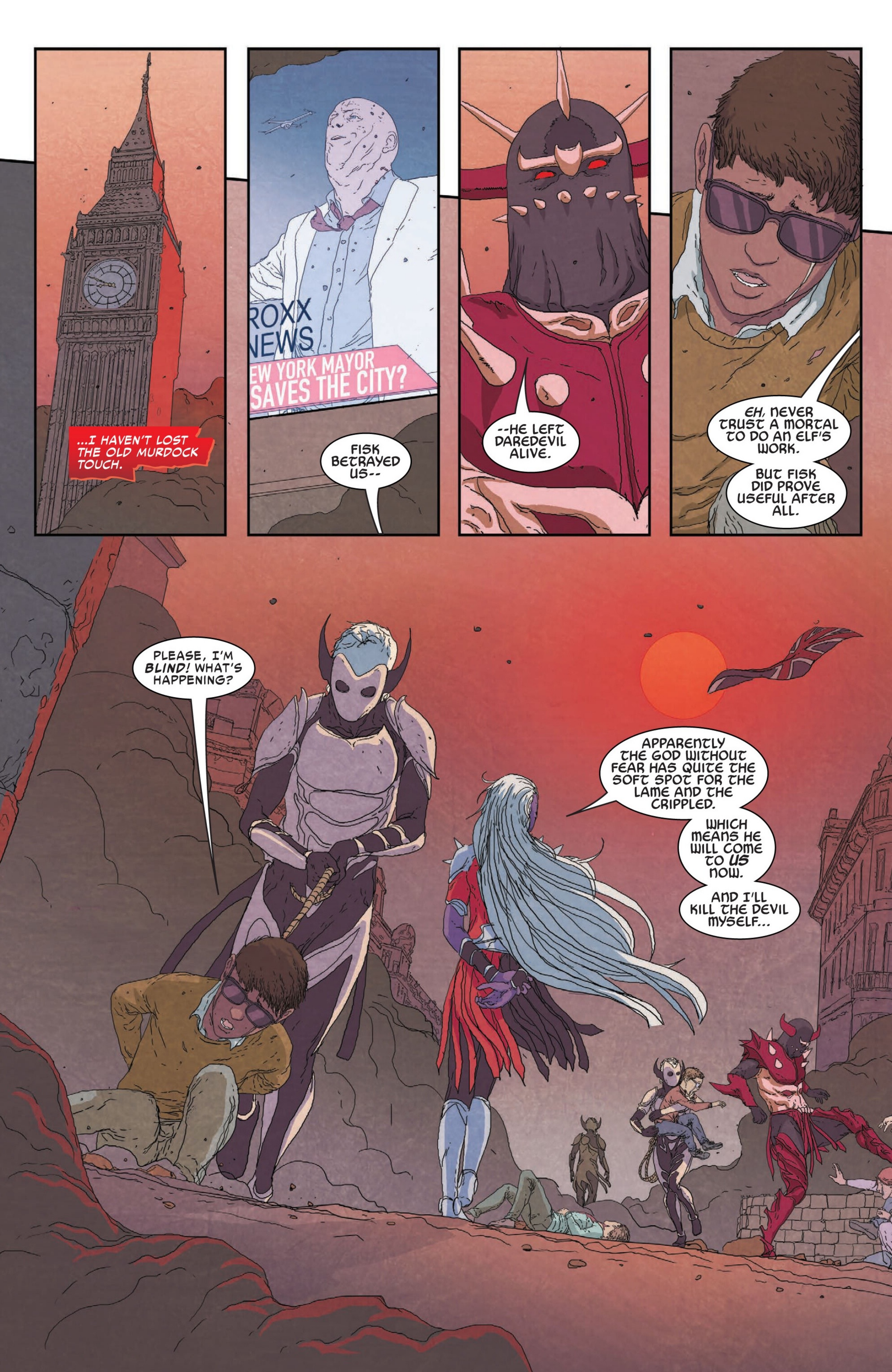

...I'VE NEVER BEEN HIT LIKE THIS IN MY LIFE.
FISK. DIDN'T THINK EVEN YOU WOULD SIDE WITH ELVES AGAINST YOUR OWN CITY.
THIS IS HOW I GET THE CITY BACK, DAREDEVIL. ALL I HAVE TO DO...
...IS KILL A GOD.
WILSON FISK, A.K.A. THE KINGPIN: EXTREMELY EMPOWERED BY THE DARK ELVES' MAGIC. STILL THE SAME MOUND OF CRAP
SVARTALFHEIM BLACK STEEL: NOT ON THE PERIODIC TABLE


NICE, RIGHT? IT'S SOME KINDA MAGIC ELF HAMMER!
I DON'T KNOW, I WASN'T REALLY LISTENING DURING THAT PART. BUT I TELL YA...
THOOM
...I CAN SEE WHY THOR LIKES THIS SO MUCH!

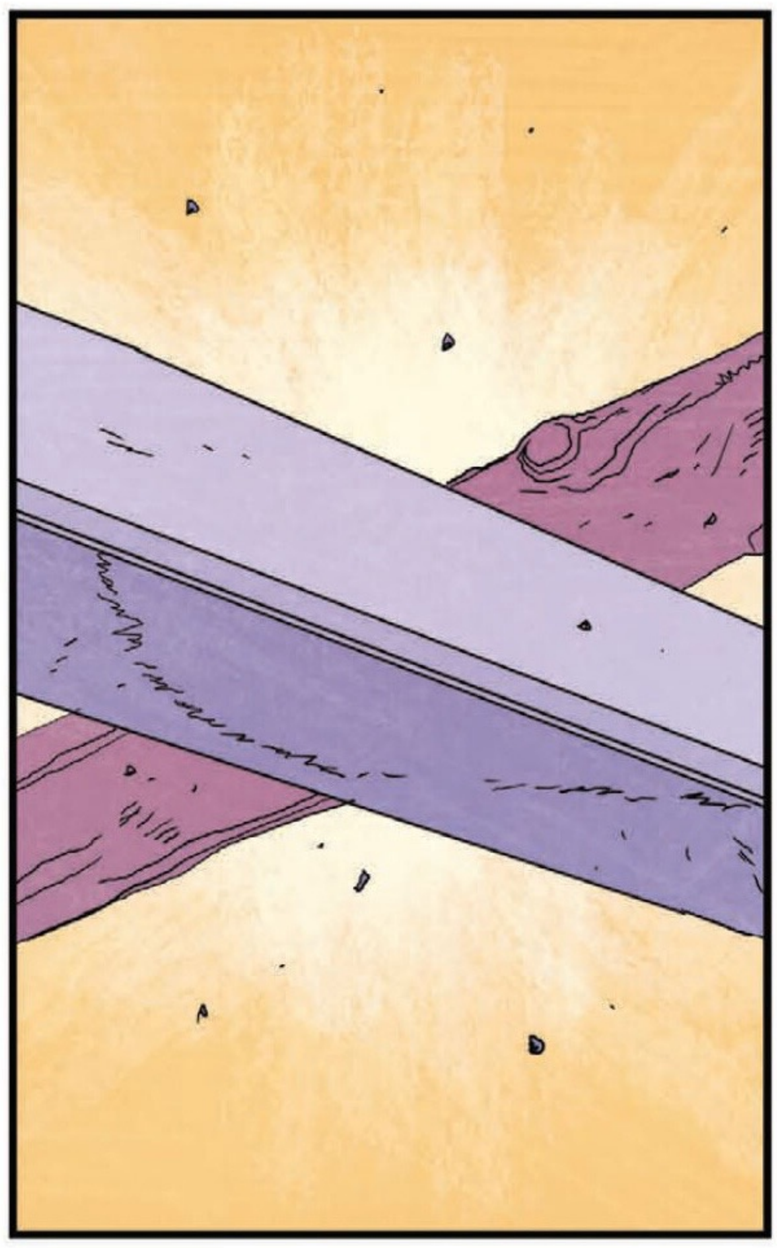

NO NO NO, THIS IS NO GOOD. WE CAN'T DO THIS IN THE SUBWAY...
...I NEED YOU UP IN THE-- UNH!
THOM
I'VE PUNCHED PEOPLE EVERY KINDA WAY YOU CAN IMAGINE.
BUT I'VE NEVER PUNCHED ANYONE THROUGH A BUILDING BEFORE.
IT'S TERRIFYING, THAT POWER.
IT'S TERRIFYING HOW QUICKLY YOU GET USED TO IT.
IT DOESN'T MATTER HOW POWERFUL THAT HAMMER MAKES YOU!

WE TEAR APART EIGHT CITY BLOCKS.
THIS STILL ENDS THE SAME WAY AS ALWAYS, FISK!
I THROW MANHOLE COVERS LIKE SHURIKENS.
-KAFF- DAMN RIGHT IT DOES.
HE THROWS TAXIS.
IT'S A FIGHT UNLIKE ANY HE AND I HAVE EVER HAD.
AND BELIEVE ME, WE'VE HAD OUR SHARE.
BUT I WAS RIGHT. IT STILL ENDS THE SAME WAY IT ALWAYS DOES.
UGH!
THAT'S HIM. JUST LIKE MALEKITH SAID.
I LOVE GETTING GOD BETWEEN MY TOES.
EVEN THOUGH I WIN THE BATTLE...

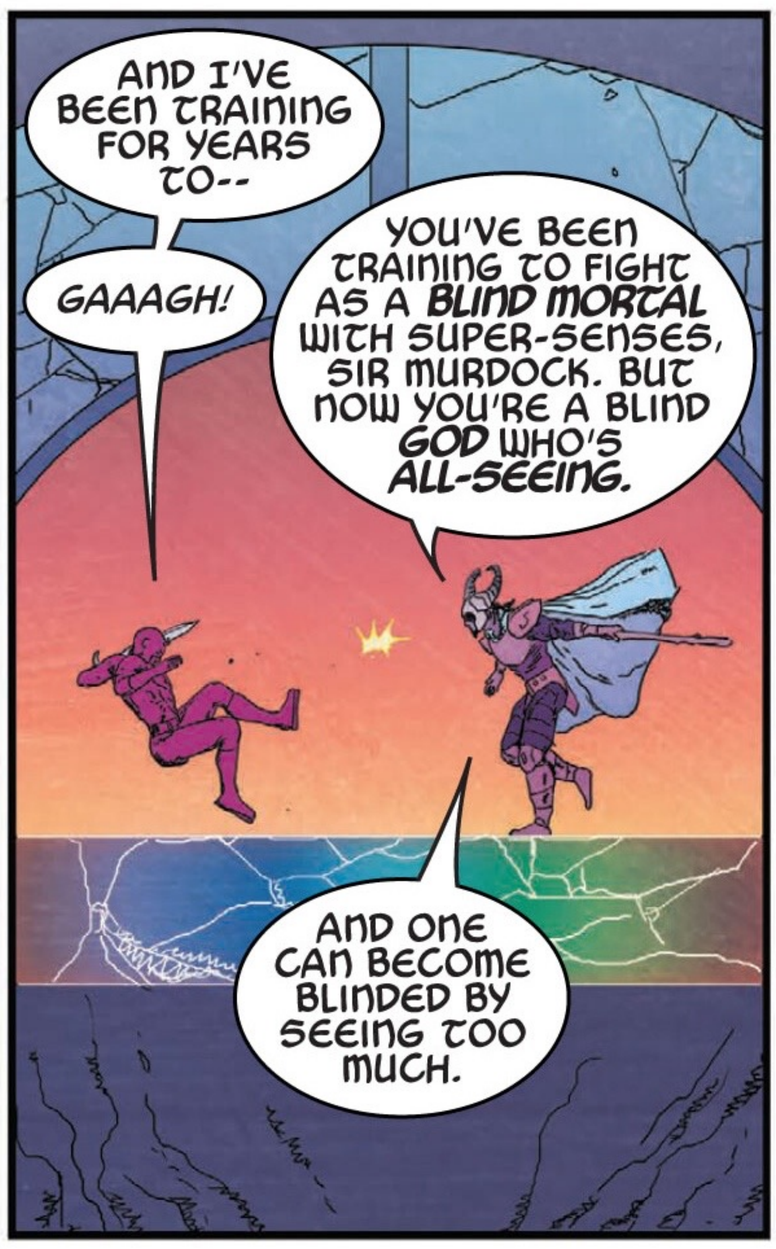

GAAAARRGH!!!
...FISK STILL SOMEHOW WINS THE WAR.
WHAT? FISK, WHY DID YOU...
WAIT...
ROXX NEWS DRONES.
YOU MADE A DEAL WITH MALEKITH AND ROXXON.
ROXXON
THE WORLD NEEDS TO SEE HOW THE MAYOR OF NEW YORK FIGHTS TO SAVE HIS CITY.
AGAINST ALL ITS ENEMIES.
THANKS FOR YOUR HELP WITH THE RE-ELECTION, DAREDEVIL.
NICE TO KNOW THAT EVEN AS A GOD...

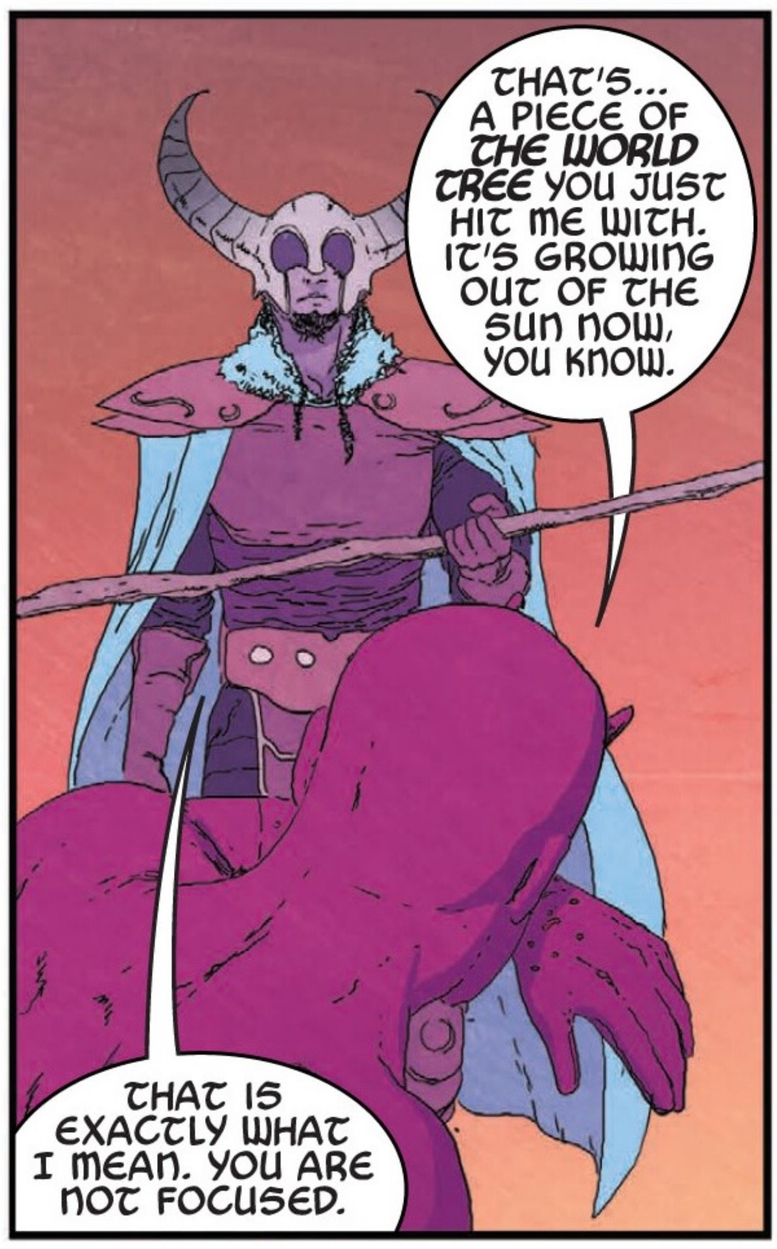

...I HAVEN'T LOST THE OLD MURDOCK TOUCH.
ROXX NEWS
EW YORK MAYOR SAVES THE CITY?
FISK BETRAYED US--
--HE LEFT DAREDEVIL ALIVE.
EH, NEVER TRUST A MORTAL TO DO AN ELF'S WORK.
BUT FISK DID PROVE USEFUL AFTER ALL.
PLEASE, I'M BLIND! WHAT'S HAPPENING?
APPARENTLY THE GOD WITHOUT FEAR HAS QUITE THE SOFT SPOT FOR THE LAME AND THE CRIPPLED.
WHICH MEANS HE WILL COME TO US NOW.
AND I'LL KILL THE DEVIL MYSELF...

THIS IS A WASTE OF TIME. THERE'S A WAR TO BE FOUGHT.



ASGARD.


AND I'VE BEEN TRAINING FOR YEARS TO--
GAAAGH!
YOU'VE BEEN TRAINING TO FIGHT AS A BLIND MORTAL WITH SUPER-SENSES, SIR MURDOCK. BUT NOW YOU'RE A BLIND GOD WHO'S ALL-SEEING.
AND ONE CAN BECOME BLINDED BY SEEING TOO MUCH.

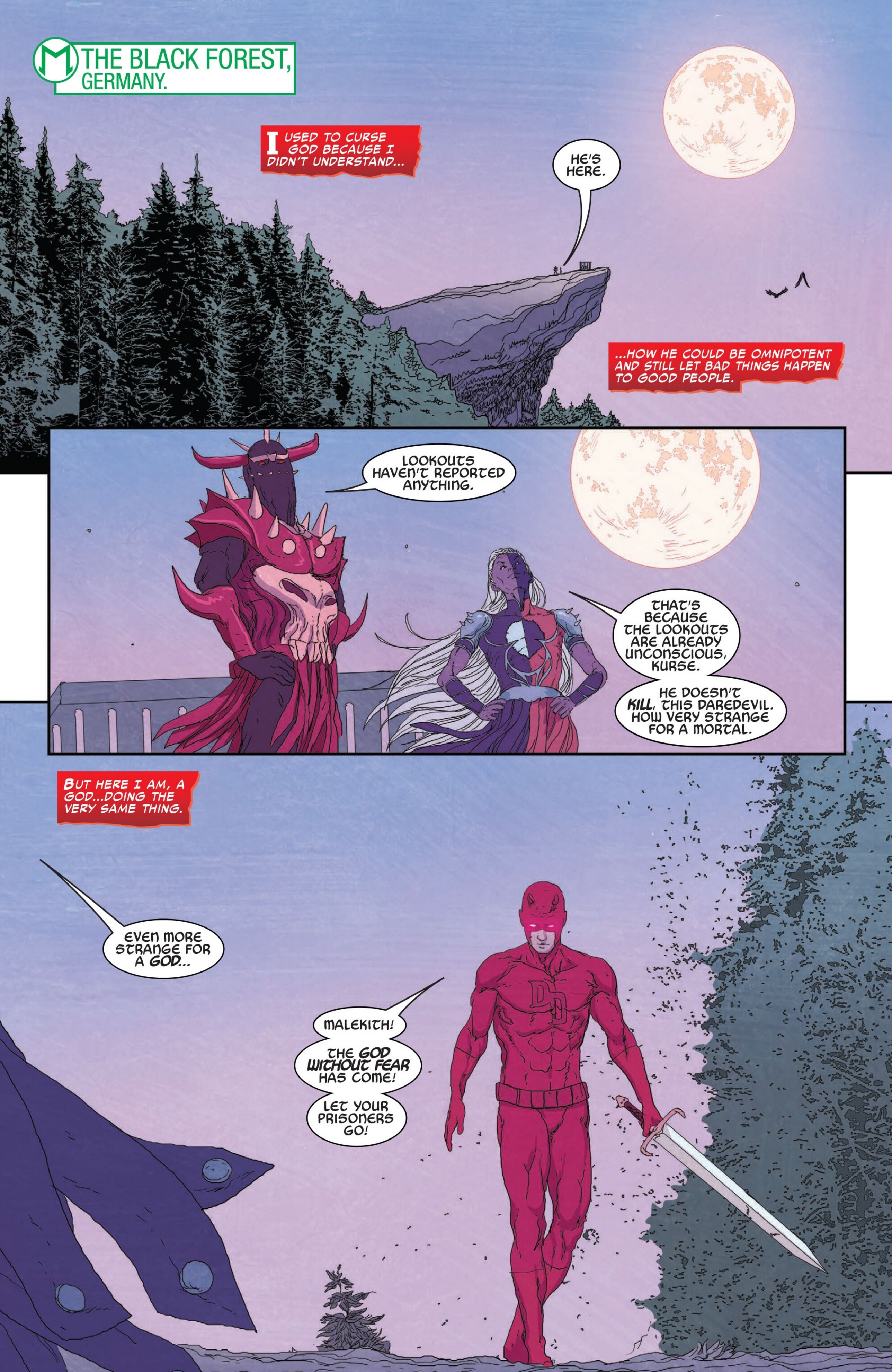

THAT'S... A PIECE OF THE WORLD TREE YOU JUST HIT ME WITH. IT'S GROWING OUT OF THE SUN NOW, YOU KNOW.
THAT IS EXACTLY WHAT I MEAN. YOU ARE NOT FOCUSED.

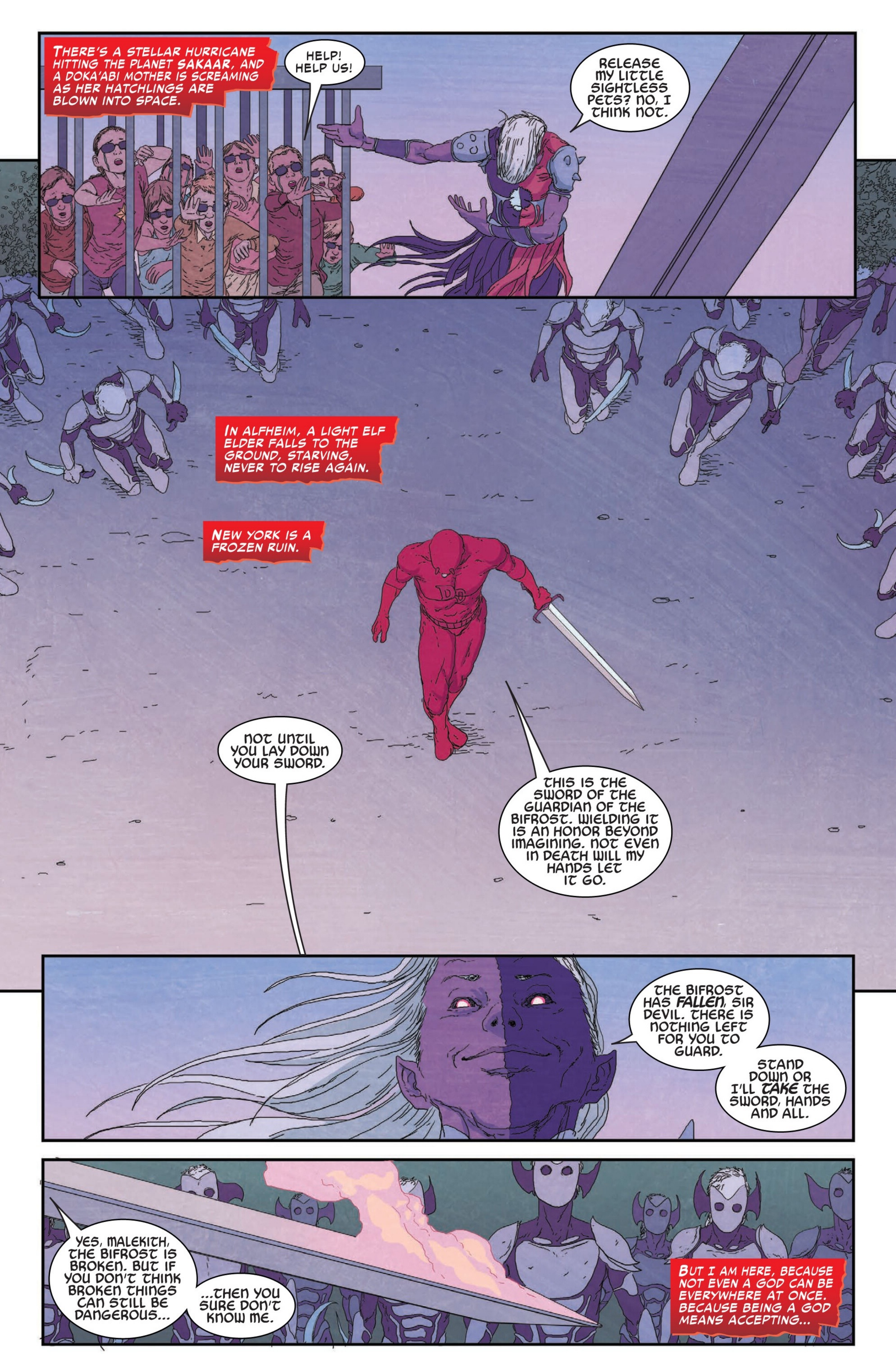
YOU'RE RIGHT, HEIMDALL, BUT I'M NOT WORRIED ABOUT SEEING TOO MUCH. RIGHT NOW MY PROBLEM IS THAT I CAN'T SEE MALEKITH.
HE'S SOMEHOW USING HIS MAGIC TO HIDE FROM--

WAIT...THAT SONUVA...
I JUST FOUND HIM.
WHATEVER YOU'RE SEEING, YOU REALIZE OF COURSE IT'S A TRAP.
YES. AND YOU REALIZE I STILL HAVE TO GO.

BUT YOU HITTING ME WITH THE WORLD TREE GAVE ME AN IDEA. SO WITH YOUR PERMISSION...

...I WON'T BE GOING EMPTY-HANDED.


THE BLACK FOREST, GERMANY.
I USED TO CURSE GOD BECAUSE I DIDN'T UNDERSTAND...
HE'S HERE.
...HOW HE COULD BE OMNIPOTENT AND STILL LET BAD THINGS HAPPEN TO GOOD PEOPLE.
LOOKOUTS HAVEN'T REPORTED ANYTHING.
THAT'S BECAUSE THE LOOKOUTS ARE ALREADY UNCONSCIOUS, KURSE.
HE DOESN'T KILL, THIS DAREDEVIL. HOW VERY STRANGE FOR A MORTAL.
BUT HERE I AM, A GOD...DOING THE VERY SAME THING.
EVEN MORE STRANGE FOR A GOD...
MALEKITH!
THE GOD WITHOUT FEAR HAS COME!
LET YOUR PRISONERS GO!


THERE'S A STELLAR HURRICANE HITTING THE PLANET SAKAAR, AND A DOKA'ABI MOTHER IS SCREAMING AS HER HATCHLINGS ARE BLOWN INTO SPACE.
HELP! HELP US!
RELEASE MY LITTLE SIGHTLESS PETS? NO, I THINK NOT.
IN ALFHEIM, A LIGHT ELF ELDER FALLS TO THE GROUND, STARVING, NEVER TO RISE AGAIN.
NEW YORK IS A FROZEN RUIN.
NOT UNTIL YOU LAY DOWN YOUR SWORD.
THIS IS THE SWORD OF THE GUARDIAN OF THE BIFROST. WIELDING IT IS AN HONOR BEYOND IMAGINING. NOT EVEN IN DEATH WILL MY HANDS LET IT GO.
THE BIFROST HAS FALLEN, SIR DEVIL. THERE IS NOTHING LEFT FOR YOU TO GUARD.
STAND DOWN OR I'LL TAKE THE SWORD, HANDS AND ALL.
YES, MALEKITH, THE BIFROST IS BROKEN. BUT IF YOU DON'T THINK BROKEN THINGS CAN STILL BE DANGEROUS...
...THEN YOU SURE DON'T KNOW ME.
BUT I AM HERE, BECAUSE NOT EVEN A GOD CAN BE EVERYWHERE AT ONCE. BECAUSE BEING A GOD MEANS ACCEPTING...

...YOU MUST SOMETIMES BE BLIND.

WHAT? WHAT HAPPENED TO THE MOONLIGHT?
WHERE'D HE--

AAAAGGH!!!
EVEN WITH IT SHATTERED, I CAN STILL CONTROL THE RAINBOW BRIDGE.

ENOUGH TO MANEUVER ITS SHARDS INTO ORBIT... AND BLOCK OUT THE MOON FOR A MOMENT.

HE'S EVERYWHERE! HOW DOES HE--

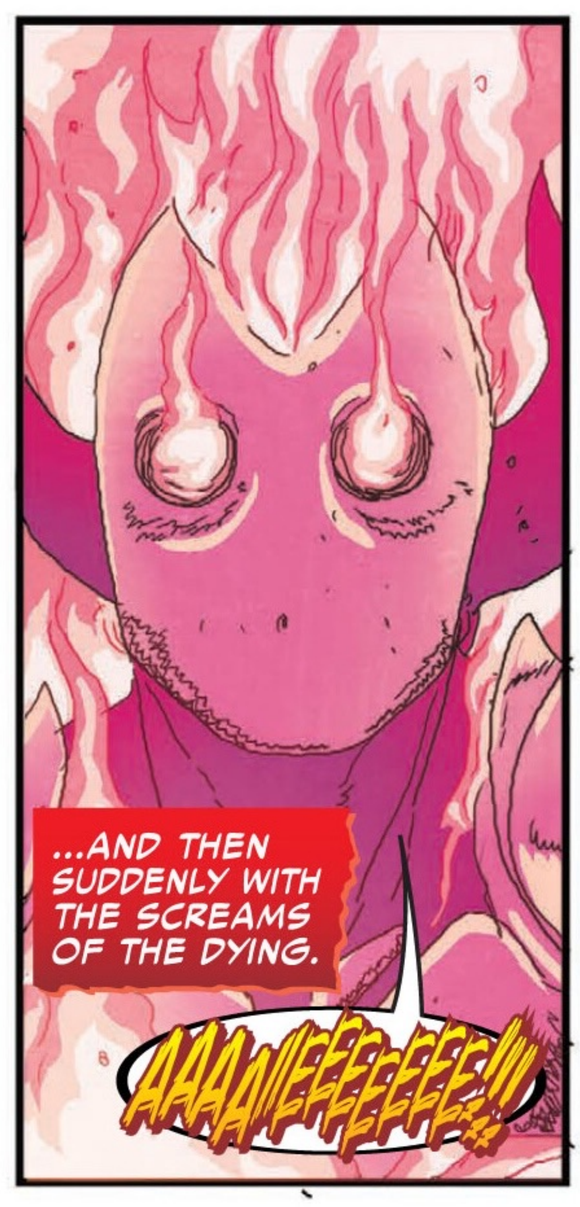
SOME OF ITS SHARDS AT LEAST.

GAAARGH!

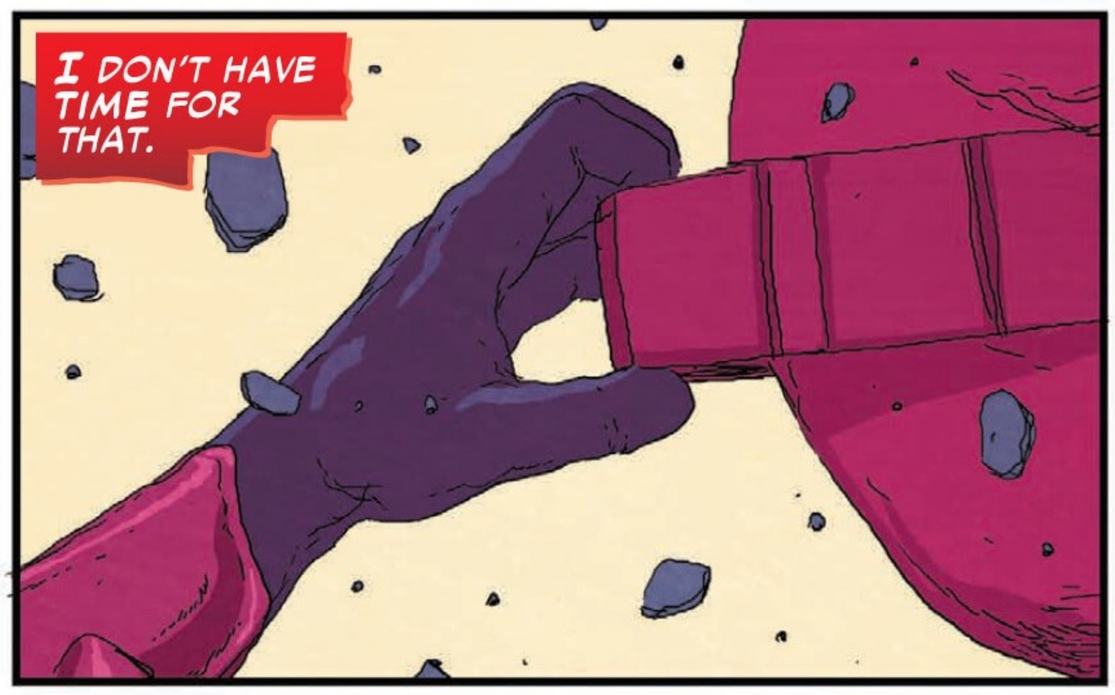
THE REST MAKE BIFROST SHURIKENS THAT CRACKLE WITH ASGARDIAN POWER.

THE DARKNESS FILLS WITH THE CRIES OF WOUNDED DARK ELVES...

SNAP

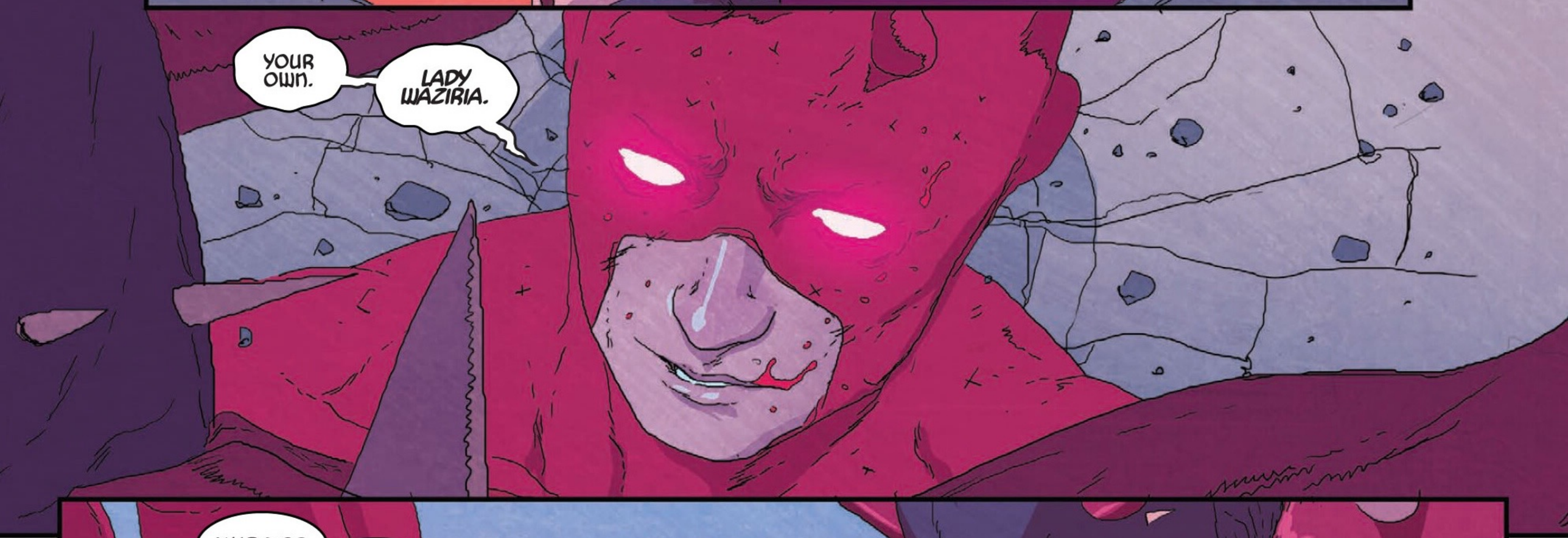

...AND THEN SUDDENLY WITH THE SCREAMS OF THE DYING.
AAAAWEEEEEEE!!!

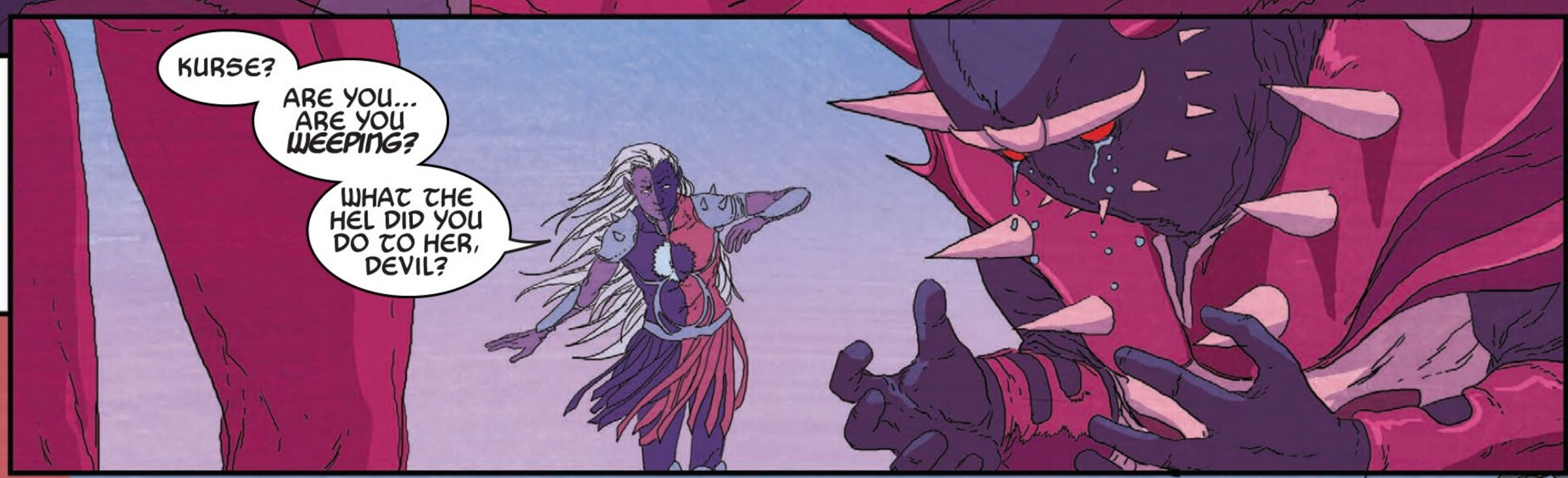
CLEVER LITTLE DEVIL.
KURSE...
...SEE IF HE'S STILL CLEVER... WITHOUT HIS HEAD.
KURSE IS AS STRONG AS THE HULK, AND FAR MORE VICIOUS.
EVEN WITH MY NEWFOUND STRENGTH, IT WILL TAKE A LONG AND BRUTAL SLUGFEST TO BRING HER DOWN.

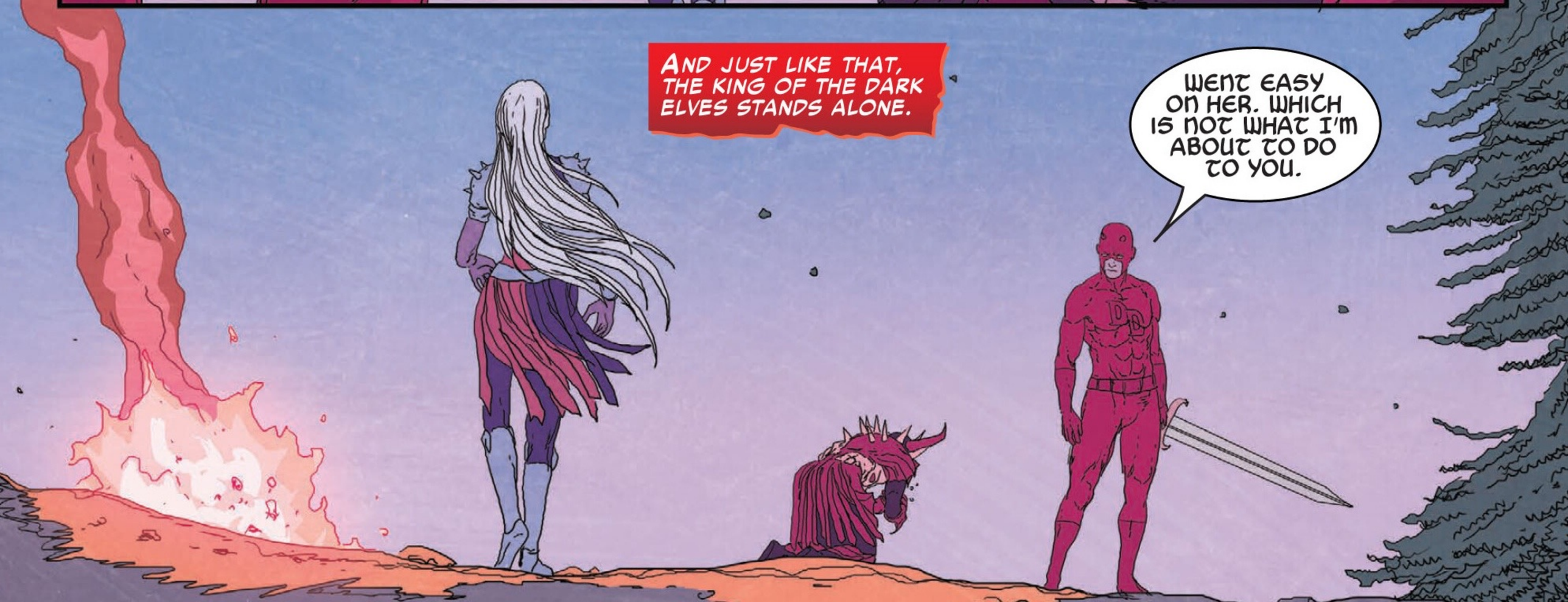

I DON'T HAVE TIME FOR THAT.

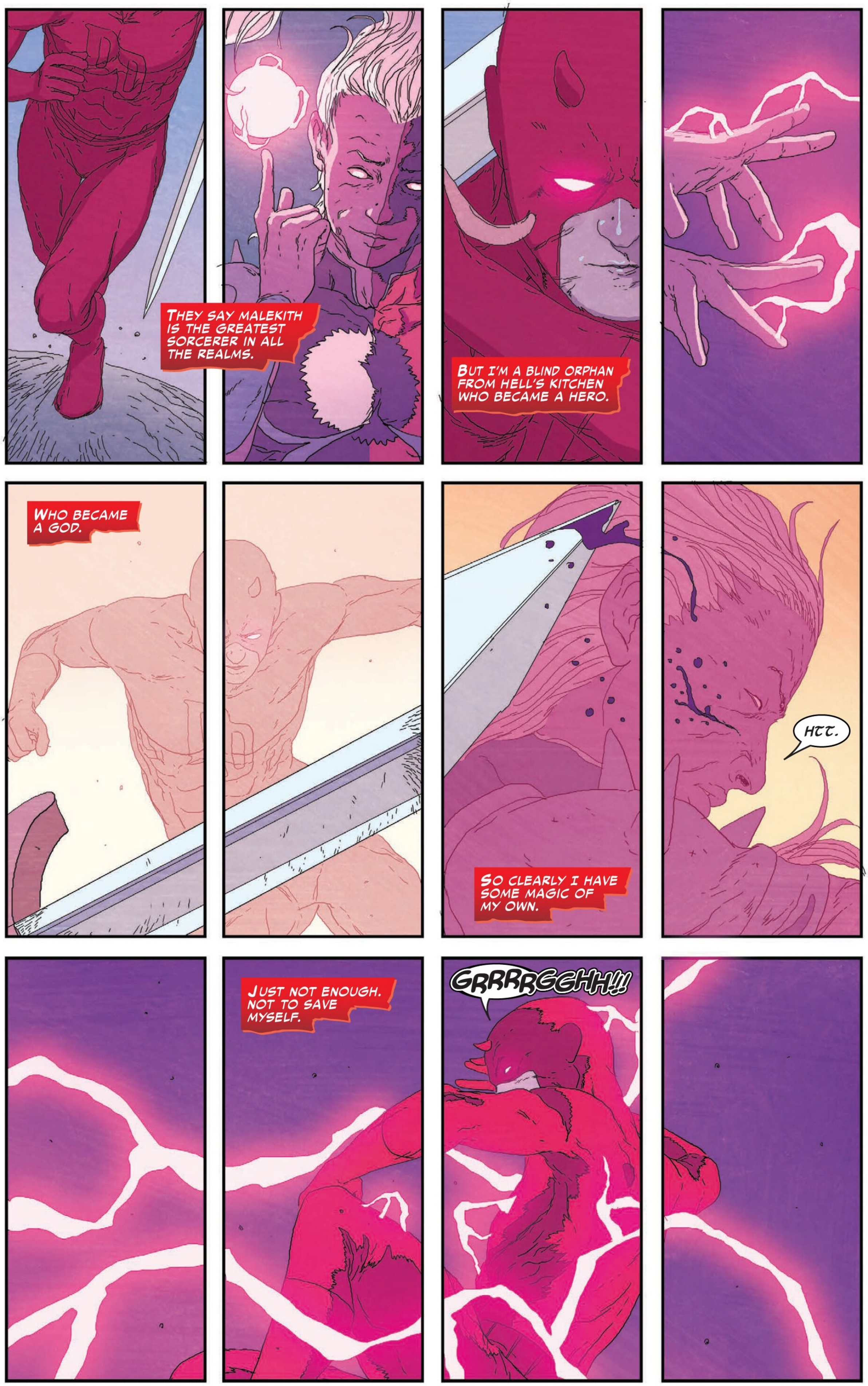
HGGHK!

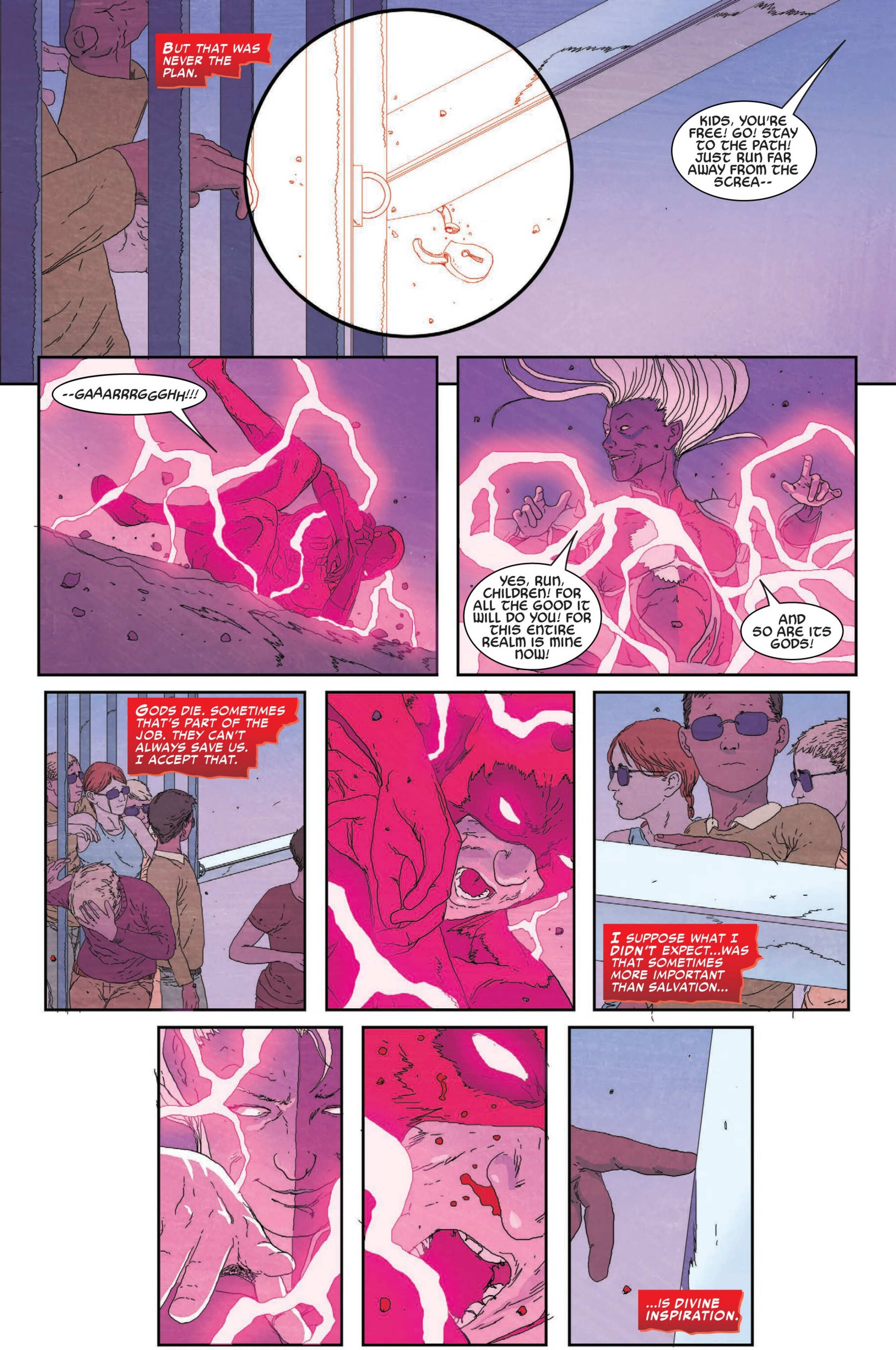
KURSE...I'M GOING TO ANSWER ONE OF YOUR PRAYERS FOR YOU NOW. AND TELL YOU THE NAME YOU'VE FORGOTTEN.

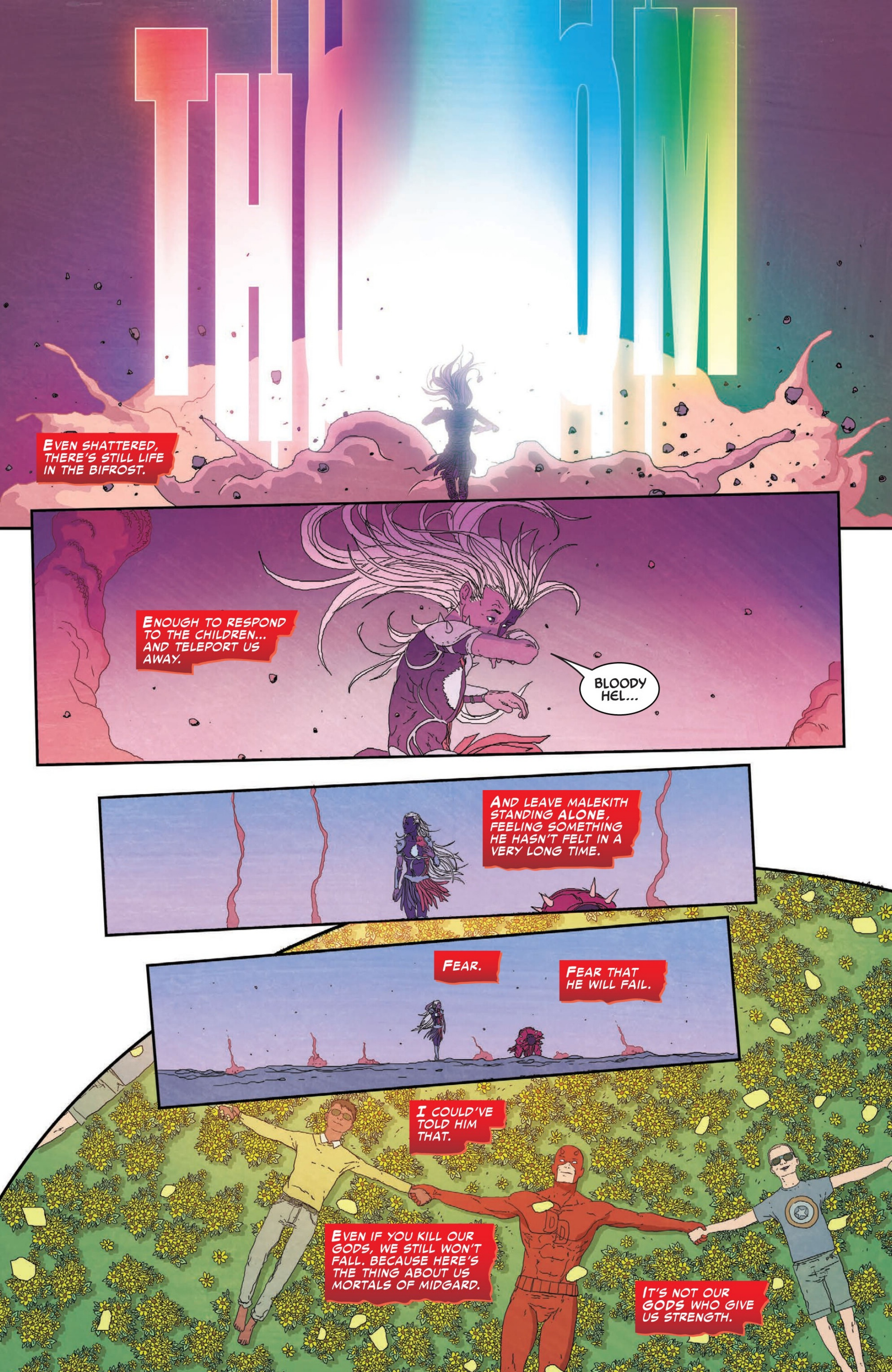

YOUR OWN.
LADY WAZIRIA.

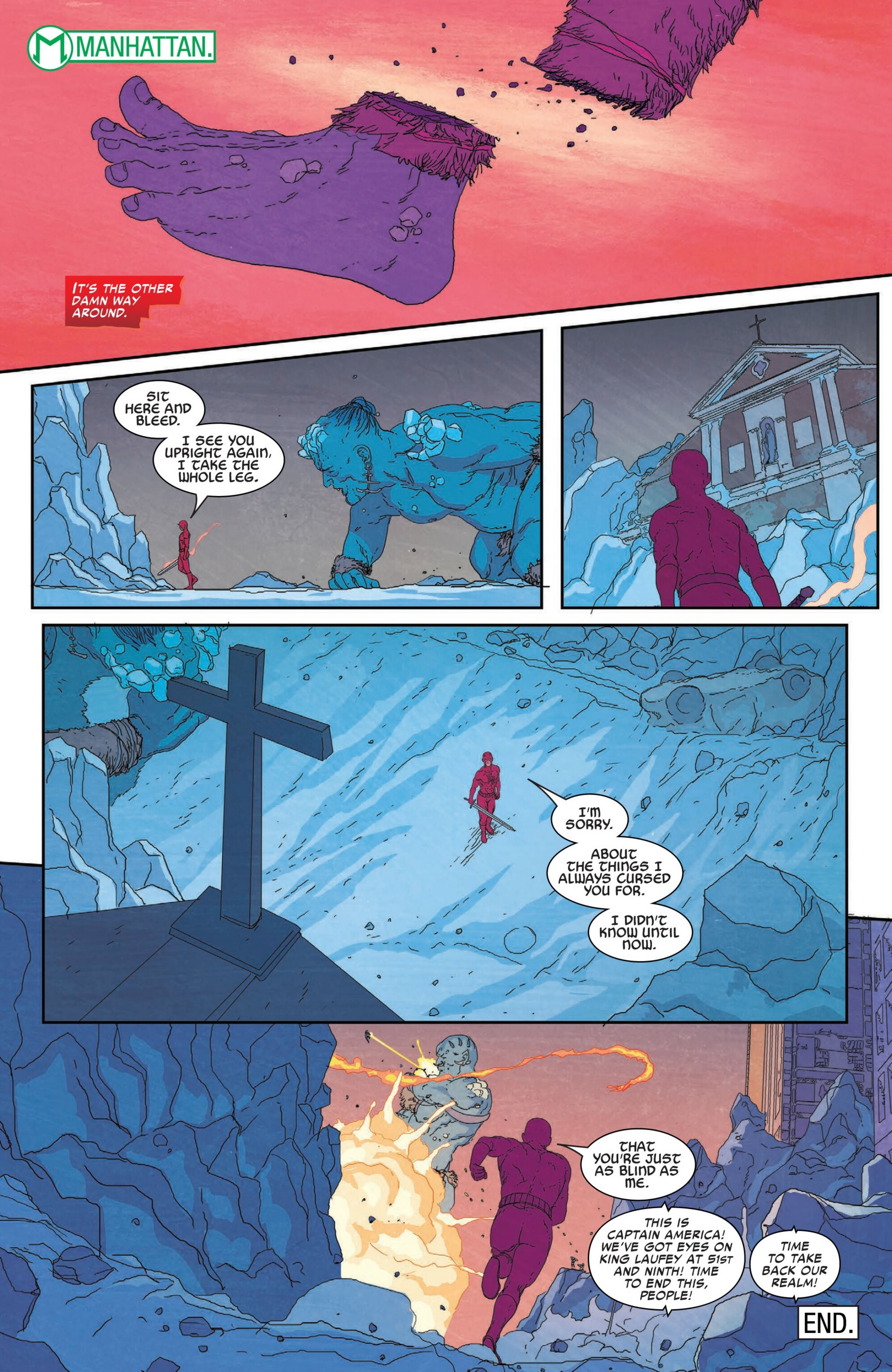

KURSE?
ARE YOU... ARE YOU WEEPING?
WHAT THE HEL DID YOU DO TO HER, DEVIL?


AND JUST LIKE THAT, THE KING OF THE DARK ELVES STANDS ALONE.
WENT EASY ON HER. WHICH IS NOT WHAT I'M ABOUT TO DO TO YOU.


They say Malekith is the greatest sorcerer in all the realms.
But I'm a blind orphan from Hell's Kitchen who became a hero.
Who became a god.
So clearly I have some magic of my own.
Hrr.
Just not enough. Not to save myself.
GRRRRGGHH!!!


BUT THAT WAS NEVER THE PLAN.
KIDS, YOU'RE FREE! GO! STAY TO THE PATH! JUST RUN FAR AWAY FROM THE SCREA--
--GAAARRRGGGHH!!!
YES, RUN, CHILDREN! FOR ALL THE GOOD IT WILL DO YOU! FOR THIS ENTIRE REALM IS MINE NOW!
AND SO ARE ITS GODS!
GODS DIE. SOMETIMES THAT'S PART OF THE JOB. THEY CAN'T ALWAYS SAVE US. I ACCEPT THAT.
I SUPPOSE WHAT I DIDN'T EXPECT...WAS THAT SOMETIMES MORE IMPORTANT THAN SALVATION...
...IS DIVINE INSPIRATION.


THE DIM
EVEN SHATTERED, THERE'S STILL LIFE IN THE BIFROST.
ENOUGH TO RESPOND TO THE CHILDREN... AND TELEPORT US AWAY.
BLOODY HEL...
AND LEAVE MALEKITH STANDING ALONE, FEELING SOMETHING HE HASN'T FELT IN A VERY LONG TIME.
FEAR.
FEAR THAT HE WILL FAIL.
I COULD'VE TOLD HIM THAT.
EVEN IF YOU KILL OUR GODS, WE STILL WON'T FALL. BECAUSE HERE'S THE THING ABOUT US MORTALS OF MIDGARD.
IT'S NOT OUR GODS WHO GIVE US STRENGTH.


MANHATTAN.
IT'S THE OTHER DAMN WAY AROUND.
SIT HERE AND BLEED.
I SEE YOU UPRIGHT AGAIN, I TAKE THE WHOLE LEG.
I'M SORRY.
ABOUT THE THINGS I ALWAYS CURSED YOU FOR.
I DIDN'T KNOW UNTIL NOW.
THAT YOU'RE JUST AS BLIND AS ME.
THIS IS CAPTAIN AMERICA! WE'VE GOT EYES ON KING LAUFEY AT 51ST AND NINTH! TIME TO END THIS, PEOPLE!
TIME TO TAKE BACK OUR REALM!
END.

THE WAR OF THE REALMS IS UPON US!

A GLORIOUS STRUGGLE TO DEFEND THE LAST REMNANTS OF PURITY AND JUSTICE, OF NOBILITY AND HONOR...

FWOOSH!

'TIS NEARBY, HOGUN...

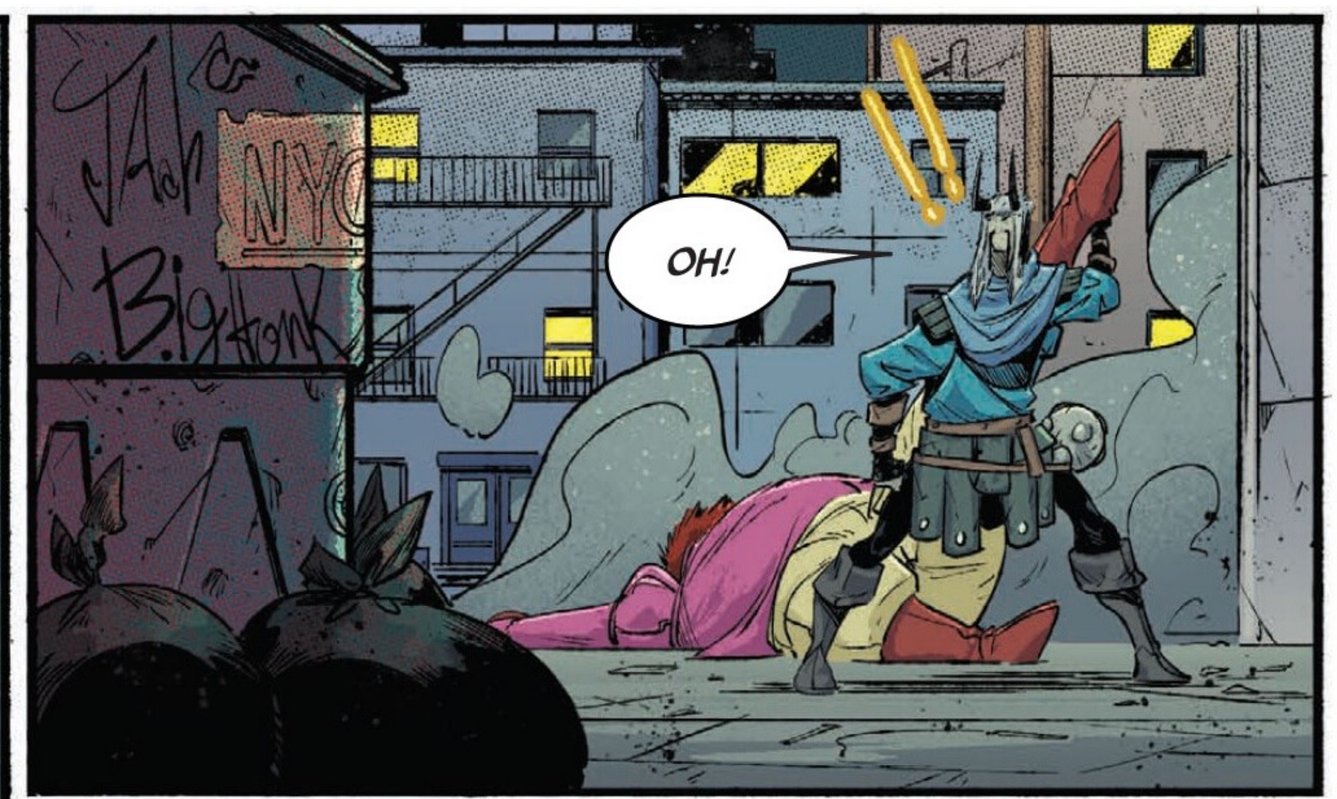
PERHAPS?

GWAARRGHH!

AHA! SUCH FOES SURELY *DEMANDETH* THE ACTION OF THE WARRIORS FOUR!

STOMP!

NOBLE VOLSTAGG, IT IS NOT A SLIGHT TO THEE.
RATHER, THE FIRES OF WAR BURN FIERCELY WITHIN THEIR HEARTS. I WILL HONOR MY VOW AND REMAIN BY YOUR SI--
ZZZZZZ


OH!

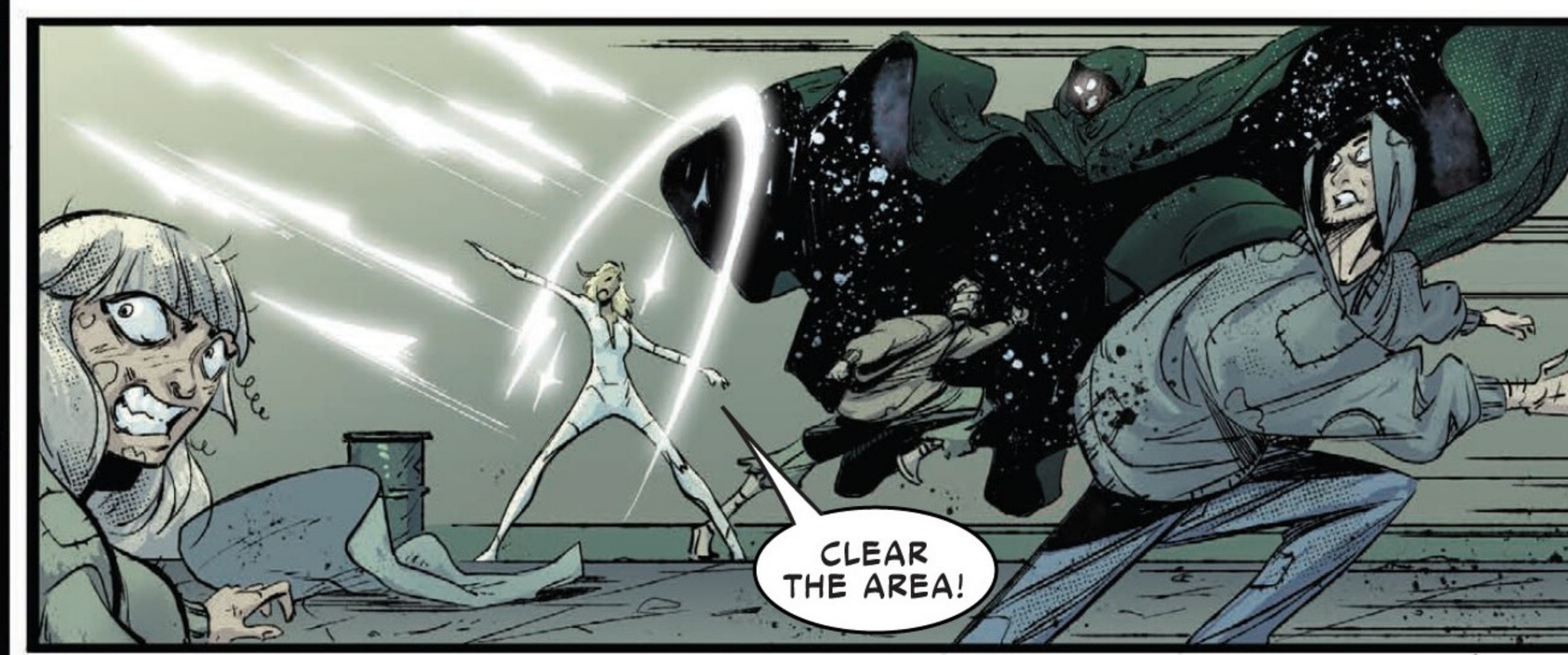
THOUGH... ONE MUST HOWL WITH THE WOLVES ONE IS AMONGST, NO?

REST WELL, MY FRIEND. WE WILL RETURN FOR THEE SHORTLY.
ZZZZ

SLAMM!
FANDRAL, HILDEGARDE, WAIT FOR ME!

BY THE FANGS OF NIDHOGG! THAT LIGHT--
KRSH!
WHAT MANNER OF SORCERY--?!

DON'T WORRY...
...CLOAK AND DAGGER ARE HERE!

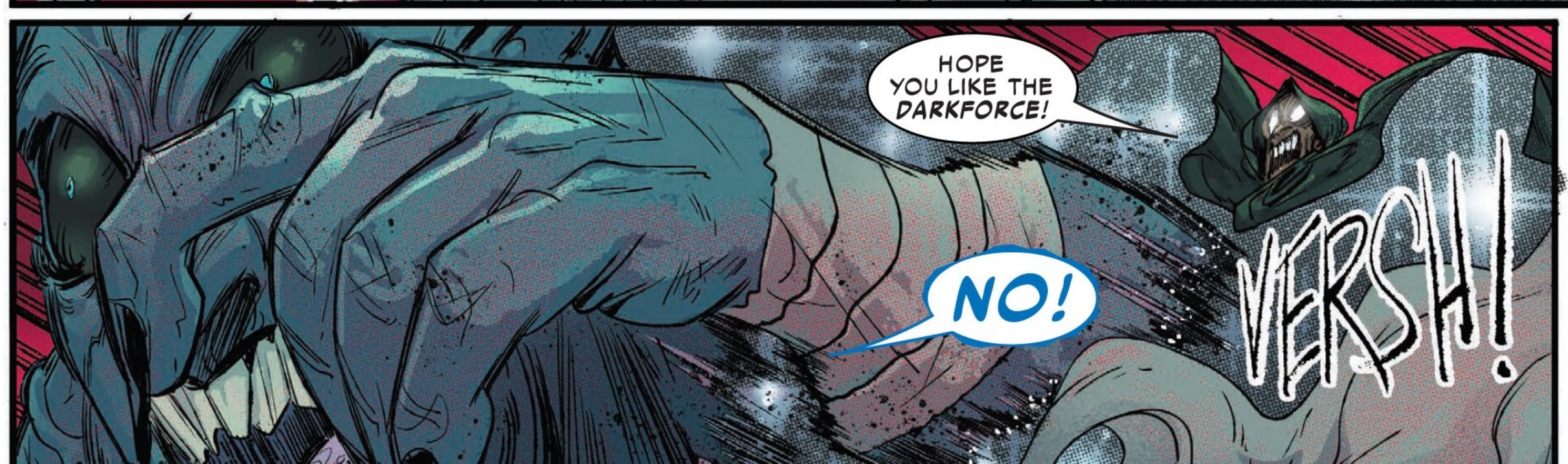

CLEAR THE AREA!

HA!
HAVE AT THEE, FIEND!

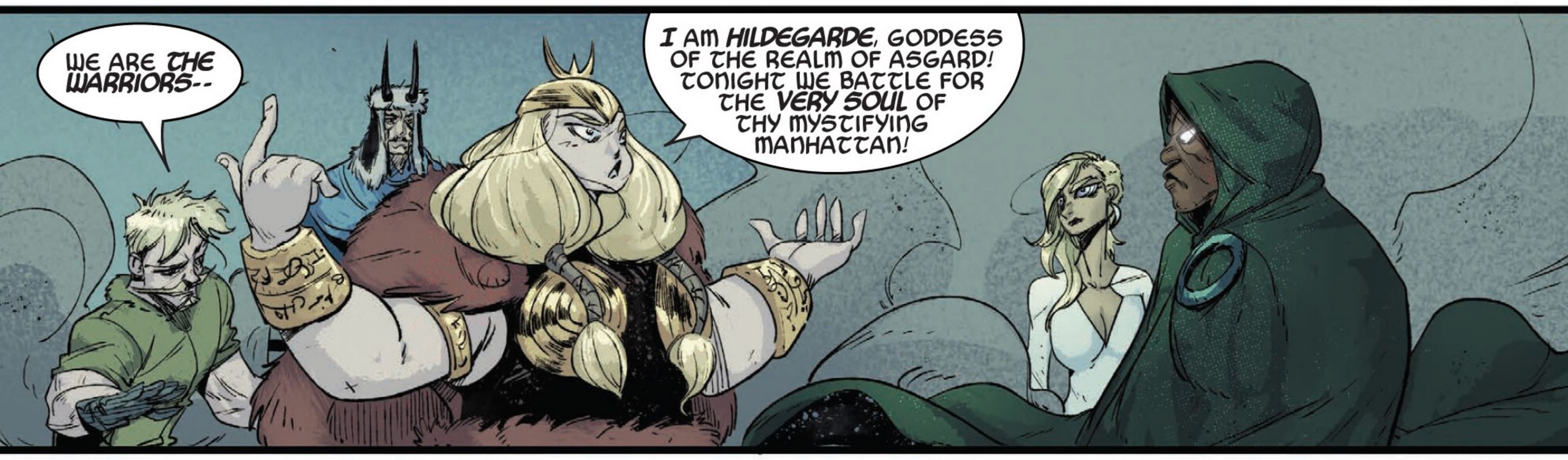
KRUNCH!

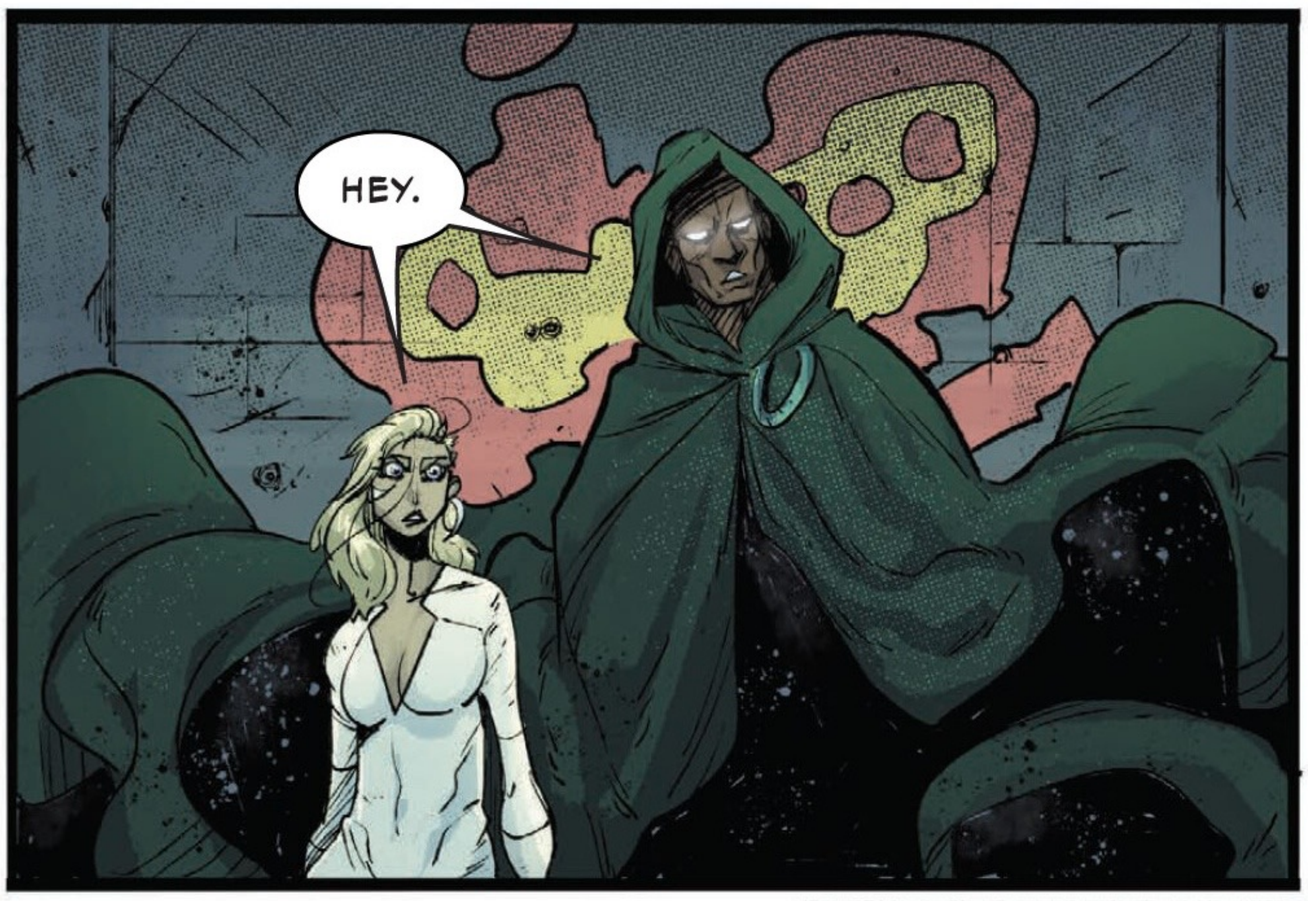
COULDN'T START A FIGHT WITH SOMEONE YOUR OWN SIZE, HUH?
WHAM

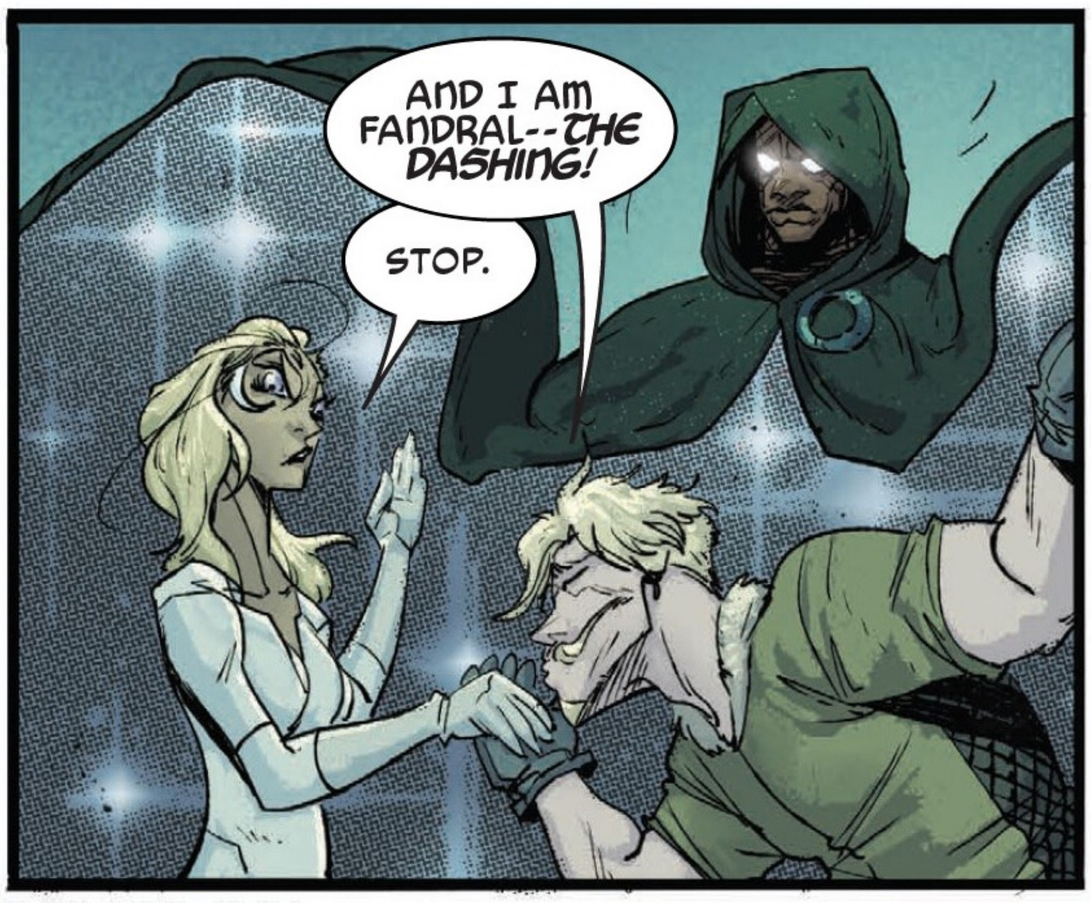
YOU PICKED THE WRONG NEIGHBORHOOD TO MESS WITH!
AAGGHH!


HOPE YOU LIKE THE DARKFORCE!
NO!
VERSH!

MOST IMPRESSIVE, WARRIORS!
¿ESTÁS BIEN?
SÍ, SÍ. GRACIAS.


WE ARE THE WARRIORS--
I AM HILDEGARDE, GODDESS OF THE REALM OF ASGARD! TONIGHT WE BATTLE FOR THE VERY SOUL OF THY MYSTIFYING MANHATTAN!


HEY.


AND I AM FANDRAL--THE DASHING!
STOP.

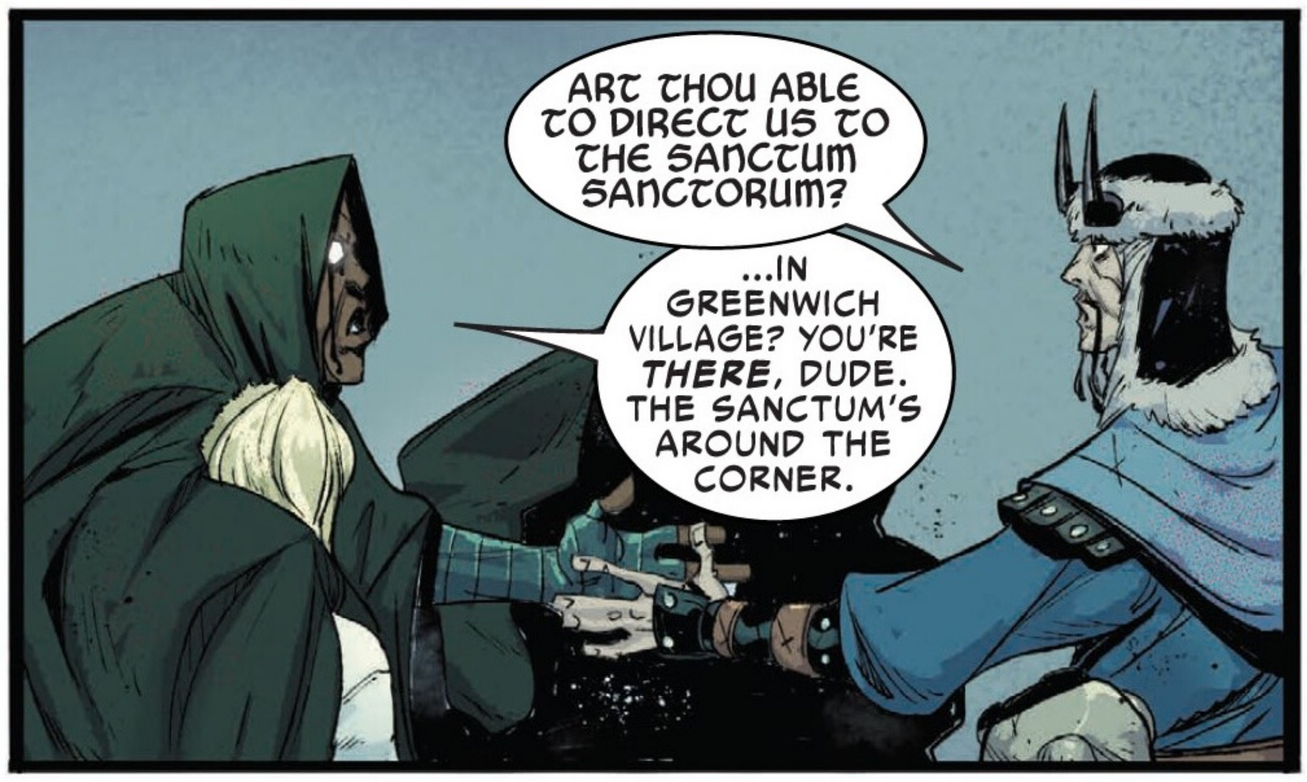
WHY ART THOU NOT FIGHTING AT THE FRONT WITH THE REST OF MIDGARD'S HEROES?

LET TONY STARK PROTECT THE SKYSCRAPERS AND WALL STREET.
OUR WORK IS HERE, WITH THE FORGOTTEN.

THERE'S ALWAYS A CRISIS SOMEWHERE. WE DECIDED IT WAS MORE IMPORTANT TO HELP PEOPLE HEAL.

'TIS A TRULY... CHIVALROUS ENDEAVOR.

THAT ICE GUY IS NOT SITTING RIGHT WITH ME, TANDY.
WE WILL NOT TARRY THEE ANY FURTHER, BUT FIRST A QUERY.


ART THOU ABLE TO DIRECT US TO THE SANCTUM SANCTORUM?
...IN GREENWICH VILLAGE? YOU'RE THERE, DUDE. THE SANCTUM'S AROUND THE CORNER.

FINALLY!
FAREWELL, NEW FRIENDS. HOW I PRAY OUR PATHS WILL ONE DAY CROSS AGAIN!
WHAT A CREEP.

THE DAGGER AND THE CLOAK HAVE SHONE GOOD FORTUNE UPON US!
NOW TO RECLAIM OUR ALLY AND CARRY HIM SAFELY TO...

VOLSTAGG?!

WHEREVER DID HE GO?
Nightcat

WHEN QUEEN FREYJA LEARNS OF THIS, SHE SHALL FEED US TO THE FENRIS WOLF!
NOT WITHOUT A FIGHT SHE WON'T! I WILL PROTECT THEE, BRAVE HOGUN.
IS THAT SO?

WORRY NOT, COMPATRIOTS, FOR OUR PRESENT DILEMMA IS MERELY AN INCONVENIENCE.

EVEN GRAVELY INJURED, VOLSTAGG'S HUNGER FOR JUSTICE IS MATCHED ONLY BY HIS HUNGER FOR, UH... EVERYTHING ELSE!
ZZZZZZ
ONWARD THEN...
Hot Dogs

"...JANE FOSTER AWAITS US!"
THIS WAY, EVERYONE! YOU'LL BE SAFE INSIDE!
WHOA! LOOKS LIKE THE REINFORCEMENTS ARE HERE!

THE WARRIORS FOUR HAVE ARRIVED!

THANK YOU, HILDEGARDE. I KNOW IT'S NOT AS LIVELY A MISSION AS YOU WOULD HAVE WANTED.
THINK NOT OF IT, M'LADY...

AFTER ALL, TRUE HEROISM COMES IN MANY FORMS.
END.

"I EVEN HELPED THE *WOLVERINE* FIGHT THEM OFF!"

"YOU DID *WHAT?*"

"WELL, MY FRIENDS AND I WERE AROUND THE CORNER FROM LEO'S WHEN I GOT YOUR TEXT AND THE PHONES ALL WENT CRAZY.
BZZT
BZZT

"AS SOON AS WE GOT ONTO GRAND, I COULD TELL THINGS WERE BAD.
"WE TRIED CUTTING NORTH THROUGH AN ALLEY...

"BUT CHRIS FELL AND HURT HIMSELF, SO WE COULDN'T GET AWAY.

"THERE WERE SO MANY! AND I WAS SCARED.
"THEY WOULD'VE GOTTEN US TOO, IF *HE* HADN'T BEEN THERE."

HEY, RIVENDELL!

NO ONE EVER TELL YOU IT'S UNCOOL TO PICK ON LITTLE KIDS?
SNIKT

WOLVERINE!
WATCH OUT!
UNH!

SPHRKKT

NICE SHOT, KID.

OH... OH MY GOD, I...

WHAT'S THE MATTER?

YOU SCARED?

SNAKT

SIGH LOOK, KID. IT'S OKAY... IT'S OKAY TO BE SCARED.

WHAT MATTERS IS THAT YOU STAYED. YOUR FRIEND WAS IN TROUBLE AND YOU ***STAYED***.

I KNOW IT SEEMS LIKE EVERYTHING'S GOING TO HELL RIGHT NOW.

BUT AS LONG AS WE'RE STILL FIGHTIN' FOR EACH OTHER, EVEN WHEN WE'RE SCARED, WE'LL BE OKAY.

NOW GO ON. STAY LOW AND STAY QUIET.

THE WAY TO ***BLEECKER STREET*** SHOULD BE CLEAR.

ALL RIGHT, EVERYONE, CHANGE OF PLANS! DOCTOR STRANGE'S MAGIC IS BACK UP AND RUNNING. WE'RE ABOUT TO TELEPORT TO AVENGERS MOUNTAIN! HOLD TIGHT!
ZZZZZZ
YOU SHOULD HAVE SEEN IT, MOM! THAT THING WAS GOING TO GET HIM, AND I STOPPED IT!
JAE-EUN! WHAT HAVE I TOLD YOU ABOUT LOOKING FOR TROUBLE?
I DON'T KNOW WHAT I'D DO IF ANYTHING HAPPENED...
BUT MOM...
...LOOK!

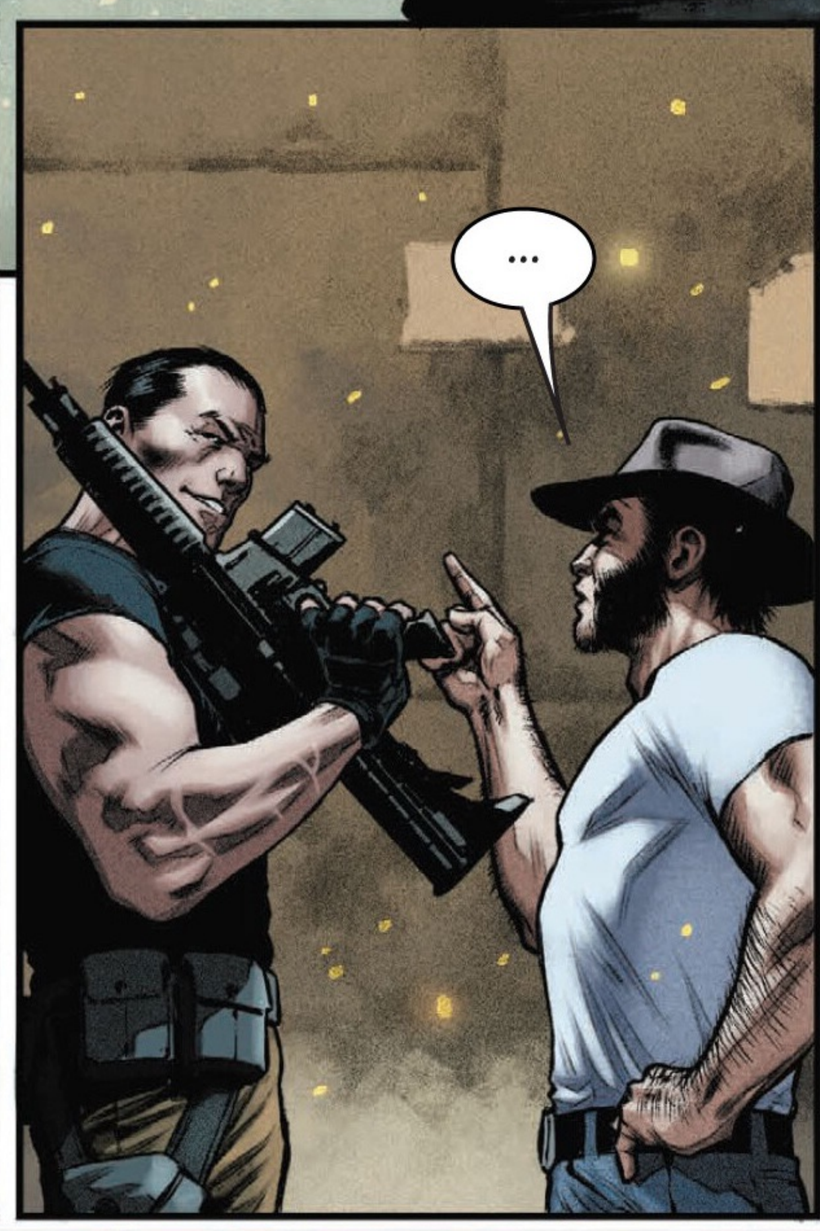
"IT'S JUST LIKE WOLVERINE SAID...

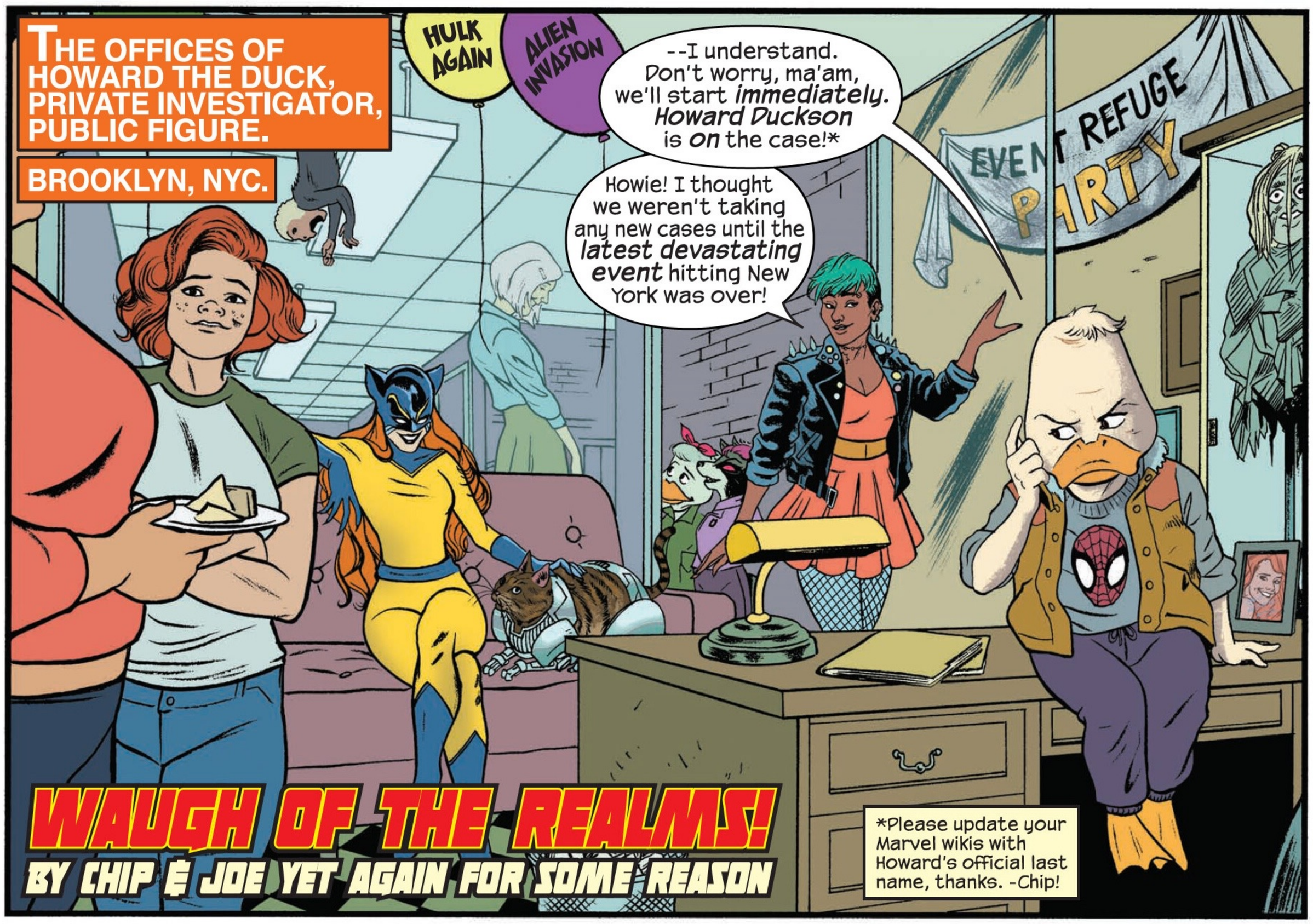
WHAT? I DON'T GET A "NICE SHOT, FRANK"?

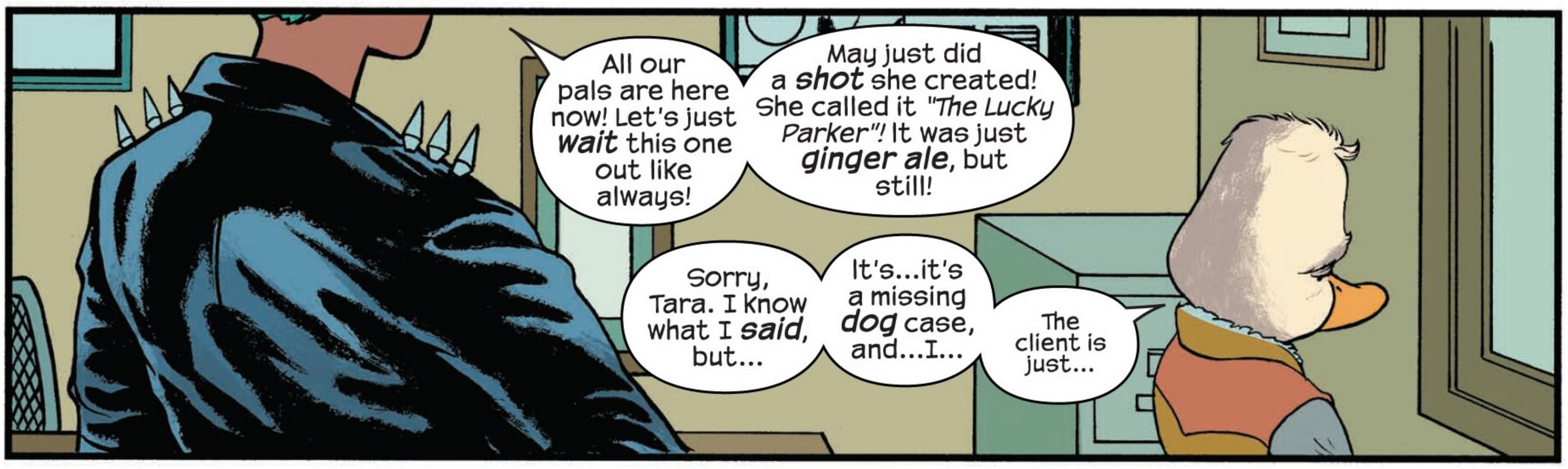
NO "THANKS FOR SAVIN' MY BEHIND, FRANK"?

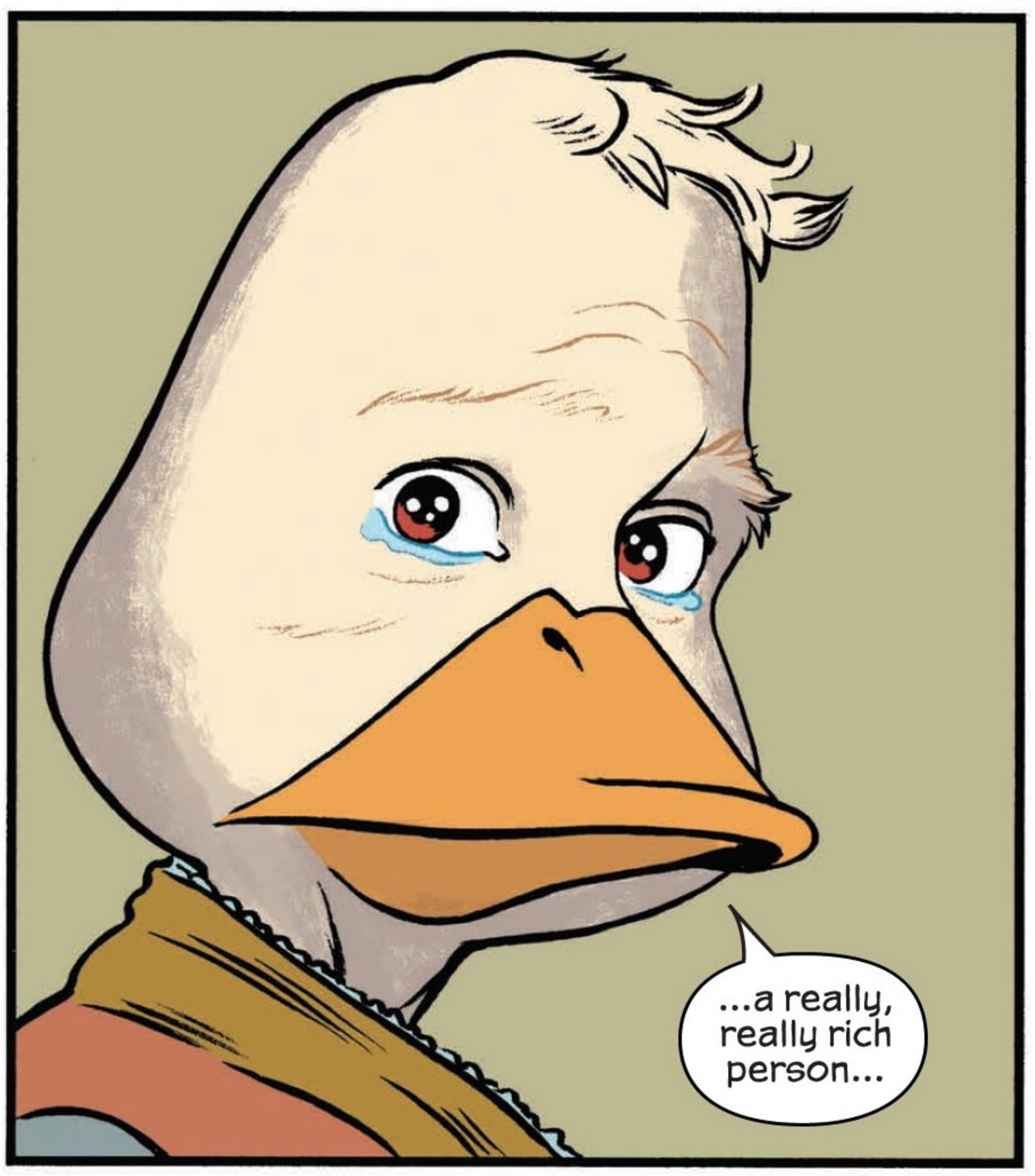
ACTUALLY, I WAS THINKING YOU'RE *SLIPPIN'*, FRANK. ALMOST LET THAT TROLL GET TO ME.

YOU GETTIN' SLOPPY, BUB?

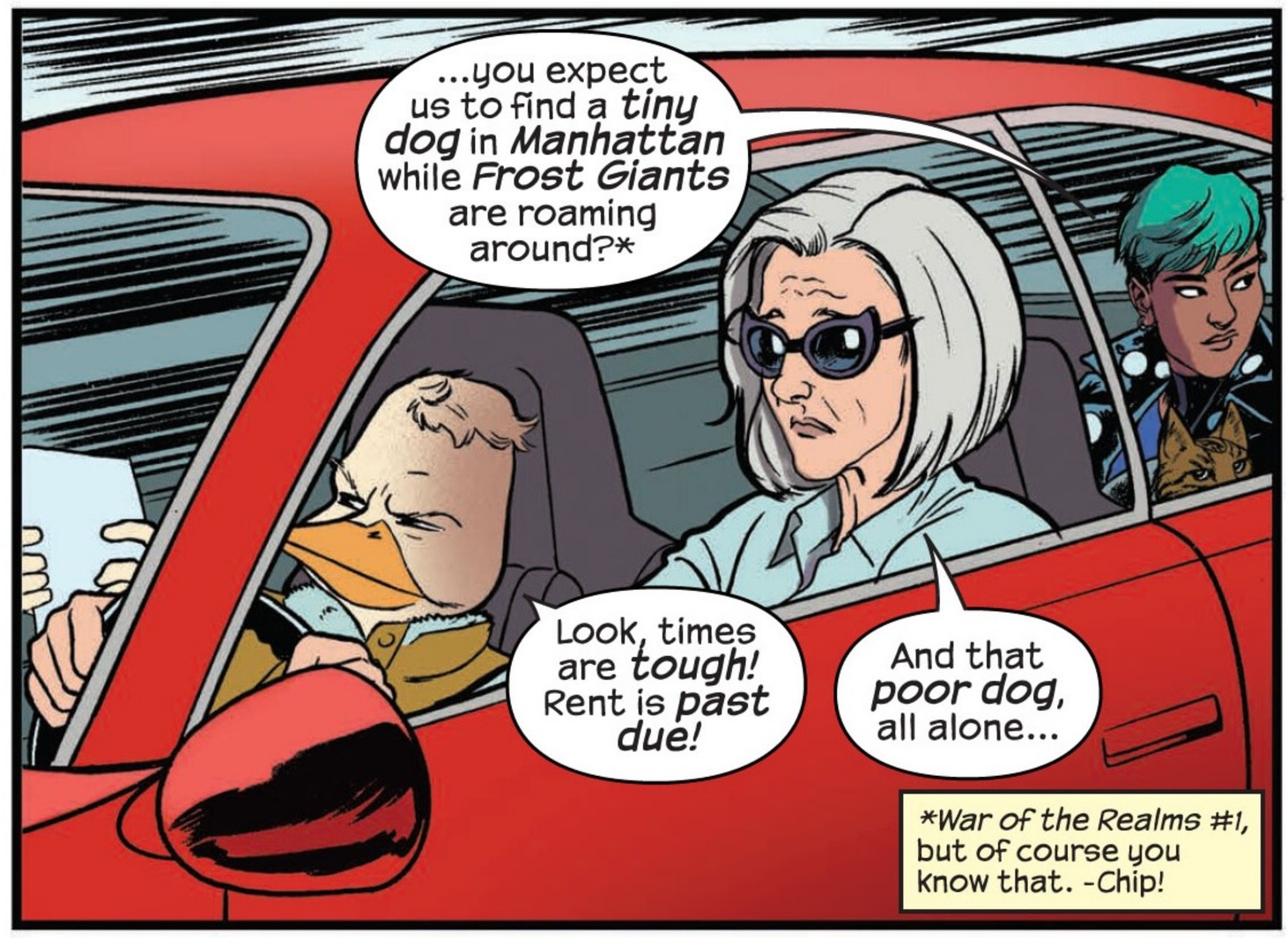



THE OFFICES OF HOWARD THE DUCK, PRIVATE INVESTIGATOR, PUBLIC FIGURE.
BROOKLYN, NYC.
HULK AGAIN
ALIEN INVASION
--I understand. Don't worry, ma'am, we'll start immediately. Howard Duckson is on the case!*
Howie! I thought we weren't taking any new cases until the latest devastating event hitting New York was over!
EVENT REFUGE PARTY
WAUGH OF THE REALMS!
BY CHIP & JOE YET AGAIN FOR SOME REASON
*Please update your Marvel wikis with Howard's official last name, thanks. -Chip!


All our pals are here now! Let's just wait this one out like always!
May just did a shot she created! She called it "The Lucky Parker"! It was just ginger ale, but still!
Sorry, Tara. I know what I said, but...
It's...it's a missing dog case, and...I...
The client is just...

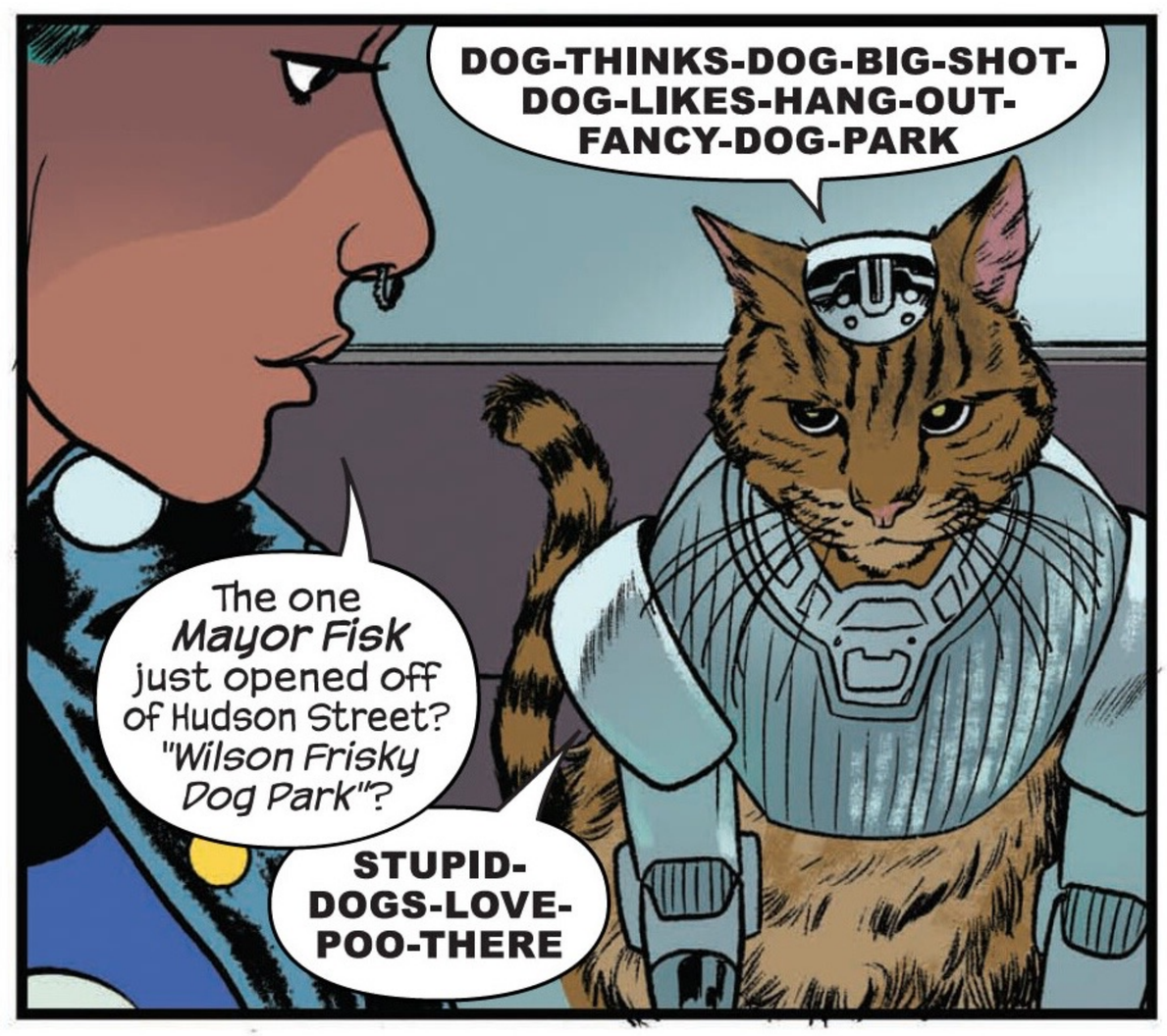

...a really, really rich person...

TEN MINUTES LATER.
THE MANHATTAN BRIDGE.
So...let me get this straight...
HONK
HONK
HONK


...you expect us to find a tiny dog in Manhattan while Frost Giants are roaming around?*
Look, times are tough! Rent is past due!
And that poor dog, all alone...
*War of the Realms #1, but of course you know that. -Chip!

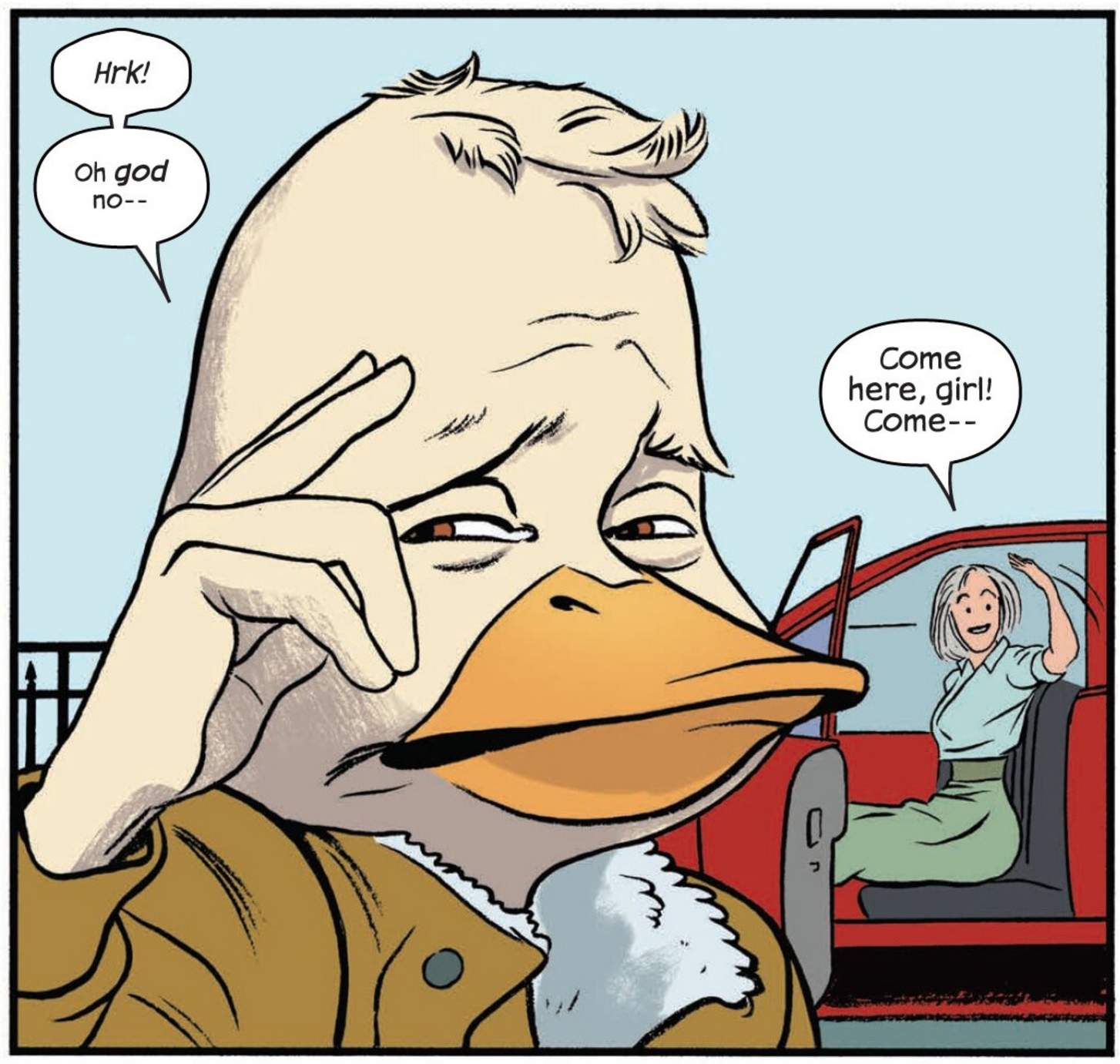
Yeah, sure, May. That too.
Wish we had more to go on, though...
Oh my god, Howard!

Why do you insist on printing off every email and why is it always too big?
BIGGS-TOLD-YOU-BIGGS-KNOW-DOG
RESPONDS TO MITZIE WHEN C

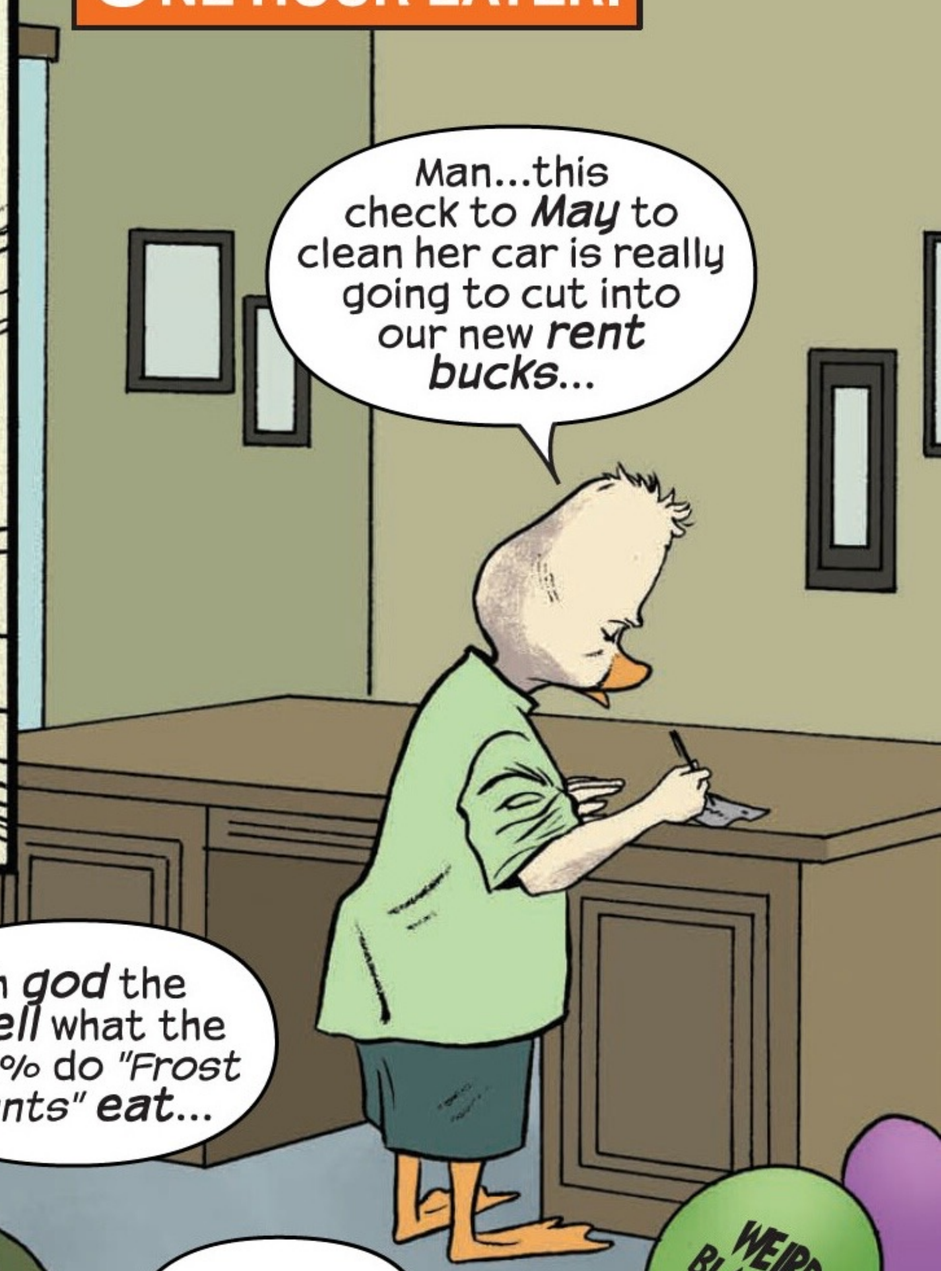

DOG-THINKS-DOG-BIG-SHOT-DOG-LIKES-HANG-OUT-FANCY-DOG-PARK
The one Mayor Fisk just opened off of Hudson Street? "Wilson Frisky Dog Park"?
STUPID-DOGS-LOVE-POO-THERE

...Uh, not just dogs...

Looks like even big chilly giant aliens heed the call of nature...
...I guess they noticed all the, uh, business done in the park and thought this was where, y'know...
Oh my god the stench.
I'll, uh.... keep the car running!
I guess a little nasal shape-shifting will take care of that...
Hey! Shape-shift something helpful--
--and distract that guy from killing next month's rent!
Geez, all right...
Hey! Over here, you frozen treat, you!
Mitzie! Mitzie! Come here, girl, come--



ONE HOUR LATER.



END!

WAR OF THE REALMS: WAR SCROLLS #2

Agency · My Drag Brunch with Loki

AVENGERS MOUNTAIN.
JUST AFTER THE BATTLE FOR NEW YORK.
I STILL CAN'T BELIEVE STRANGE WAS ABLE TO TELEPORT NEARLY THE ENTIRE POPULATION OF MANHATTAN HERE.
HOW'S HE DOING?
WE CANNOT KNOW, CAPTAIN MARVEL.
MY HOPE IS THAT HE IS USING THIS TIME TO REPLENISH HIS INTERNAL RESOURCES, BUT I FEAR IT IS QUITE THE OPPOSITE.
MEDITATION'S A GREAT WAY TO FIND BALANCE AND RE-CENTER.
ONLY IF YOU STAY IN YOUR BODY.
WELL, OBVIOUSLY HE'S IN HIS--

--BODY...
CAUGHT THIS UNOORION EGG-LAYER TRYING TO SET UP A NEST IN SOMINUS, BLACK PANTHER.
STRONGLY SUGGEST YOU HAVE HIM ESCORTED TO THE DETENTION CENTER BEFORE HE REMATERIALIZES.

CERTAINLY, DOCTOR STRANGE.
NOW, ASTRAL TRAVEL, ON THE OTHER HAND--
YOU DON'T HAVE TO EXPLAIN, IRON FIST. I GET IT...

"...IT'S MAGIC."
...AND TO KEEP THIS PROVINCE OUT OF REACH...
...BY THE SHADES OF THE SERAPHIM, SEAL THIS BREACH!
I KNOW YOU COULD HAVE HANDLED THIS, BUT YOUR COMPETENCE DOESN'T NEGATE MY RESPONSIBILITY.
SURE, IT'S JUST TEMPORAL GHASTS NOW, BUT WE'RE IN THE MIDDLE OF A MULTI-REALM WAR.
THESE KINDS OF CONFLICTS CREATE OPPORTUNITY, AND I'LL FEEL BETTER KNOWING I SHORED UP YOUR DEFENSES. AFTER ALL...

...ETERNITY IS AN IRRESISTIBLE TARGET.
...
WELL, LOVELY CHATTING WITH YOU...

"...AS ALWAYS."

OH!
BAD DREAM?

HABÍA UN HOMBRE MALO...
YEAH, SORRY ABOUT THAT...

...HE'S ACTUALLY MY NEXT STOP.
YOU GO SLEEPING NOW?

SOMETHING LIKE THAT...

I DECIDED TO COME END YOUR INVASION BEFORE IT BEGAN.

END IT?

BUT YOUR PRESENCE HERE IN MY DREAM DIMENSION ASSURES IT!

I DON'T WANT YOU TO THINK I'M NOT GOING TO HELP YOU, THOUGH, STEPHEN.
THIS APPREHENSION OF YOURS--IT'S PERSONAL, ISN'T IT?
WE'LL JUST TAKE A LITTLE LOOK-SEE, FIND OUT WHAT WE'VE GOT...
OH, IT'S...
...IT'S DOUBT!
HNNH!
YOU RECENTLY CAST A SPELL...
...AND LOST CONTROL OF IT!

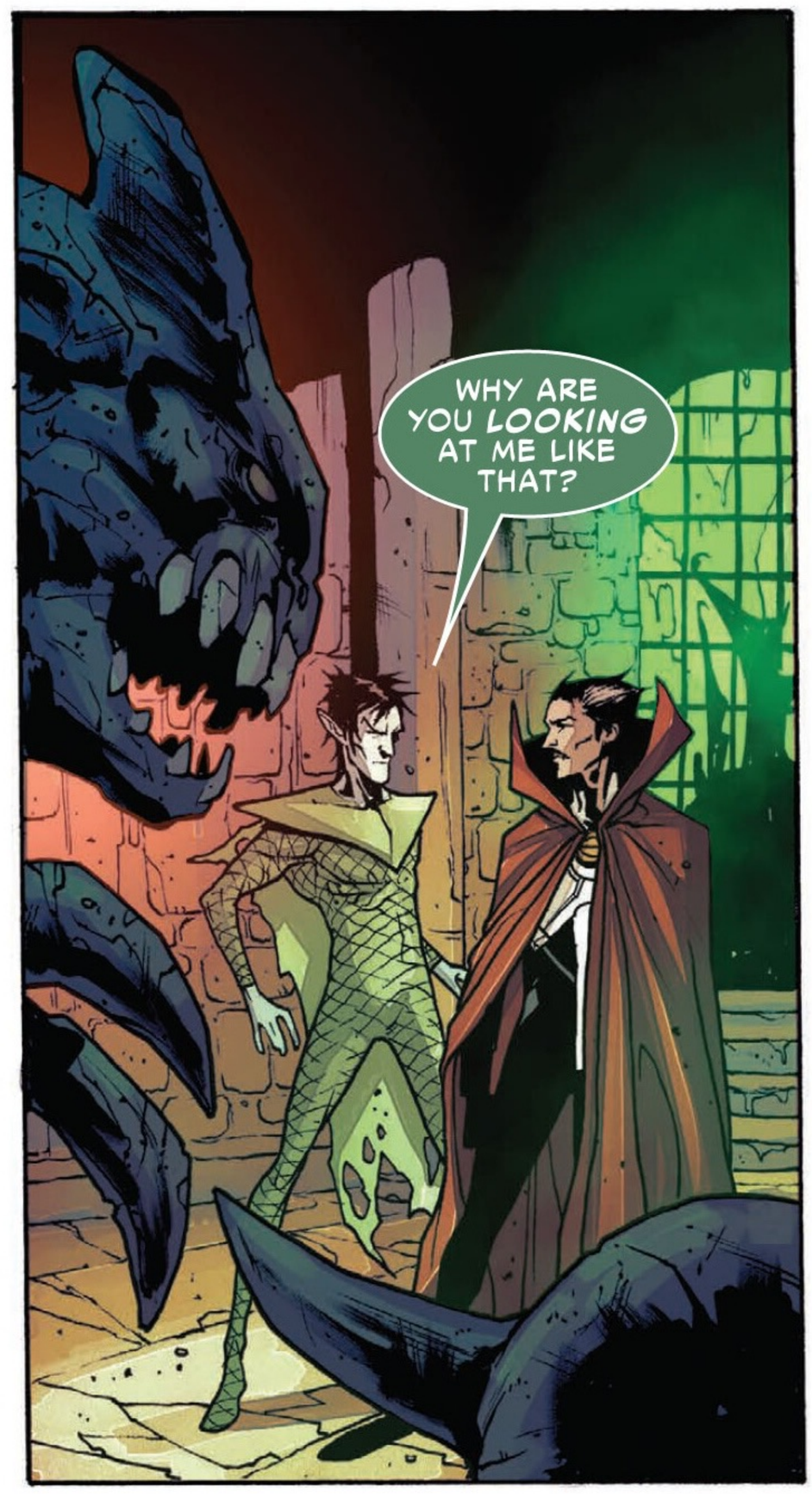
OH, I SEE...
YOU STILL DON'T KNOW WHY.

REALLY, STEPHEN, THIS ONE'S EASY.

YOUR SPELL WAS SUPPOSED TO EVACUATE THE CIVILIANS, BUT IT PULLED YOU AND THE OTHER HEROES AWAY FROM THE FIGHT TOO.

MAGIC'S ABOUT INTENTION--YOU KNOW THAT.
AND EVEN THOUGH YOU DIDN'T WANT TO ADMIT IT TO YOURSELF, YOU WERE TIRED AND FRIGHTENED...

...AND JUST AS DESPERATE AS THOSE MEWLING CIVILIANS TO BE SAFE!
IT'S NO WONDER YOU--
WHAT?!


WHY ARE YOU LOOKING AT ME LIKE THAT?

YOU'RE RIGHT, NIGHTMARE, THIS ONE *WAS* EASY.
YOU'RE ACTUALLY PRETTY *GOOD* AT THIS, YOU KNOW.
YOU'VE GOT A LOT OF GREAT *INSIGHT*, AND YOU'RE GIFTED WITH *NARRATIVE*.

YOU JUST DON'T UNDERSTAND *AGENCY*.

WHAT?
WHAT ARE YOU *TALKING* ABOUT, SORCERER?

YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO WHEN PEOPLE ROAR BACK AT MONSTERS OR LIGHT CANDLES IN DARK ROOMS.
YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND PEOPLE WHO *CHOOSE* TO BE *BRAVE*.

I *DID* HAVE WORRIES THAT I HADN'T ARTICULATED TO MYSELF. YOU'RE RIGHT ABOUT THAT.
BUT IT WASN'T CONCERN FOR MY *OWN* SAFETY.
WH-WHAT ARE YOU...?
STOP THAT! THIS IS MY DIMENSION!

SOME PART OF ME WAS WORRIED ABOUT SENDING ALL THOSE PEOPLE AWAY ALONE.
UNCONSCIOUSLY, I WAS STILL TRYING TO PROTECT THEM.
SO I BROUGHT THEIR HEROES ALONG, TOO.

IT WAS A MISTAKE.
I ADMITTED AS MUCH AT THE TIME, AND GOING FORWARD I'LL BE MORE PRECISE.
BUT FOR NOW, IT'S NICE TO KNOW I DIDN'T GET IN OVER MY HEAD...
THAT'S ENOUGH!

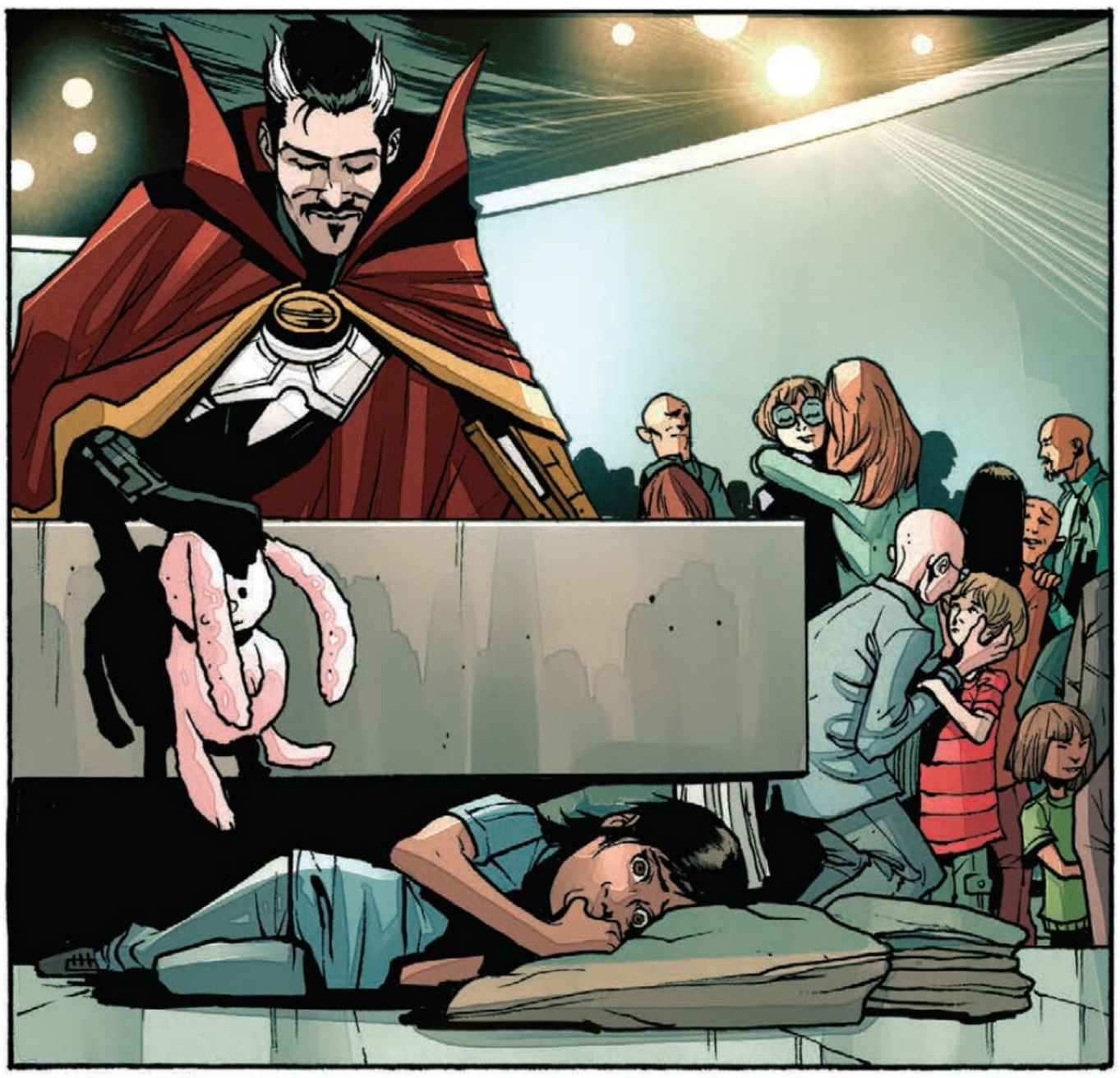
...I JUST GOT A LITTLE STUCK IN IT.
CLINK
AGH!
WAIT! YOU CAN'T JUST LEAVE ME HERE!
CLINK
THIS ISN'T OVER! THE WAR HASN'T ENDED!

EVERYTHING'S STILL OPEN FOR ME!
EVERYONE'S STILL TERRIFIED AND FULL OF DREAD!

NOT EVERYONE.

NOT ANYMORE.
THANKS FOR YOUR HELP, NIGHTMARE...

"...I DIDN'T REALIZE HOW BADLY I NEEDED THAT NAP."



YOUR TURN.
ONLY GOOD DREAMS THIS TIME, I PROMISE.
DOCTOR STRANGE?

I AM AFRAID WE ARE ONCE AGAIN IN NEED OF YOUR TALENTS.
ARE YOU READY TO--
--DEFEND THE REALM?

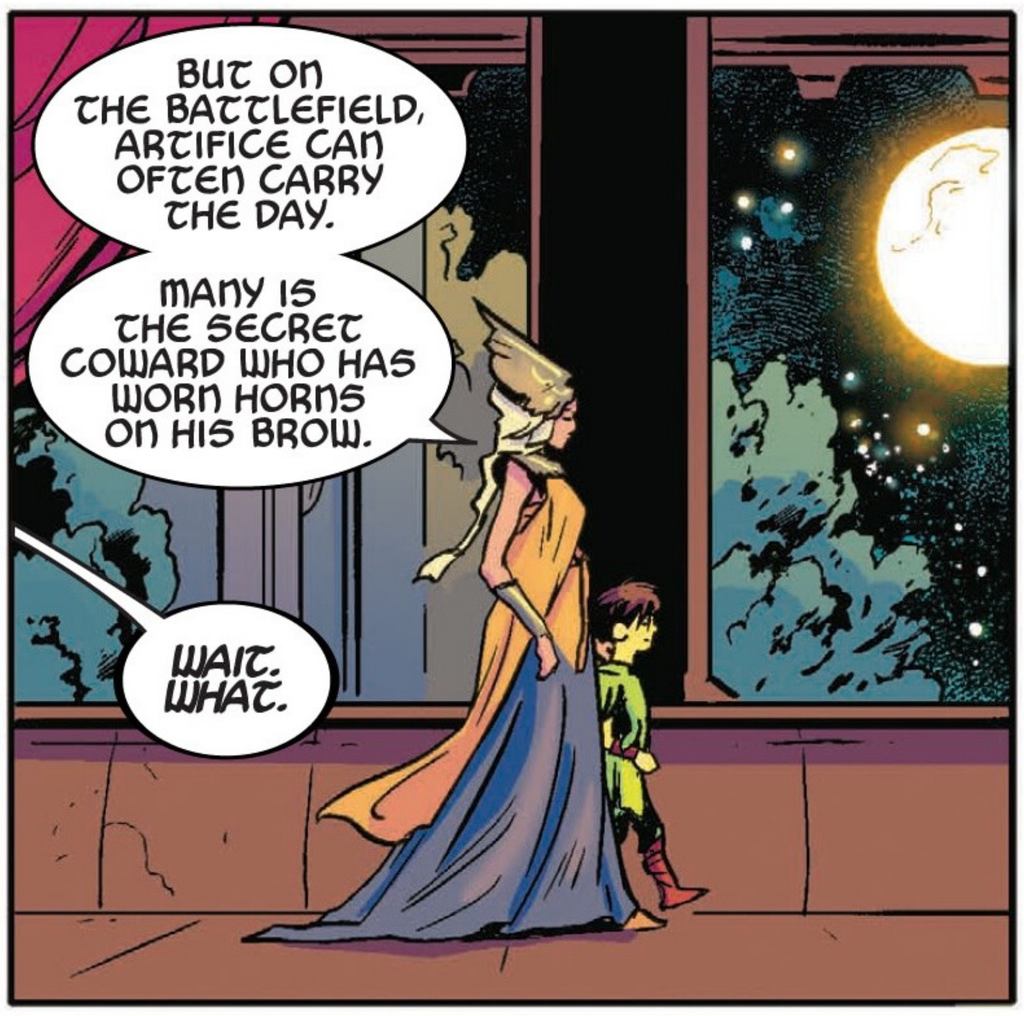
ALWAYS.
END.

ASGARD.
WHEN THE REALMS YET WERE YOUNG.

LOKI!!! BY THOSE WHO SIT ABOVE, THOU SHALT OBEY ME!

RESTORE THY BROTHER AT ONCE!

RARR.



AND ALL-FATHER, BEAR WITNESS--

NO MORE BEARS!

--I SHALL PUT AWAY CHILDISH THINGS!

AND THE TIME WILL COME WHEN LOKI IS PROCLAIMED A HERO THROUGHOUT THE AGES OF ASGARD!

THOUGH THE BIFROST ITSELF MAY FALL!

EARTH. A FEW WEEKS AGO.

TEDDY ALTMAN, A.K.A. HULKLING. SUPER-STRONG SHAPE-SHIFTER. PRINCE CHARMING FROM SPACE.

YAWN

TIME TO GET UP, BUDDY...

BILLY KAPLAN, A.K.A. WICCAN. REALITY WARPER. ENTIRELY TOO GOTH FOR THIS.

Okay...just have to....help M.O.D.O.K....get ready for the ball...

YOU HAVE BRUNCH WITH KATE IN LIKE 20 MINUTES...

...AND WOW, HEADS UP, YOUR MORNING BREATH IS, LIKE, PROFOUNDLY STINKY.

...he doesn't fit in the carriage... pumpkin chunks everywhere... what a to-do...

GOLLY HOW I HATE THAT YOU'RE A MORNING PERSON.

NUH-UH YOU TOTALLY LOVE ME. JUICE?

NAH, I'M LATE.

AND IF I KNOW KATE, SHE'LL ALREADY BE TWO MIMOSAS IN...

OKAY WELL, MOON PRISM POWER OR WHATEVER!

DORK.

I'D BUST OUT A "FOR THE HONOR OF GRAYSKULL," BUT I'M NOT THE ONE ROCKING A BIG HONKING MAGIC SWORD LATELY...

SURE YOU DON'T WANNA CRASH OUR DATE?

IT'S OKAY, YOU KIDS ENJOY YOUR SUNDAY MORNING DEBAUCHERY.

I'M GONNA WATCH CARTOONS AND EAT CEREAL WITH MARSHMALLOWS IN IT, AS THE LORD INTENDED.

...WOW. STILL SO STINKY.

LADIES AND GENDERS! WELCOME TO BRUNCH--WE HOPE YOU SURVIVE THE EXPERIENCE!
NEXT UP, SHE'S THE BEST THERE IS AT WHAT SHE DOES, BUT WHAT SHE DOES WILL DEFINITELY GIVE YOU PINKEYE--
NOT-SO-STRAIGHT FROM MUTANT TOWN, FROM THE LEGENDARY HOUSE OF JUMBO CARNATION, PLEASE WELCOME...
...KRYSTAL M'KRAAN!
BILLY!
KRYSTAL M'KRAAN
HEY BABY. WHERE'S THAT STRAPPING MAN OF YOURS?!
OH, HE'S A PHILISTINE. SERVING SOME VINTAGE X-LEWKS TODAY, HUH, KRYSTAL?
I AM FIRE AND LIFE INCARNATE, HONEY...
DON'T YOUR CUTE ASS NEVER FORGET IT.
KATE! OH MY GOSH HOW ARE YOU?!
BETTER NOW THAT YOU'RE FINALLY HERE. I'VE ALREADY HAD TWO MIMOSAS!
OBVIOUSLY IT WAS THE MOST I'VE EVER SUFFERED. WORLD-ENDING STUFF.
OH NO! WELL, CHEERS...

"...TO THE *END* OF THE END OF THE WORLD!"

THE WAR OF THE REALMS.
CENTRAL PARK. PRESENT DAY.

WHAT IS GOING *ON?!*

EITHER SOMEONE PISSED OFF A TINY FROST PRINCESS VOICED BY THE WICKEDLY TALENTED, ONE-AND-ONLY *ADELE DAZEEM, OR--*

SO, KATE, NOT THAT I MIND, ***CLEARLY,*** BUT WHAT BRINGS YOU BACK TO NEW YORK?

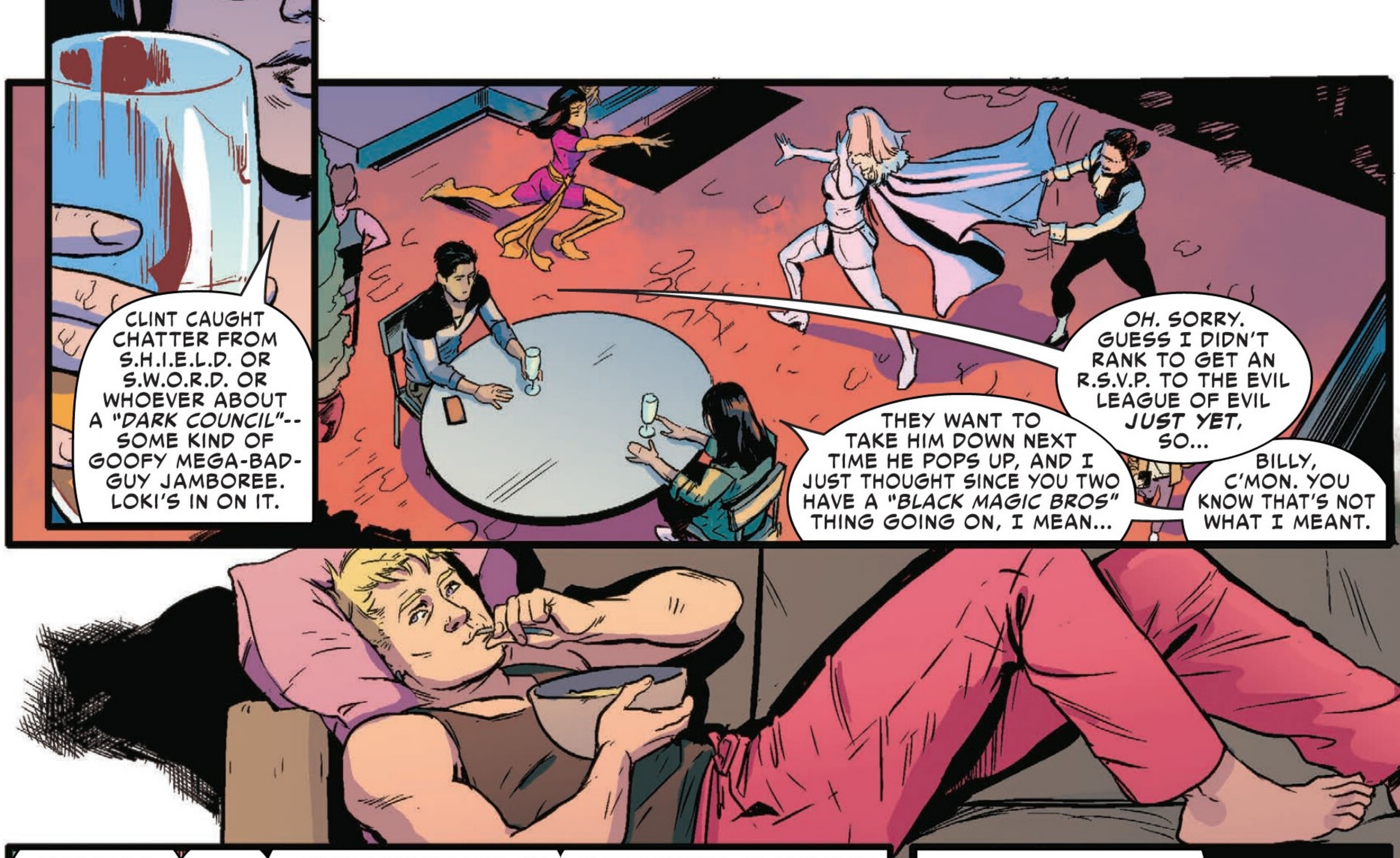
SHOULDN'T YOU BE IN L.A., LIKE, ARROWING AND HAVING A CRUSH ON EVERY BOY?

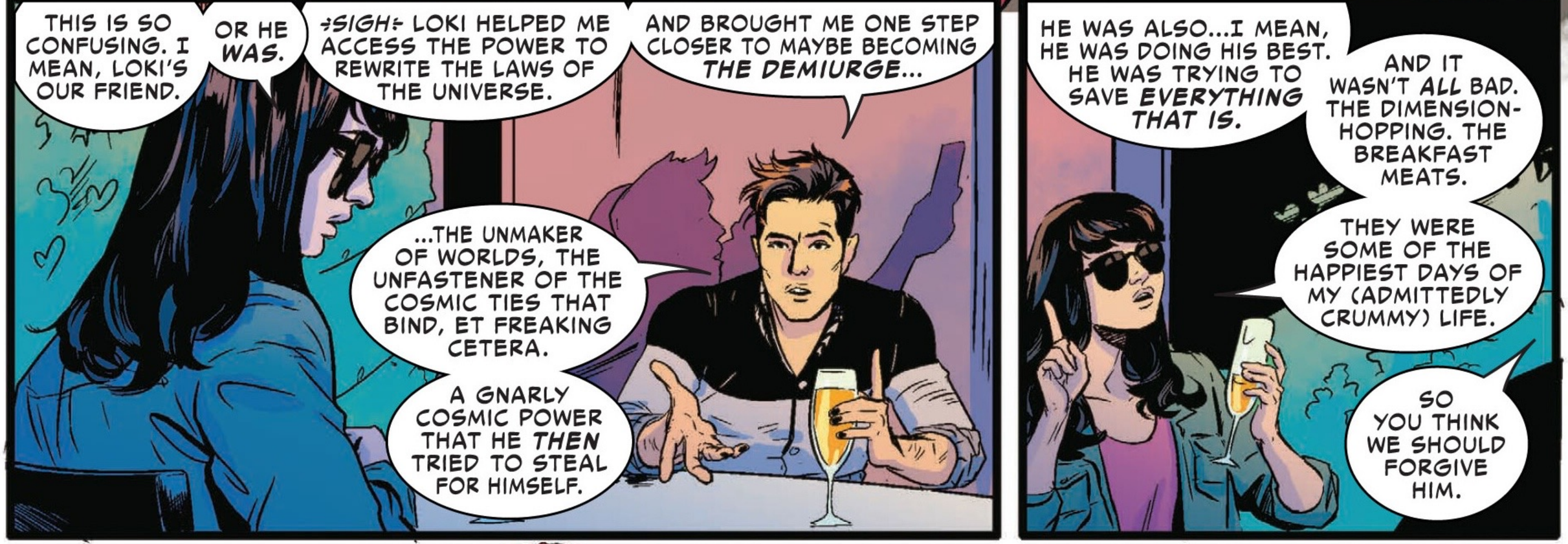
CAN'T A GIRL JUST CHECK UP ON BILL AND TED'S MOST EXCELLENT ADVENTURES WITHOUT IT BEING SOME AGGRO YOUNG AVENGERS CRISIS?

NOT... HISTORICALLY, NO. SERIOUSLY: WHAT'S UP?

SIGH

THE TRUTH IS... IT'S *LOKI.*


CLINT CAUGHT CHATTER FROM S.H.I.E.L.D. OR S.W.O.R.D. OR WHOEVER ABOUT A "DARK COUNCIL"-- SOME KIND OF GOOFY MEGA-BAD-GUY JAMBOREE. LOKI'S IN ON IT.
OH. SORRY. GUESS I DIDN'T RANK TO GET AN R.S.V.P. TO THE EVIL LEAGUE OF EVIL JUST YET, SO...
THEY WANT TO TAKE HIM DOWN NEXT TIME HE POPS UP, AND I JUST THOUGHT SINCE YOU TWO HAVE A "BLACK MAGIC BROS" THING GOING ON, I MEAN...
BILLY, C'MON. YOU KNOW THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT.


THIS IS SO CONFUSING. I MEAN, LOKI'S OUR FRIEND.
OR HE WAS.
÷SIGH÷ LOKI HELPED ME ACCESS THE POWER TO REWRITE THE LAWS OF THE UNIVERSE.
AND BROUGHT ME ONE STEP CLOSER TO MAYBE BECOMING THE DEMIURGE...
...THE UNMAKER OF WORLDS, THE UNFASTENER OF THE COSMIC TIES THAT BIND, ET FREAKING CETERA.
A GNARLY COSMIC POWER THAT HE THEN TRIED TO STEAL FOR HIMSELF.
HE WAS ALSO...I MEAN, HE WAS DOING HIS BEST. HE WAS TRYING TO SAVE EVERYTHING THAT IS.
AND IT WASN'T ALL BAD. THE DIMENSION-HOPPING. THE BREAKFAST MEATS.
THEY WERE SOME OF THE HAPPIEST DAYS OF MY (ADMITTEDLY CRUMMY) LIFE.
SO YOU THINK WE SHOULD FORGIVE HIM.

GOD, BILLY. SO WHAT ARE WE SAYING? WE KILL HIM?
IS THAT WHAT THEY SHOULD HAVE DONE TO JEAN GREY? OR TO YOUR MOM?
TO YOU?
UH-OH.

DING
TEXT FROM TEDDY? HOW ARE THE CARTOONS?
I GUESS BORING ENOUGH THAT HE'S BEEN SCROLLING THROUGH *INSTAGRAM*.
APPARENTLY ***KATE BISHOP*** JUST POSTED A SELFIE ON ***VENICE BEACH***, IN FRONT OF AN OVERTURNED PORTA-POTTY WITH QUENTIN QUIRE INSIDE.
WHAT DO YOU WANT, ***LOKI?***
DRAT.
YOU HAVE ABOUT FIVE SECONDS BEFORE THIS CROWD SEES WHAT A ***REAL*** DEATH DROP LOOKS LIKE.
VERY WELL. PARDON THE SLEIGHT-OF-FACE, BUT GIVE A MAN A MASK AND HE ***WILL*** TELL YOU THE TRUTH.
I ***HAVE*** RECLAIMED MY BIRTHRIGHT IN JOTUNHEIM. AS THE LAUFEYSON, I INDEED NOW SIT AT MALEKITH'S RIGHT HAND.
AND OUR FORCES ARE MOVING. BRISKLY. SO I CAME TO ASCERTAIN EXACTLY AS YOU GUESSED:
I WANT TO KNOW, WHEN WE REMAKE THE ORDER OF THINGS, WHERE BILLY KAPLAN--WHERE THE DEMIURGE--WILL STAND.
Back
Teddy
Contact
Thanks, Babe. Home soon.
RU Ok? OMW
IF, WHEN THE APOCALYPSE COMES, I SHOULD BEEP YOU.
NO.
NO, THAT DOESN'T MAKE SENSE. ENDING THE WORLD...THAT'S NOT THE LOKI I KNEW.
I THINK YOU WANT TO KNOW THE OTHER THING.
IF YOU CAN BE ***FORGIVEN.***

"THE LOKI YOU KNEW." WHELP. YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW YOURSELF.

"ASGARDIAN." "WICCAN." SO MANY NAMES--NONE OF THEM ABOUT *YOU*, ALL OF THEM ABOUT *US*.

AS THE DENIZEN OF A PAGAN PANTHEON MOSTLY NOTED (I BLUSH TO ADMIT) FOR ITS PROCLIVITIES TO VIOLENCE AND PROFOUND INSOBRIETY, I CANNOT HELP BUT WONDER:

WHAT IS IT THAT THIS CHILD OF MIDGARD SEES IN US TO SO ADMIRE?

WHAT CAN I SAY, MAYBE I JUST HAVE A THING FOR STRAPPING BLOND VIKING PRINCES.

AND I THINK THAT YOU AND I ARE MORE ALIKE THAN YOU WOULD CARE TO ADMIT.

ACROSS ALL THESE REALMS, YOU ARE ONE OF THE FEW PEOPLE WHO KNOW THE *TRUTH* OF WHAT I DID...

YOU HOLLOWED OUT YOUR YOUNGER SELF--A CHILD--AND INSTALLED YOURSELF INSIDE. YOU'RE A PARASITE.

AND I HAVE BEEN BURNING EVER SINCE.

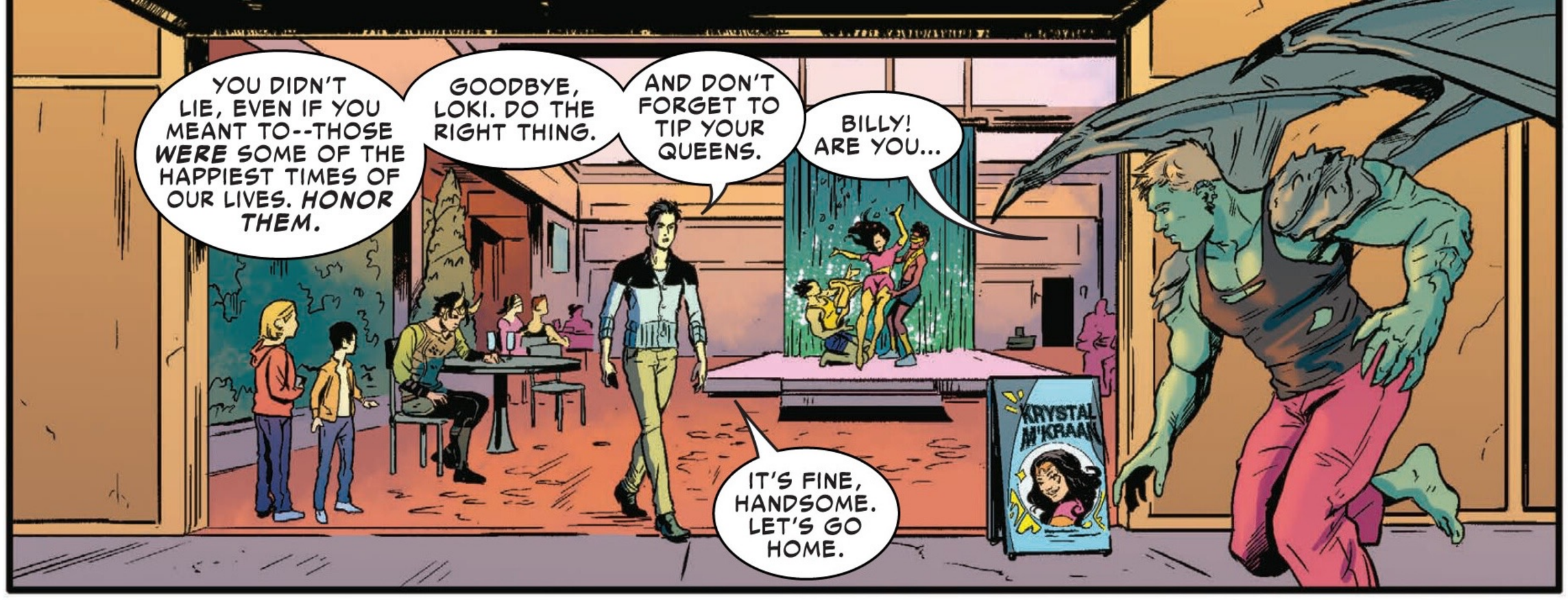
WELL GEE. GOOD. BURN, BABY, BURN.

FINE. BUT SOON THIS WORLD WILL BURN *WITH* ME. OR FREEZE. THE SENSATION, IN THE END, IS MUCH THE SAME.

WON'T IT BE NICE, *DEMIURGE*, TO START AGAIN? NO MORE RAGNAROKS TO TRUMPET. NO MORE APOCALYPSES TO FEAR.

ALL OUR SINS BURIED IN ASH AND SNOW.

"LISTEN, LOKI. YOU HURT PEOPLE BEYOND ME, AND THAT VIOLENCE...IT'S LIKE THE RULES OF MAGIC. IT REDOUNDS.
"IT COMES BACK.
"THERE'S A RECKONING.
AVENGERS FOE LOKI SLAIN?
"SO I DON'T FORGIVE YOU FOR ALL OF IT, BECAUSE THAT'S NOT MY PLACE.
"BUT WHATEVER YOU'RE ABOUT TO DO, IT DOESN'T GET TO BE BECAUSE NOBODY CARES ABOUT YOU. WE DO.
"I DO."



"SOMETIMES."

END.

WAR OF THE REALMS: WAR SCROLLS #3

A Rose for Victor · The Face of a Warrior

LATVERIA.
THIS IS IT, I SUPPOSE.
STRANGE TO BE AT THE END OF SOMETHING.
NOT JUST A COUNTRY, BUT A WORLD. THE WORLD.
"VEREZHEJK."
THAT'S LATVERIAN FOR "DEFEAT." IN OUR LANGUAGE, IT CARRIES MORE WEIGHT THAN THE WORD FOR "DEATH."
IT'S "HAZLÁL," BY THE WAY. THE WORD FOR "DEATH."
IT ALSO MEANS "SOUP THAT'S GONE BAD."
BUT THE MASTER HASN'T GIVEN UP YET.
AND YET...HE'S HERE. UNDERGROUND. GIVING ORDERS TO TROOPS, BUT IT ALSO SEEMS LIKE HE'S...HIDING.
I CANNOT SAY I BLAME HIM.

ONLY A FEW WEEKS AGO, HE HAD THE ONE CALLED "GALACTUS" IN THE PALM OF HIS HAND.*
HAVE YOU EVER SEEN SOMETHING THE SIZE OF A MOUNTAIN FUSED INTO AN ACTUAL MOUNTAIN?
*SEE FANTASTIC FOUR (2018) #6-9. --WIL
Wanted
By order of the Latverian Government
Reed Richa
Wanted
By order of the Latverian Government
Sue Richards
Wanted
By order of the Latverian Government
Johnny Storm
Wanted
order of the Latverian Government
Ben Grimm
THEN THE CORNY AMERICANS WITH POWERS GOT INVOLVED AGAIN AND...WELL, YOU KNOW.
IT'S LAW HERE THAT SPEAKING THE NAME "RICHARDS" WILL GET YOU EXECUTED.
I WAS FRIGHTENED TO EVEN SAY IT IN MY MIND JUST NOW.
GOOD GOD...
...DID HE HEAR ME?
THE MOST BRILLIANT MIND ON EARTH--ONE OF THE MOST POWERFUL SORCERERS IN THE UNIVERSE...

...WAS HUMILIATED ON LIVE TELEVISION, FORCIBLY UNMASKED, HIDEOUS SCARS LAID BARE.
WE WERE FORCED TO REMEMBER--AND SO WAS HE--
--THAT HE'S A MAN.
NOT A GOD.
VEREZHEJK
Doom
THIS IS ALL HE HAS LEFT OF THE WORLD-EATER'S POWER.
A FEW MOLECULES OF COSMIC FIRE.
AND IT DOESN'T DO MUCH WHEN YOU'RE BEING OVERRUN BY ELVES.

I DON'T THINK THE MONSTERS HAVE CANDY TO GIVE US.

OR EVEN KNOW WHAT CANDY IS.

THE MASTER DOESN'T TAKE IT WELL WHEN HE LEARNS AN ENTIRE SQUADRON OF DOOMBOTS HAS BEEN DESTROYED ON THE EASTERN LINE.
IT'S AN INSULT TO INJURY, OF COURSE, THAT THEY LOOK JUST LIKE HIM.
Latteria
OUR LORD GOES FOR BROKE.
HE ORDERS A SPECIAL FORCES UNIT WE CAN'T SPARE TO SEARCH FOR VICTORIOUS--HIS PERSONAL HERALD AND CHIEF WARRIOR--WHO'S BEEN LOST BEHIND ENEMY LINES FOR DAYS.
IT REMINDS ME OF THAT AMERICAN WAR MOVIE. WHAT'S IT CALLED?
THE ONE WITH MATTHEW DAMON.
HE RETREATS AGAIN TO STUDY ANCIENT NORSE TEXTS, LOOKING FOR CLUES.
Codex Regius
BUT IT'S NO USE...
...IT WON'T BE LONG BEFORE THE MONSTERS KILL US ALL.

SOME SAY OUR ONLY HOPE IS TO CROSS THE SOUTHERN BORDER INTO SYMKARIA.
BUT PAPA SAYS SYMKARIAN GULAGS ARE A FATE WORSE THAN DEATH.

AT FIRST I THOUGHT HE SAID "GOULASH," BUT I WAS STILL SCARED, BECAUSE MAMA OFTEN SAID SYMKARIANS ATE CHILDREN.

PAPA SAYS HE WILL TRY TO GET HELP. BEFORE HE GOES, I TRY TO REMEMBER HIS FACE AS HARD AS I CAN.

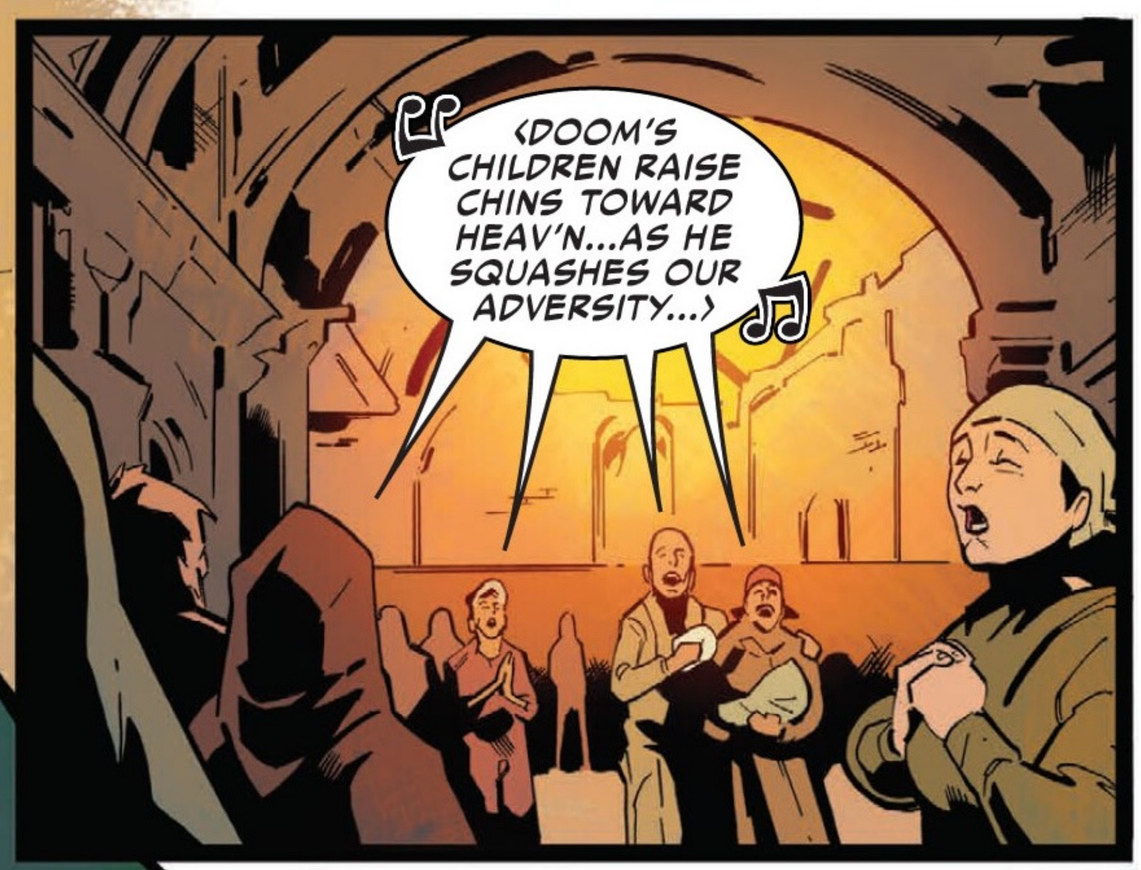
EVENTUALLY, EVERYTHING GOES DARK.
IT LOOKS LIKE THE SOUP'S FINALLY GONE BAD.

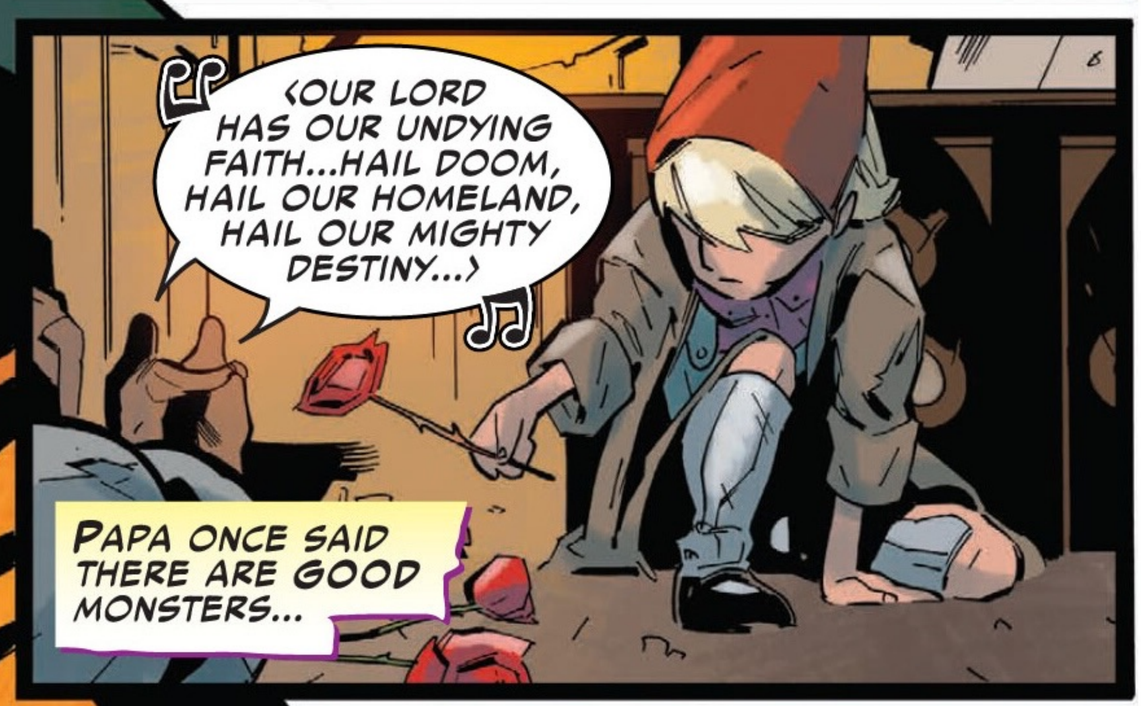
‹ALL HAIL STRONG LATVERIA... GLORY SHINES ON THEE... DOOM'S CHILDREN RAISE CHINS TOWARD HEAV'N... AS HE QUASHES OUR ADVERSITY...›*
BUT PERHAPS PATRIOTISM NEVER DIES.
*TRANSLATED FROM LATVERIAN.

‹OUR LORD HAS OUR UNDYING FAITH...HAIL DOOM, HAIL OUR HOMELAND, HAIL OUR MIGHTY DESTINY...›
EVEN IN THE FACE OF VEREZHEJK.

IN THAT MOMENT, HE DECIDES.

"<ALL HAIL STRONG LATVERIA...GLORY SHINES ON THEE...>"





WHEN OUR LORD ARRIVES...
...I FIRST THINK THE ÉJSZASZKA-ÖRDJÖG--THE NIGHT DEVIL--HAS FINALLY COME TO TAKE US TO HELL.
BUT IT'S A GOOD MONSTER, COME TO MAKE THE BAD MONSTERS GO AWAY.
"BAD MONSTERS, BAD MONSTERS!" I SCREAM AS HE KILLS THEM.
I HAVEN'T CHEERED THIS MUCH SINCE THE LATVERIAN FOOTBALL TEAM WAS IMPRISONED FOR TREASON AGAINST THE STATE!

IT'S SAID THE MASTER KILLED OVER A THOUSAND THAT DAY.
AND ON THAT DAY, HE RESTED.
I BELIEVE IN OUR GOD.
MY PAPA GAVE HIS LIFE FOR OUR GOD.
I WOULD GLADLY GIVE MY LIFE FOR OUR GOD TOO.

<KNEEL BEFORE YOUR LEADER!>
<KNEEL, PEASANT!>
I AM GRATEFUL FOR OUR GOD.
HE WILL ALWAYS PROTECT US.
HE IS GYÖZJELEM.
Codex Regius
HE IS VICTORY.
END.

SVARTALFHEIM. LAND OF THE DARK ELVES.

LADY FREYJA LEADS A TEAM TO DESTROY MALEKITH'S BLACK BIFROST.

BUT...THEY'VE HIT A SLIGHT SNAG.

SORRY YOU ALL HAD TO GET OUT AND WALK. IF MY HELL CHARGER SINKS ANY LOWER IN THIS SWAMP, THE TRANSMISSION'LL GET FRIED.

DOUBT THERE'S A PEP BOYS IN ELFLAND.

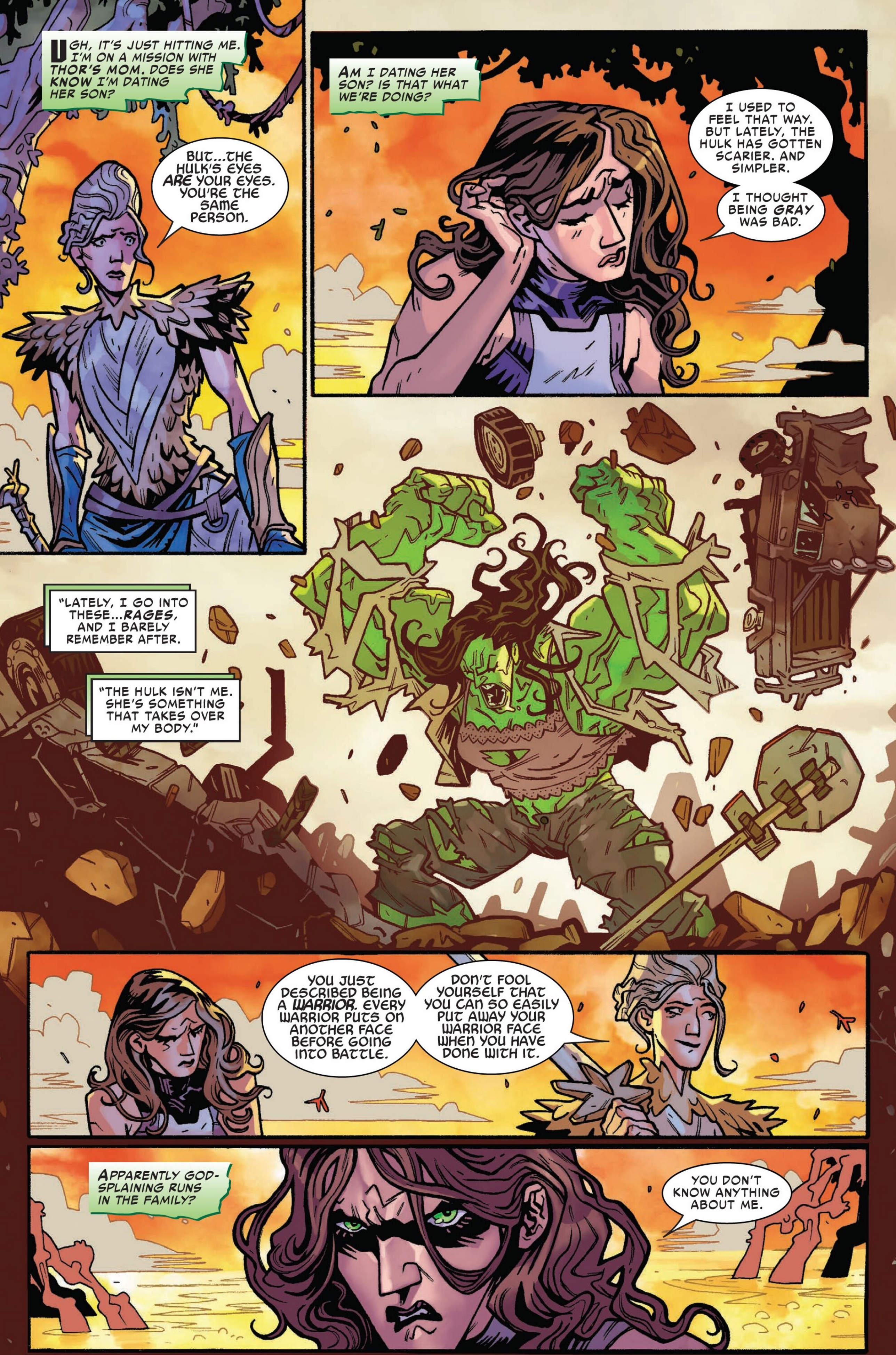
HMPH. I DON'T MUCH LIKE RIDING IN *DEMONIC CARS* ANYWAY, GHOST RIDER.

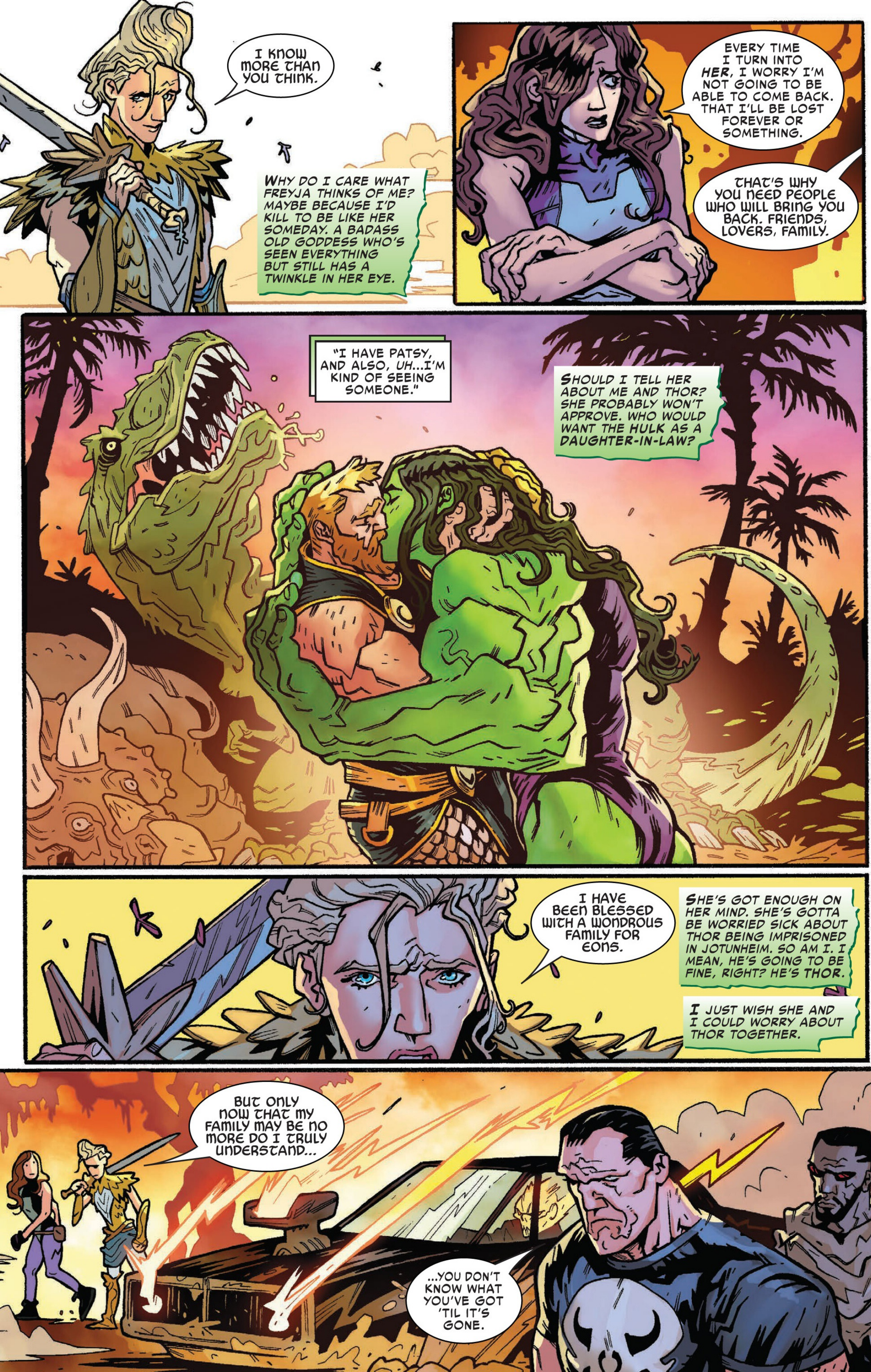
JENNIFER? WHY DID YOU CHANGE BACK TO YOUR *HUMAN* FORM?

WE NO DOUBT WILL HAVE NEED OF THE HULK AGAIN SOON.

I KNOW, LADY FREYJA, I'LL CHANGE BACK SOON. I JUST...

I JUST WANTED TO SEE ALL OF THIS WITH MY *OWN* EYES.


UGH, IT'S JUST HITTING ME. I'M ON A MISSION WITH THOR'S MOM. DOES SHE KNOW I'M DATING HER SON?
BUT...THE HULK'S EYES ARE YOUR EYES. YOU'RE THE SAME PERSON.
AM I DATING HER SON? IS THAT WHAT WE'RE DOING?
I USED TO FEEL THAT WAY. BUT LATELY, THE HULK HAS GOTTEN SCARIER. AND SIMPLER.
I THOUGHT BEING GRAY WAS BAD.
"LATELY, I GO INTO THESE...RAGES, AND I BARELY REMEMBER AFTER.
"THE HULK ISN'T ME. SHE'S SOMETHING THAT TAKES OVER MY BODY."
YOU JUST DESCRIBED BEING A WARRIOR. EVERY WARRIOR PUTS ON ANOTHER FACE BEFORE GOING INTO BATTLE.
DON'T FOOL YOURSELF THAT YOU CAN SO EASILY PUT AWAY YOUR WARRIOR FACE WHEN YOU HAVE DONE WITH IT.
APPARENTLY GOD-SPLAINING RUNS IN THE FAMILY?
YOU DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT ME.


I KNOW MORE THAN YOU THINK.
WHY DO I CARE WHAT FREYJA THINKS OF ME? MAYBE BECAUSE I'D KILL TO BE LIKE HER SOMEDAY. A BADASS OLD GODDESS WHO'S SEEN EVERYTHING BUT STILL HAS A TWINKLE IN HER EYE.
EVERY TIME I TURN INTO HER, I WORRY I'M NOT GOING TO BE ABLE TO COME BACK. THAT I'LL BE LOST FOREVER OR SOMETHING.
THAT'S WHY YOU NEED PEOPLE WHO WILL BRING YOU BACK. FRIENDS, LOVERS, FAMILY.
"I HAVE PATSY, AND ALSO, UH...I'M KIND OF SEEING SOMEONE."
SHOULD I TELL HER ABOUT ME AND THOR? SHE PROBABLY WON'T APPROVE. WHO WOULD WANT THE HULK AS A DAUGHTER-IN-LAW?
I HAVE BEEN BLESSED WITH A WONDROUS FAMILY FOR EONS.
SHE'S GOT ENOUGH ON HER MIND. SHE'S GOTTA BE WORRIED SICK ABOUT THOR BEING IMPRISONED IN JOTUNHEIM. SO AM I. I MEAN, HE'S GOING TO BE FINE, RIGHT? HE'S THOR.
I JUST WISH SHE AND I COULD WORRY ABOUT THOR TOGETHER.
BUT ONLY NOW THAT MY FAMILY MAY BE NO MORE DO I TRULY UNDERSTAND...
...YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'VE GOT 'TIL IT'S GONE.

NEVER THOUGHT I'D HEAR THE *PUNISHER* QUOTE *JONI MITCHELL.*
EVERYBODY KNOWS *COURT AND SPARK* IS THE GREATEST ALBUM OF ALL TIME.
ONLY IN A WORLD WITHOUT *BITCHES BREW.* OR *LEMONADE.*
PSSH. EVERY SONG ON *COURT AND SPARK* TELLS ITS OWN STORY, BLADE.
YOU'RE CR--
GUYS, LOOK OUT!
HOLY--
GUILD

GUESS IT'S TIME TO SMACK A DRAGON AROUND.
I NEEDED SOMETHING TO HIT RIGHT ABOUT NOW.
GHOST RIDER, STAY WITH THE CAR! HULK, WITH ME!
RRRGH!
THE WORM WENT THIS WAY. I KNOW ITS WEAKNESS OF OLD. WE MUST--
HULK AND THOR SEEING EACH OTHER.
...WHAT?
YOU HEARD HULK.

HAVE TO ASK HER. ÷SNORT÷ MAYBE SHE THINK SHE NOT GOOD ENOUGH.

AND WHAT DO *YOU* THINK?

HULK *KNOWS* HULK GOOD ENOUGH.

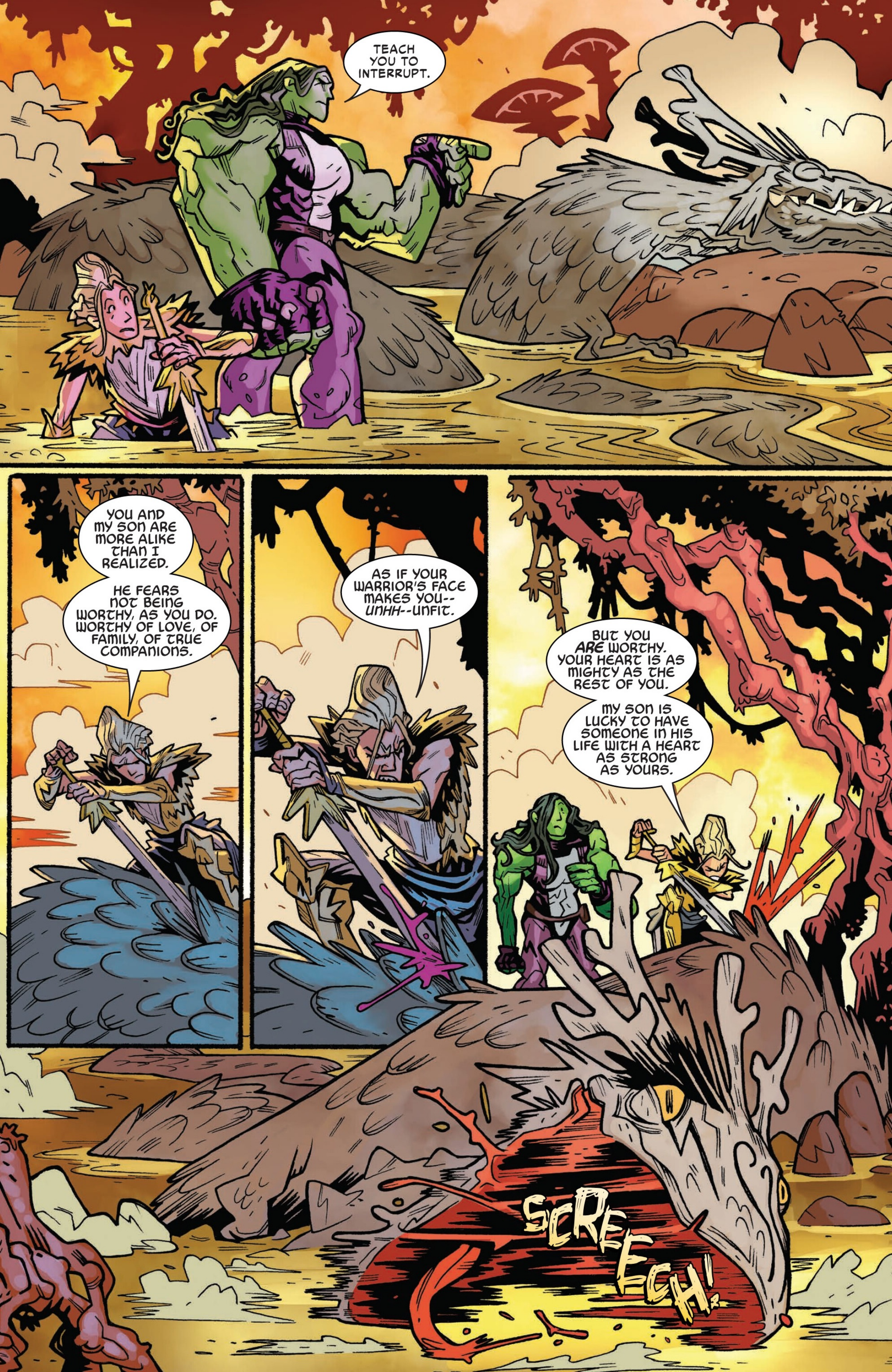
AND...DO YOU LOVE HIM?
RRRURRRR--

HULK NOT KNOW YET. HULK TAKE IT ONE DAY AT A TIME.
HULK AND THOR JUST GETTING STARTED.
--ACK!

HULK SCARED TO LOSE THOR. HULK MAYBE NEVER KNOW WHAT COULD HAVE BEEN.
I'M FRIGHTENED TOO.

I FEAR FOR MY SON, AND FOR ALL MIDGARD. BUT--
RAAOARR!

GO AWAY, SWAMP BEAST!
WOMEN ARE TALKING!
BAM


TEACH YOU TO INTERRUPT.
YOU AND MY SON ARE MORE ALIKE THAN I REALIZED.
HE FEARS NOT BEING WORTHY, AS YOU DO. WORTHY OF LOVE, OF FAMILY, OF TRUE COMPANIONS.
AS IF YOUR WARRIOR'S FACE MAKES YOU-- UNHH--UNFIT.
BUT YOU ARE WORTHY. YOUR HEART IS AS MIGHTY AS THE REST OF YOU.
MY SON IS LUCKY TO HAVE SOMEONE IN HIS LIFE WITH A HEART AS STRONG AS YOURS.
SCREECH!

THIS IS THE WEIRDEST THERAPY SESSION EVER.
AND THAT INCLUDES THAT TIME I GOT TURNED INTO A GIANT FLOATING HEAD.
...THANK YOU, FREYJA.
ANYONE WOULD BE HONORED TO HAVE YOU AS A BOON COMPANION. INCLUDING ME. AND MY SON.
KACK!
WHAT'D I MISS?
LEMONADE, APPARENTLY.
WE HAVE LOST MUCH TIME. THE BLACK BIFROST AWAITS.
WE WILL FACE THIS DARKNESS... AS WARRIORS!
RAAGH!
END.

WAR OF THE REALMS:

The Punisher #1

THE MUSIC SHOP
MANHATTAN.
THE MUSIC SHOP
MUSIC CLASS
FIRST LESSON FREE!
OPEN
NOW HOLD YOUR FINGERS A BIT FARTHER APART. YOU HAVE TO GET USED TO STRETCHING.
CLOSED
YOU THERE. MUSIC TEACHER.
OH, GOD. OH, GOD.
I BROUGHT BACK A LITTLE WEED FROM COLORADO.
IT'S LEGAL THERE, BUT I SHOULD'VE KNOWN SOMETHING LIKE THIS WOULD HAPPEN.
I'M HERE FOR SOME PIANO WIRE.
I KNOW I SCREWED UP.
OKAY, SURE. WHAT TYPE OF PIANO DO YOU HAVE?
H-HERE. IT'S ON THE HOUSE.
BARRICADE YOURSELF IN SOMEWHERE SAFE. DON'T COME OUT UNTIL THE SCREAMING STOPS.
OH, MY-- WHAT'S HAPPENING NOW?!

WAY
NEW YORK HAS ALWAYS BEEN HELL.
AND EVERY ONCE IN A WHILE IT'S A WEIRDER, WORSE HELL 'CAUSE OF %$@# FROM SOMEONE IN A CAPE.
BLAMMM
THIS LOOKS LIKE EITHER DR. STRANGE OR MAYBE THOR'S BAGGAGE.
EITHER WAY, GOOD, HARDWORKING PEOPLE ARE BEING SLAUGHTERED.
THAT MAKES IT MY PROBLEM.

THIS CITY BELONGS TO THE DARK ELVES NOW! KNEEL OR DIE!
FOR MALEKITH!
ER--
FWANG
SPLAP
I DON'T KNOW WHAT BROUGHT YOU HERE...

ONE WAY
...BUT YOU'VE COME TO DIE!
BRRAAP
BRRAAP

BLAMM
STAY OUT OF NEW YORK.
I'M SICK OF THE AVENGERS AND THEIR CRAP.
CRRRRK
BUT MAYBE A STUPID MAGIC HAMMER WOULD BE NICE RIGHT NOW.
OH, %$@#.

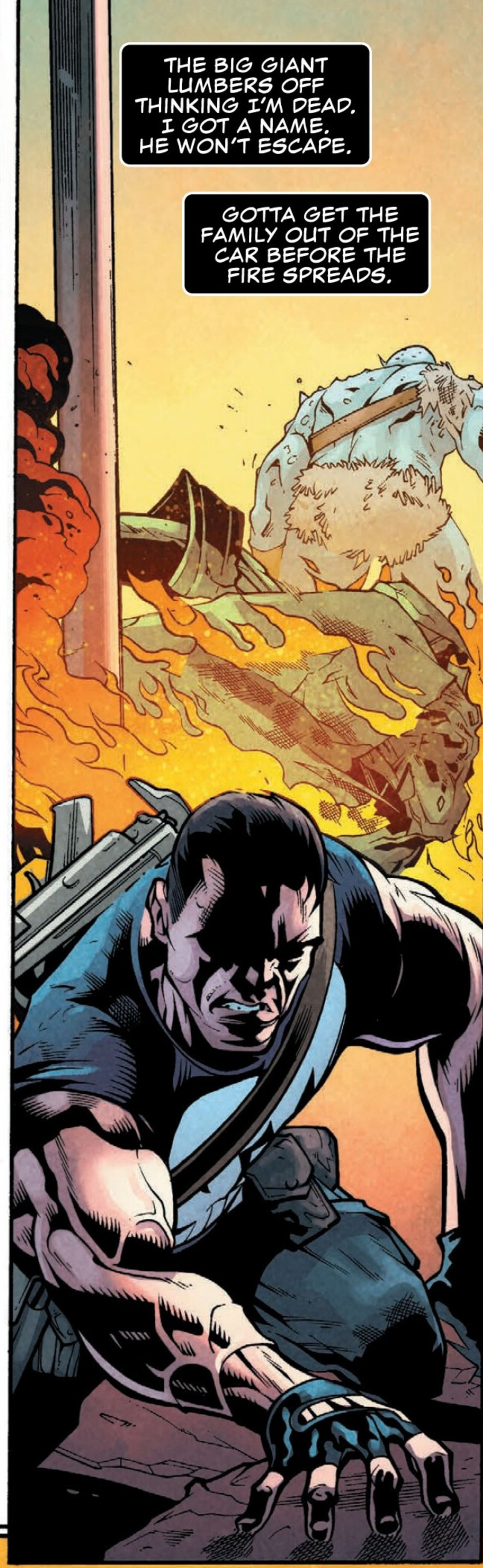
HRGHHH!
$%&# OFF, GIANT.
SKRAAM
CHIK
CHIK

AAARRRGH!
BADABOOM
BADABOOM
LITTLE HUMAN HURT KASYCKLA!
I'M GONNA DO WORSE THAN THAT.
UR?

FWOOOM
RAAAAARRRRGH!
NO, NO, NOOOO!
KASYCKLA WILL HURT YOU AND EAT YOU!
LOOK OUT!
DAMMIT!

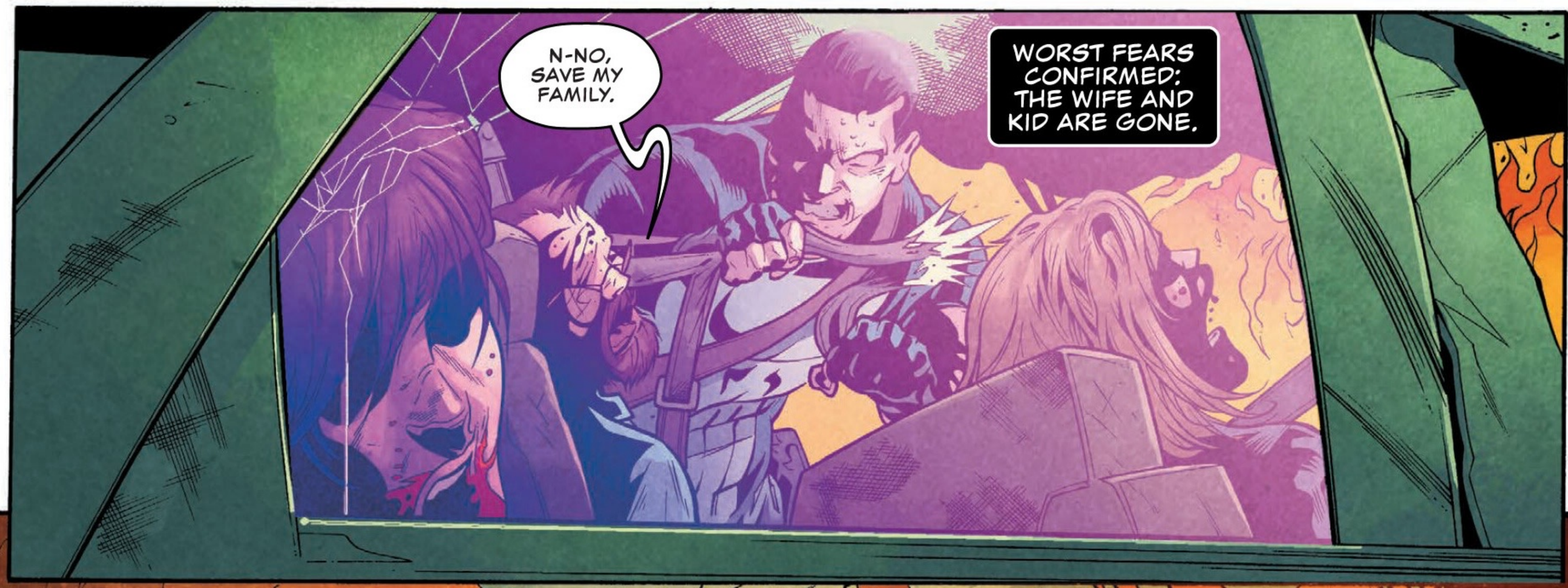
YOU HURT KASYCKLA-- YOU DIE!
PUT. THEM. DOWN.
AAEEEIIII!
I'M RIGHT HERE! COME AND GET ME!
YOU WANT THEM?
HAVE THEM!
NO.
KRRUM

HNNH.

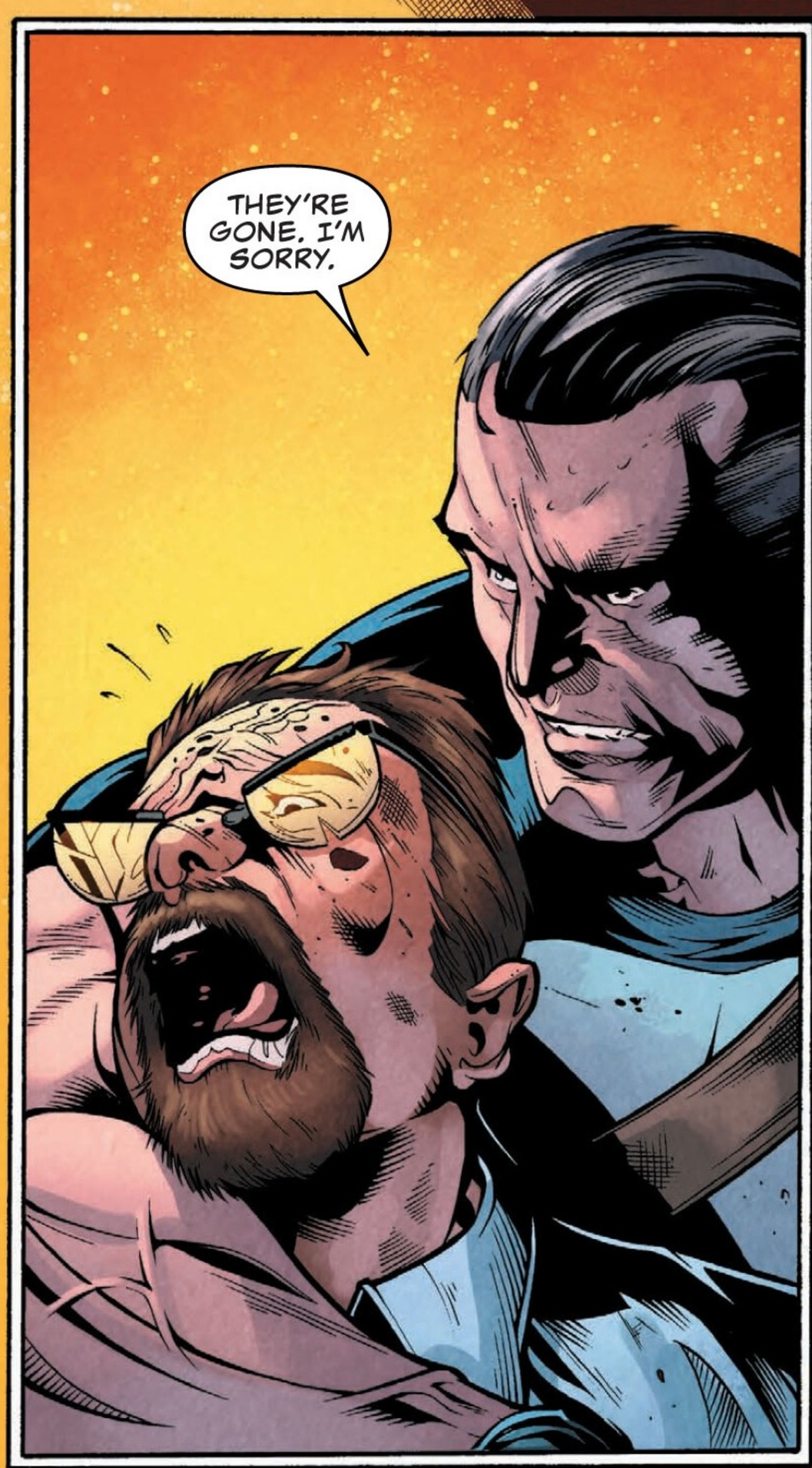

THE BIG GIANT LUMBERS OFF THINKING I'M DEAD. I GOT A NAME. HE WON'T ESCAPE.
GOTTA GET THE FAMILY OUT OF THE CAR BEFORE THE FIRE SPREADS.

I DON'T HEAR ANY SCREAMS--

--A BAD SIGN.


N-NO, SAVE MY FAMILY.
WORST FEARS CONFIRMED: THE WIFE AND KID ARE GONE.

MY FAMILY! MY FAMILY!


THEY'RE GONE. I'M SORRY.

BREATHE INTO THE PAIN. I'LL GET YOU TO HELP.
AUGH, HUH, UGH-- OH GOD.
SILVERI MEMORIAL HOSPITAL IS JUST A COUPLE BLOCKS AWAY.

MEDIC!
GOT A SHATTERED LEG.

WHY, OH WHY.

I KNOW W--WHO YOU ARE.
PROMISE ME...YOU'LL KILL THAT GIANT MONSTER.
AVENGE MY FAMILY.

THERE IS NO PLACE IN THE UNIVERSE THAT IS SAFE FOR HIM NOW.

I'M DOCTOR BALDWIN. IS THERE ANYWHERE ELSE YOU CAN TAKE YOUR FRIEND?
WE'RE EVACUATING TO NEW JERSEY.
NOT RECOMMENDED. STREETS ARE TOO DANGEROUS.
NO CHOICE. THIS IS A WAR ZONE, AND MY PATIENTS NEED ELECTRICITY AND MEDICINE.
ANYBODY WHO CAN WALK OR CRAWL IS GONNA PUSH THE IMMOBILE PATIENTS THROUGH THE LINCOLN TUNNEL.

WE DON'T HAVE ANY BETTER OPTIONS.
SOUNDS LIKE A SUICIDE MISSION IN THE PERFECT PLACE FOR AN AMBUSH.

YEAH, WELL, WE'RE A LOW-INCOME CITY HOSPITAL. NOBODY GIVES A %$@# ABOUT MY STAFF AND PATIENTS.

YO, MAN-- GET US OUTTA HERE!
DOES IT LOOK LIKE WE'RE GOING ANYWHERE--
AAEEEIII!
SHUNK
MMMORE MMMEAT!
HA HA HA!

BOOM
FUMP
BOOM

WE'RE SAVED!
AAHH!
AW, HELL NO.
N-NOW W-WAIT A MIN--
SORRY, OFFICER.
ATTENTION, PRISONERS. YOU ALL KNOW ME.
GU-GU-GU-UUHHNN.

HEY, MAN--I KNOW THIS IS KINDA YOUR THING, BUT CAN'T WE DECLARE A "TIME-OUT" OR-- A TRUCE?
THE WORLD'S ENDING, MAN!
YOU'RE ENNIO FERRANTE. YOU'RE ON MY LIST.
YOU MIGHT EVEN HAVE A BRAIN IN YOUR HEAD.
BUT SPEAK OUT OF TURN AGAIN--AND I'LL PAINT THIS BUS WITH THOSE BRAINS.
ORDINARILY I'D KILL YOU ALL AND GO GET A SANDWICH, BUT YOU'VE SEEN WHAT'S HAPPENING OUT THERE.
I NEED A FEW BAD MEN TO HELP SOME GOOD PEOPLE.
WE'RE GONNA HELP A HOSPITAL EVACUATE THROUGH THE LINCOLN TUNNEL.
I GRABBED SOME MELEE WEAPONS ON THE WALK OVER. EACH MAN TAKE ONE.
I'M YOUR NEW WARDEN NOW.
RUSH 'IM!

ANYONE ELSE?

WAI--
BLAMM
"TAKE WHAT YOU CAN AND LET'S GO!"

EVERYONE'S GOT THEIR BUDDY. IF YOU NEED HELP, JUST ASK. NOW MOVE INTO THE LINCOLN TUNNEL!
SKREEE!
AH!
SWAKK
LET US TAKE POINT.

YOU WERE WRONG, DOC.
I CARE ABOUT INNOCENT LIVES.
WALK TWENTY YARDS BEHIND US. FOLLOW EVERY ORDER I GIVE YOU...
...AND I'LL GET YOU THROUGH THIS.
THANK YOU.
DON'T THANK ME UNTIL WE'RE ON THE JERSEY SIDE OF THE RIVER.

WAR OF THE REALMS:

The Punisher #2

THE LINCOLN TUNNEL.
ARE WE G-GONNA MAKE IT TO NEW JERSEY, DOCTOR BALDWIN?
I KNOW THIS IS HARD TO BELIEVE, BUT I'VE HAD WORSE TRAFFIC IN THE LINCOLN TUNNEL.
AARRG
GROOWW
NOOO!
HEH.
NEVER THOUGHT I'D WANT TO SEE NEW JERSEY AS BAD AS I DO.
AAARRGH
RRRROOW
I SURE HOPE THIS VIGILANTE CAN SEE US THROUGH.
OH GOD!

YOU'RE FOLLOWING A LITTLE TOO CLOSE, DOC.
GRRRAAARGH!

HRRAAARGH!
AAAAAHHHH!
SPTOO
I HATE EARTH.
THE FOOD IS TERRIBLE--

--AND LOUD!
SHOOT IT, FOR %$#@ SAKE!
OH, MY DUDE-- DON'T DO THAT.
SHOOT THAT THING, YOU MANIAC!
I'M NOT SUPPOSED TO BE HERE!

NOW YOU'RE NOT.
BLAM

SHOOT!
EVERY BULLET IS PRECIOUS. MORE VALUABLE THAN THE KILLERS I PULLED OFF THE PRISON BUS.

BLAM

RAAAGH!!

I'LL KILL YOU!
BLAM
RRRAAAA!!!
YOU'RE GONNA BLEED OUTTA THE HOLES I JUST PUT IN YOUR HEAD WHILE YOU LISTEN TO US KILL ALL YOUR BROTHERS.
I USE THE SOUND OF HIS CRIES TO LURE IN THE REST OF THEM.

WHAT THE HELL IS THAT?!
GRRRRRRRAP
HRM-HRHR
CHIKK
GRRRRRRRAP
CHAK
R-RRAAA
AARRR

THANKS, YOU'VE BEEN VERY HELPFUL.
I'LL BREAK YOUR BONES AND--WHAT'S THAT?
BADOOM
ROBBY'S TACOS
SPRING WATER
DON'T MIND IF I DO.

NEW YORK

NEW JERSEY

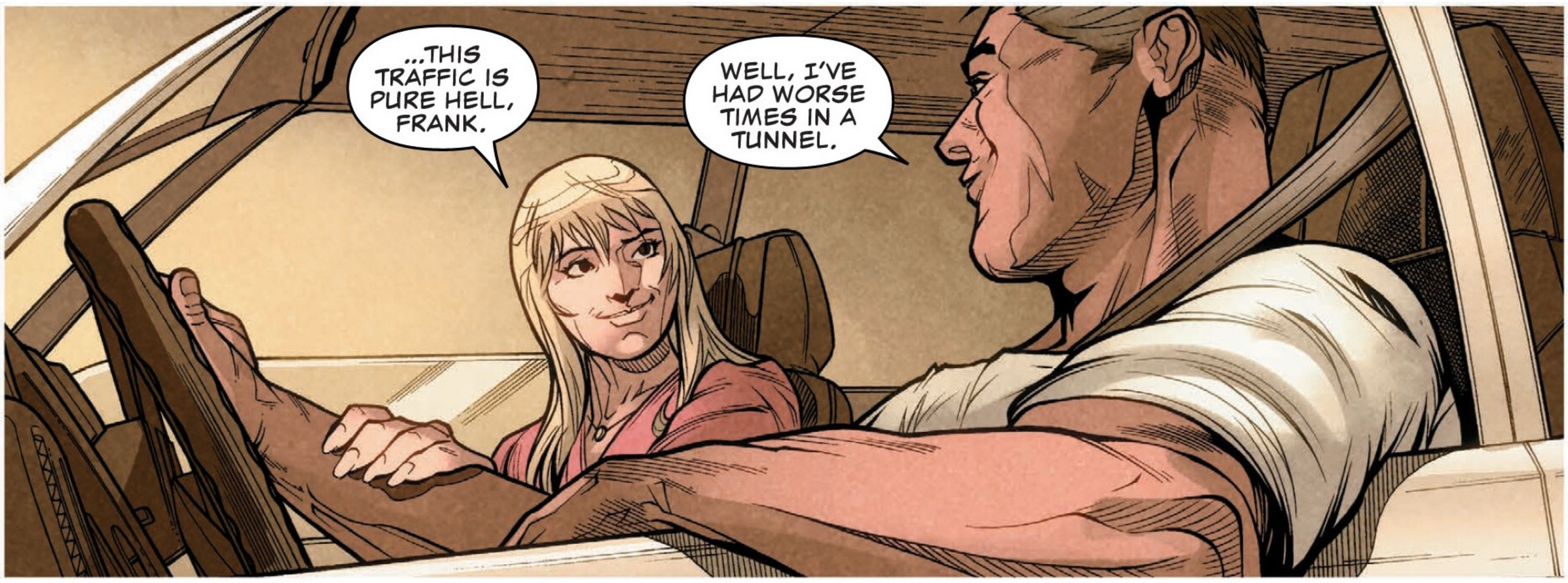
I CAN'T BELIEVE WE'RE ONLY AT THE MIDPOINT.

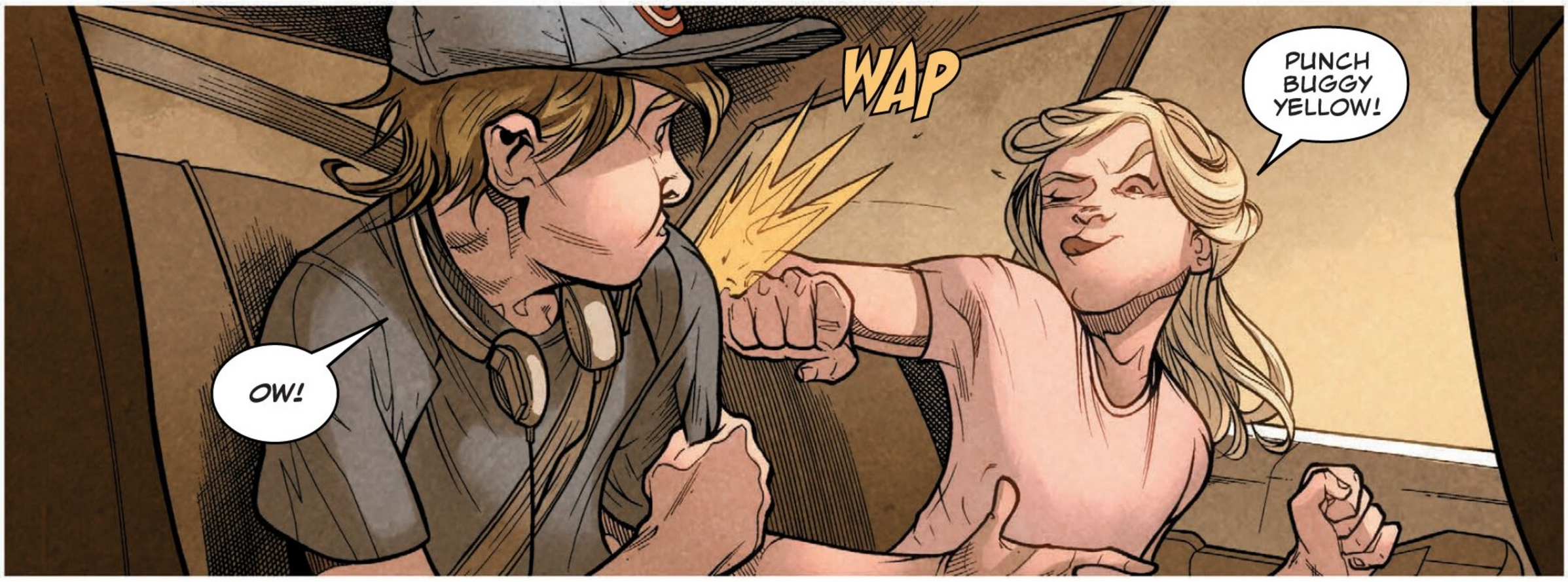
IT FEELS LIKE WE'VE BEEN DOWN HERE FOREVER...

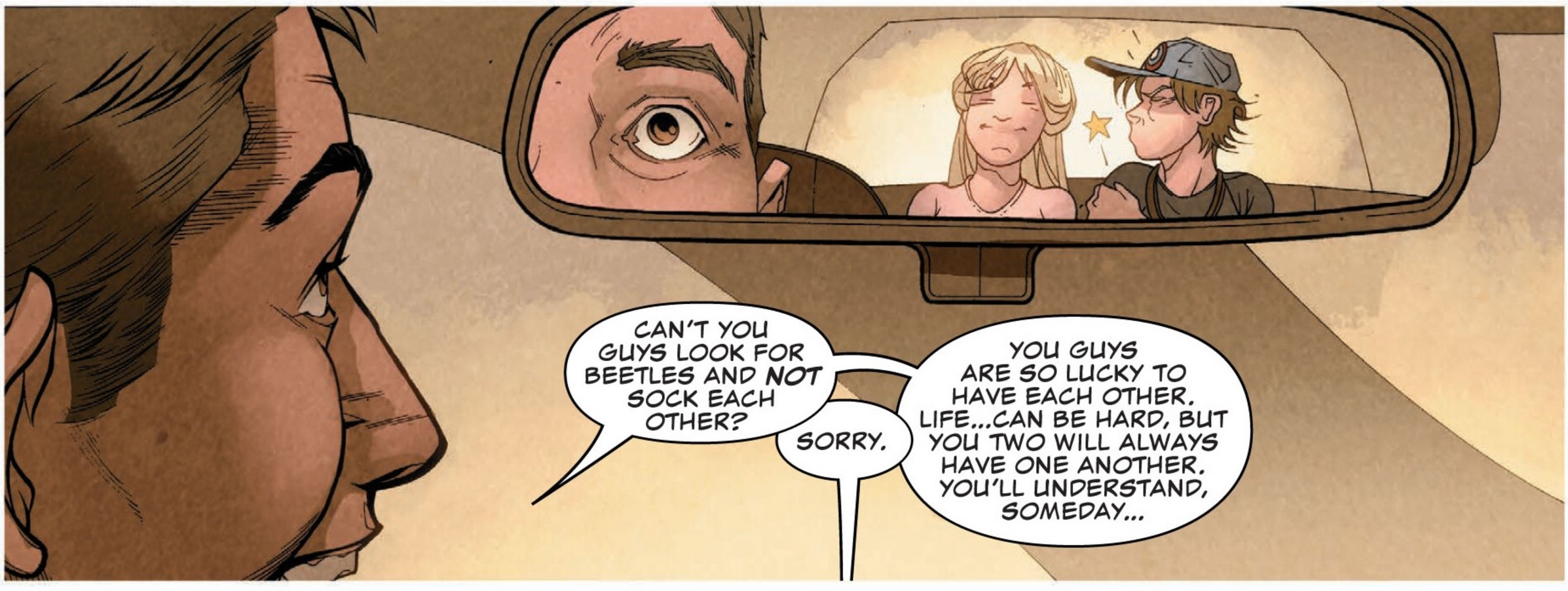
NEW YORK

NEW JERSEY

NEW YORK
NEW JERSEY


...THIS TRAFFIC IS PURE HELL, FRANK.
WELL, I'VE HAD WORSE TIMES IN A TUNNEL.


WAP
PUNCH BUGGY YELLOW!
OW!


CAN'T YOU GUYS LOOK FOR BEETLES AND NOT SOCK EACH OTHER?
SORRY.
YOU GUYS ARE SO LUCKY TO HAVE EACH OTHER. LIFE...CAN BE HARD, BUT YOU TWO WILL ALWAYS HAVE ONE ANOTHER. YOU'LL UNDERSTAND, SOMEDAY...

"...WHEN YOU GET OLDER."
ON YOUR FEET. WE'RE MOVING FORWARD.
NEW YORK
NEW JERSEY
THAT BELONGS TO THE WOUNDED IN THE REAR.

THANK YOU.
OKAY, EVERYBODY, WE'RE GONNA REST HERE FOR A FEW MINUTES AND THEN CONTINUE ON.
LET'S RATION THE WATER AND ANY OF THE FOOD WE FIND.
UP THE GUT. CHECK FOR SURVIVORS.
YORK
NEW JERSEY
YOUR NAME IS CASTIGLIONE, RIGHT?

KEEP WALKING, FERRANTE.
OR YOU'RE GONNA FIND OUT YOU DON'T NEED TEETH IN ORDER TO MARCH AND FIGHT.

FINE--

--BUT WHAT HAPPENS WHEN WE GET TO JERSEY?

WE'RE STILL A LONG WAY FROM JERSEY.
TSK, TSK. WHAT HAVE WE HERE?

WHAT HAVE YOU DONE WITH OUR OLD TROLL PAL, KENROG?
AVENGE HIM!
THIS WORLD ALREADY HAS "AVENGERS," AND UNFORTUNATELY FOR YOU, WE'RE NOT THOSE BUMS.
THEY TAKE PRISONERS.
BLAM
BLAM

HEY, UGLY!

RAAAAH--!

HRRAK!
SHUNK

ALL OF YOU HAVE LEFT YOUR SENSES!
THESE MONSTERS ARE DELICIOUS!
BLAM
HUH--
S-STAY BACK!
KRUNCH

OH %#$@!
HRRR?
SKRUNCH
FLIK
RRRRRRGH—
HYYYIP!

AAAH! HELP!
DAMMIT-- THAT'S THE DOCTOR.
GO! WE'LL HOLD THE LINE.
SPLAKK
HANG ON, DOC, I'M--
WHUDD

THUDD
SO I WAS THINKING...

...THAT NOW'S A GOOD TIME FOR US TO TALK ABOUT WHAT HAPPENS WHEN WE GET TO JERSEY.

WAR OF THE REALMS:

The Punisher #3

WE'RE ALMOST TO NEW JERSEY, FRANK. AFTER WE HELP YOU GET THESE PEOPLE THERE, I THINK WE'RE OWED A PROMISE OF SAFE PASSAGE.

IS THAT RIGHT?

YOU THINK YOU'RE OWED SOMETHING?

YEAH, I DO.

I KNOW WHO YOU ARE, CASTLE. IF YOU SWEAR--*SWEAR*--ON YOUR *DEAD FAMILY'S SOULS* THAT YOU WON'T KILL US WHEN WE GET THERE--YOU CAN HAVE YOUR GUN BACK.
BUT YOU HAVE TO SAY IT. YOU HAVE TO SWEAR IT.

I SWEAR ON MY DEAD FAMILY'S SOULS...
SHINK

...ANYBODY STILL ALIVE WHEN WE GET TO JERSEY WILL HAVE EARNED THEIR LIFE BACK.

KEEP THE WEAPON, FERRANTE. WE GOT A FIGHT AHEAD OF US.

I CAN HEAR A COLUMN OF THEM AHEAD.

GOOD. IT'S FULL.

GONG

KEEP YOUR PEOPLE HERE, DOC. IF WE DON'T MAKE IT BACK, HIDE UNTIL IT'S QUIET. THERE ARE MONSTERS ON BOTH SIDES OF THE RIVER, BUT YOU'LL BE SAFER ON THE JERSEY SIDE.

O-OKAY.

QUIET.
ROAAR
BLAM
BLAM
SPLAK
AAAHH!
SPLAK

HOW MANY PIECES OF %$@# HAVE YOU GOT BEHIND YOU?
YOU DON'T SCARE US!
SOFT, PINK HUMANS. WE'RE GOING TO EAT YOU UP!
WHAK
KRAK
ANSWER.

I'M A SCOUT FOR THE NINTH TROLL BRIGADE FROM KERCHONGISTA.
WE'VE BEEN ORDERED TO SEAL ANY EVACUATION POINTS FOR THE CITY. MAKE SURE NO ONE LEAVES.
BLAM!
YOU FAILED.
I SEE MORE OF THEM IN THE SHADOWS.
$#@% THIS, FERRANTE--I AIN'T WAITIN' FOR THIS MANIAC TO KILL ME WHEN HE'S DONE WITH ME.
WHAKK

BANG

HEY, MAN, I'M ON BOARD WITH YOUR PLAN!

BLAM BLAM BLAM

DON'T HAVE MUCH TIME.

CATCH!

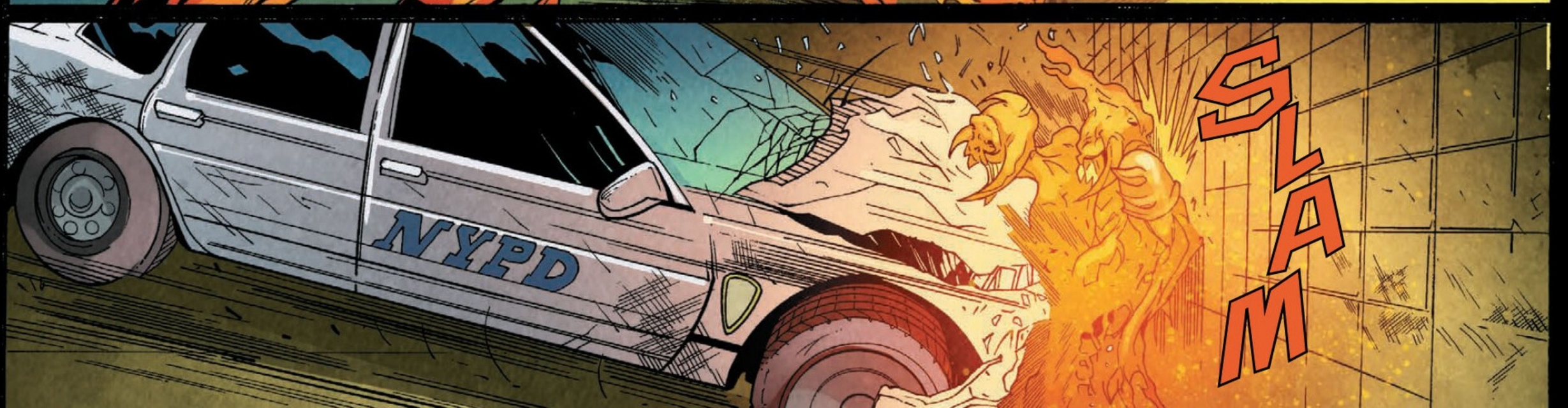
LIGHT IT UP.

WUMP

READY YOURSELVES--I SEE TWO LANTERNS APPROACHING!

WHAM

CRASH


NYPD
SLAM

UGH!

OOF!

SPLAKK
SPREEEE
BADABOOM

NEW JERSEY.
RUN!
AAAAIIIIIEE!
COWARDS.
HRM...
THERE'S A BRIDGE TO THE CITY IN THE NORTH.
LET US MAKE SURE THAT POINT OF EGRESS IS HELD.
N
AWAY TO THE BRIDGE!

CLEAR!
POLICE
NYPD
6712
POLICE

IT'S OKAY-- C'MON OUT!

I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU TWO DID IT.

THANK YOU SO MUCH.

MY PATIENTS WILL NEVER BE ABLE TO THANK YOU ENOUGH.

WE'D BE DEAD IF IT WEREN'T FOR YOU.

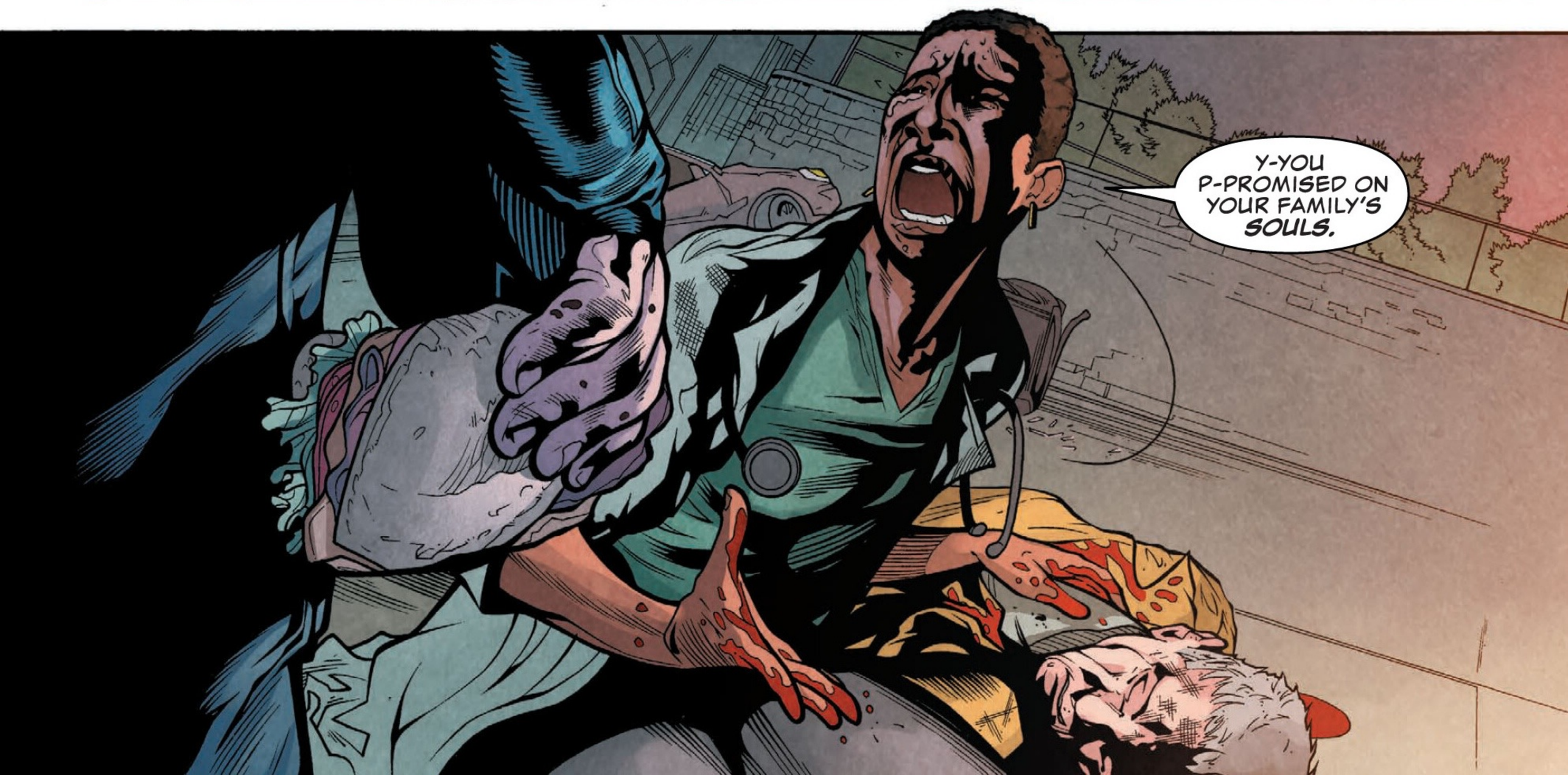
YOU DON'T HAVE TO THANK ME. NOW BE SAFE, DOC.
STAY WITH YOUR PEOPLE. GET THEM TO SHELTER.
YOU BOTH SAVED A LOT OF LIVES.

EARLIER TODAY I SAW A MONSTER CRUSH A CAR... KILLED THE WIFE AND KID.
FATHER SURVIVED.
I SWORE TO THE MAN I'D FIND AND KILL THE MONSTER THAT TOOK EVERYTHING FROM HIM.
IT'S NOT GOING TO BE AN EASY HUNT...
12 SHELLS
SUPER AMMO
SUPER AMMO
GOT IT-- WHAT DO YOU WANT ME TO DO?

BLAMM
I FOUND SOME FOOD AND--OH. OH.
OH MY GOD. OH MY GOD.

H-HOW C-COULD YOU?

HOW COULD I NOT?
YOU'RE IN SHOCK, DOCTOR. LEAN AGAINST THE CRUISER.
ONE, TWO, THREE.
MMPH. I DON'T MISS.


Y-YOU P-PROMISED ON YOUR FAMILY'S SOULS.

YOU EVER PATCH UP A SOUL, DOC? YOU EVER ORDER A "SOUL TRANSFUSION"? DON'T SHOVEL THAT &@#% AT ME.

I NEEDED HIM COMPLIANT UNTIL I GOT YOU PEOPLE OUT OF THE DARKNESS.

I HAVE A SOUL. THIS MAN HAS A SOUL.
I EVEN BELIEVE *YOU* HAVE A SOUL.

HAD.
BUT...EVEN IF THAT'S TRUE-- THIS MAN HELPED US ESCAPE THE WAR.
NO, DOCTOR...
SHKK-CHAKK

...THE WAR NEVER ENDS.

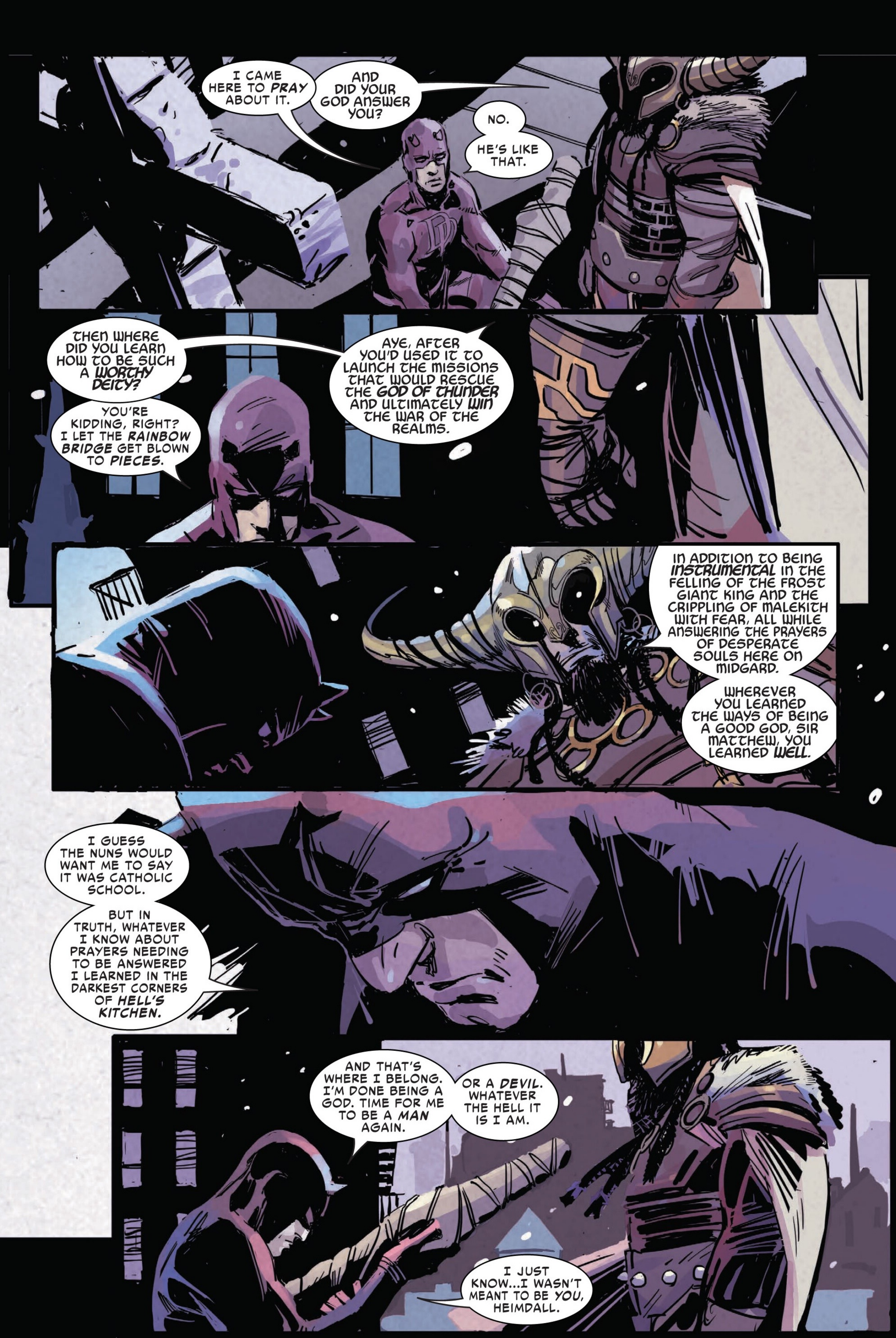
WAR OF THE REALMS OMEGA

God and the Devil Walk into a Church · The Job I Have to Do
Born Small · War Orphans

MIDGARD.
NEW YORK CITY.
HOW'D YOU FIND ME?

I'VE WATCHED YOU YOUR ENTIRE LIFE. I KNOW WHERE YOU GO WHEN YOU FEEL *LOST*.
AND *HOFUND* HAS BEEN MY SWORD FOR A VERY LONG TIME. I CAN ALWAYS HEAR ITS CALL.
I WAS GOING TO BRING IT BACK. I SWEAR.

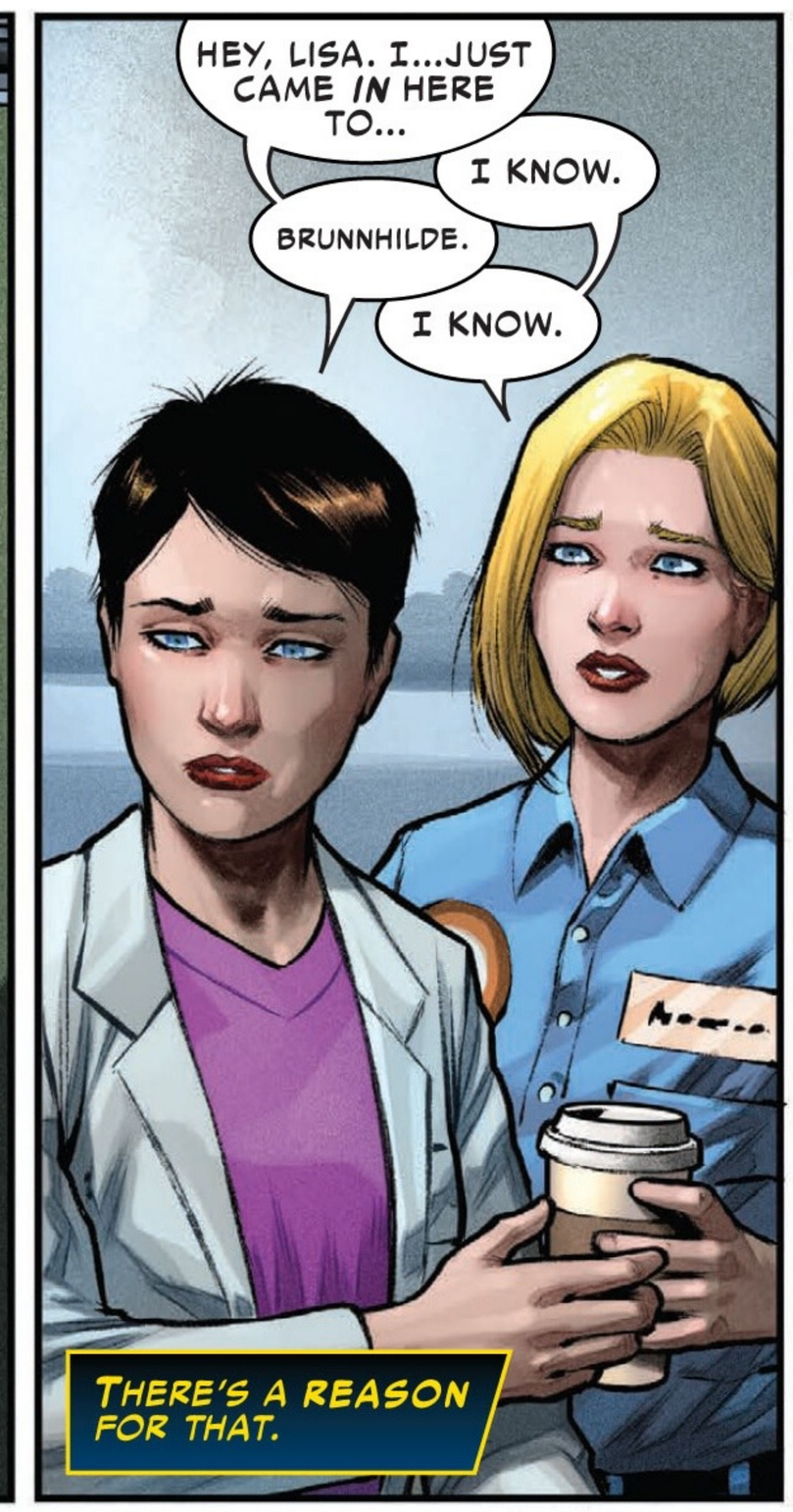
I KNOW.
I GAVE UP THE SWORD DURING THE FIGHT AGAINST LAUFEY. THE POWER'S GONE FROM ME NOW. *YOUR* POWER.
I THOUGHT... I'D MAYBE JUST HOLD IT ONE LAST TIME. AND BE A *GOD* AGAIN.
PERHAPS YOU SHOULD, DAREDEVIL.

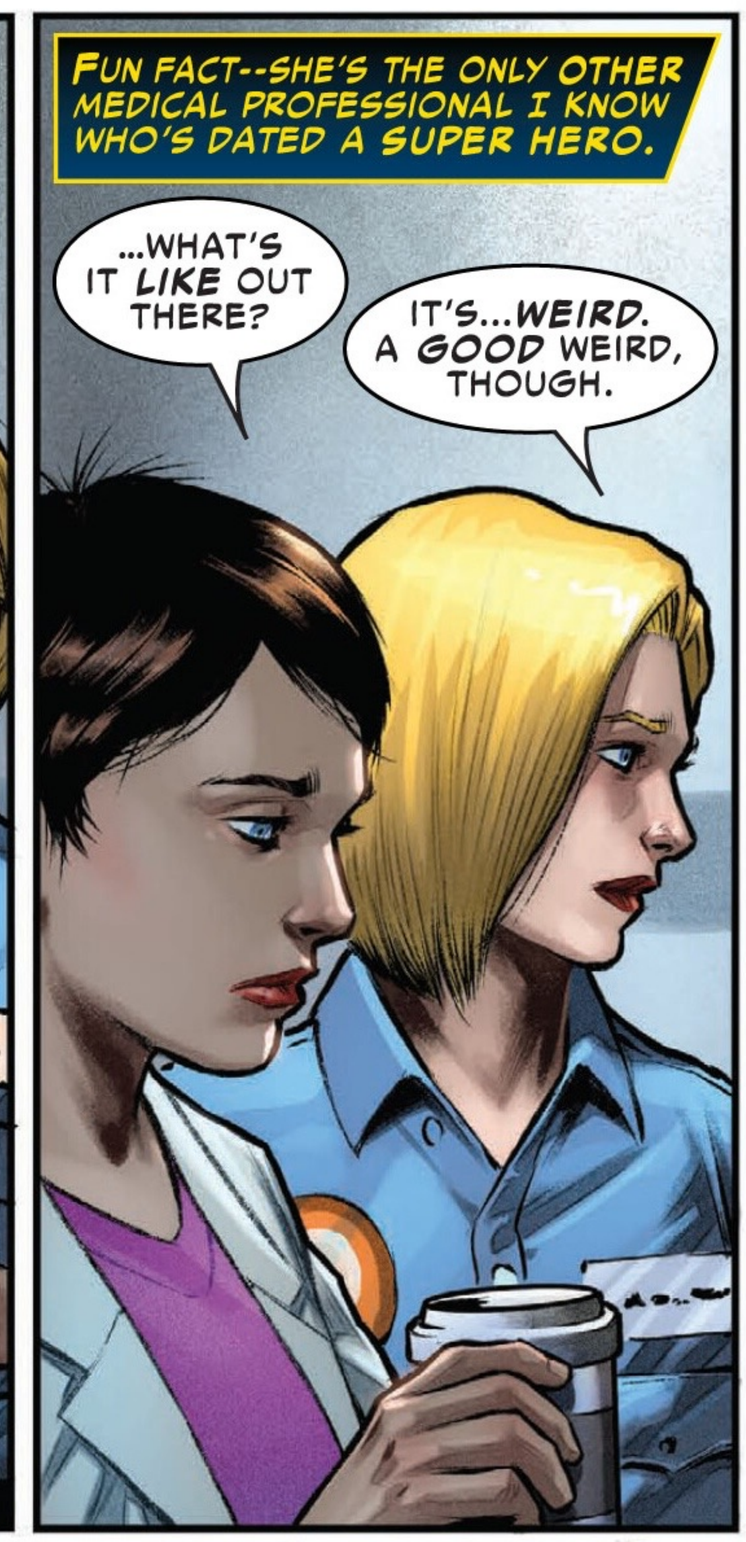

I CAME HERE TO PRAY ABOUT IT.
AND DID YOUR GOD ANSWER YOU?
NO.
HE'S LIKE THAT.
THEN WHERE DID YOU LEARN HOW TO BE SUCH A WORTHY DEITY?
YOU'RE KIDDING, RIGHT? I LET THE RAINBOW BRIDGE GET BLOWN TO PIECES.
AYE, AFTER YOU'D USED IT TO LAUNCH THE MISSIONS THAT WOULD RESCUE THE GOD OF THUNDER AND ULTIMATELY WIN THE WAR OF THE REALMS.
IN ADDITION TO BEING INSTRUMENTAL IN THE FELLING OF THE FROST GIANT KING AND THE CRIPPLING OF MALEKITH WITH FEAR, ALL WHILE ANSWERING THE PRAYERS OF DESPERATE SOULS HERE ON MIDGARD.
WHEREVER YOU LEARNED THE WAYS OF BEING A GOOD GOD, SIR MATTHEW, YOU LEARNED WELL.
I GUESS THE NUNS WOULD WANT ME TO SAY IT WAS CATHOLIC SCHOOL.
BUT IN TRUTH, WHATEVER I KNOW ABOUT PRAYERS NEEDING TO BE ANSWERED I LEARNED IN THE DARKEST CORNERS OF HELL'S KITCHEN.
AND THAT'S WHERE I BELONG. I'M DONE BEING A GOD. TIME FOR ME TO BE A MAN AGAIN.
OR A DEVIL. WHATEVER THE HELL IT IS I AM.
I JUST KNOW...I WASN'T MEANT TO BE YOU, HEIMDALL.

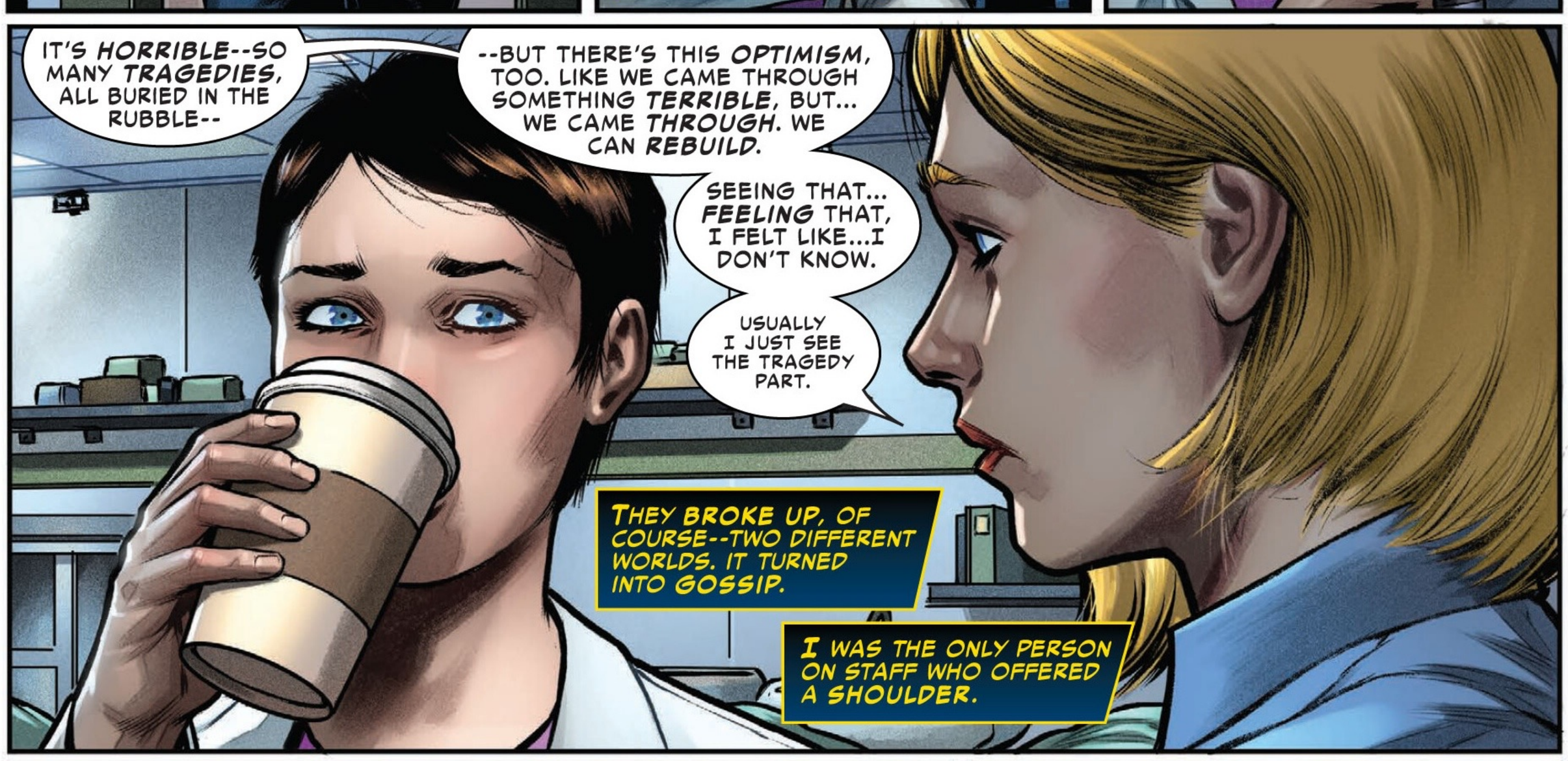
SO YOU SAY.
BUT THE SWORD SAYS DIFFERENTLY. AS DO I.
HAVING COSMIC GOD-SENSES WAS... OVERWHELMING. EVEN FOR ME. BUT... I ALREADY MISS IT.
I GUESS I KEPT THE SWORD BECAUSE I...WANTED TO SEE THE REALMS AGAIN, ONE LAST TIME.
TO SEE HOW EVERYTHING TURNED OUT AFTER THE WAR.
AYE. WELL THEN.
PERHAPS WE SHOULD HAVE A LOOK TOGETHER...

MY NAME IS JANE FOSTER.
I'M A DOCTOR. I'M A CANCER SURVIVOR. I WAS THOR, FOR A LITTLE WHILE.
SO WHEN WAR CAME, I PICKED UP A HAMMER TO FIGHT IT.
I SURVIVED--THE HAMMER DIDN'T. IT SHATTERED... BECAME SOMETHING ELSE. SOMETHING I DON'T HAVE A NAME FOR YET.
WE WON OUR WAR--BUT THE PRICE WAS HIGH, AND WE PAID IT IN BLOOD. THE BLOOD OF GODS.
RIGHT NOW, I'M STANDING IN THE MORGUE OF THE McCARTHY MEDICAL CENTER. A HUMAN MORGUE, IN A HUMAN CITY.
THIS IS WHERE THEY GATHERED THE VALKYRIES.
THE CITY OF NEW YORK
OFFICE OF CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER
COMPARTMENT NUMBER A83
NAME BRUNNHILDE
PLACE OF DEATH MANHATTAN
DECEASED RECEIVED

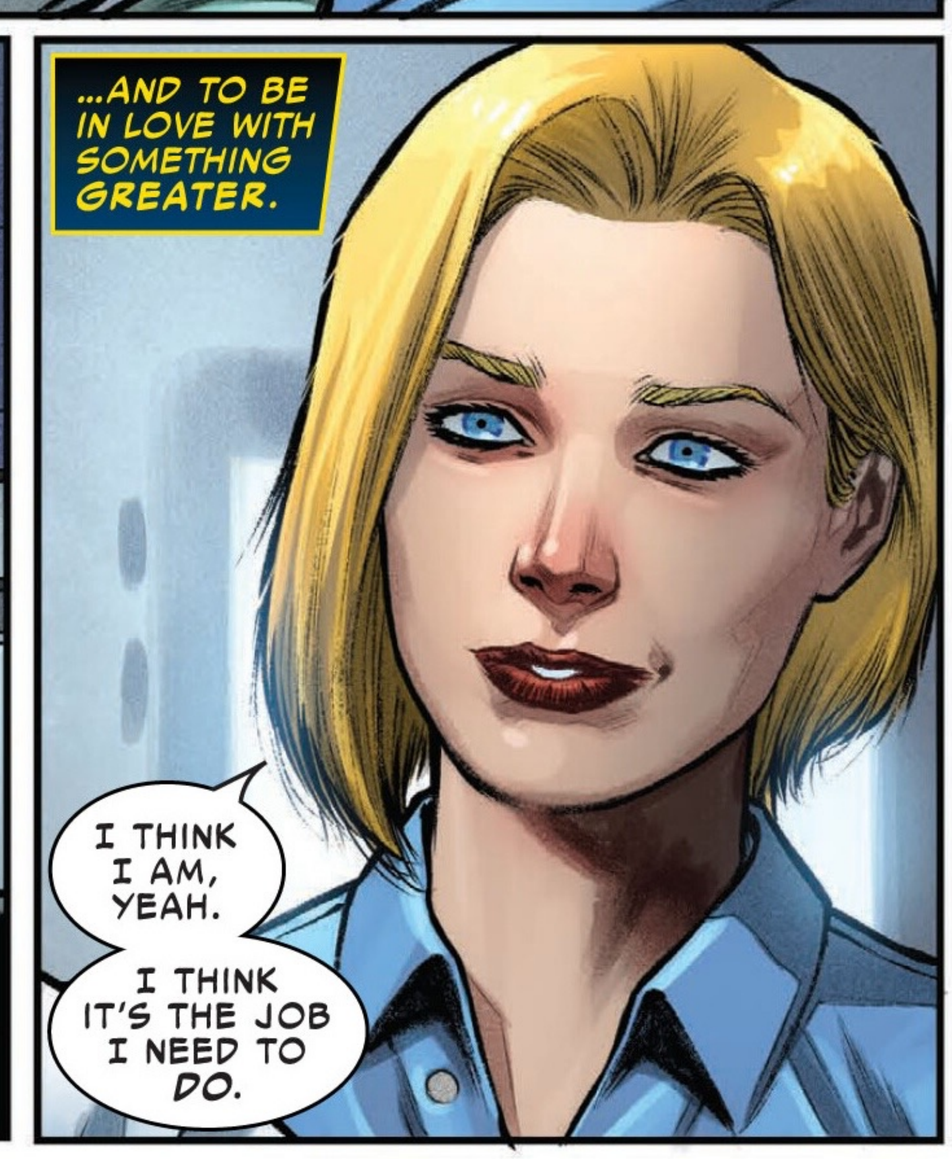
HEY, DOC. HOW ARE YOU HOLDING UP?
LISA HALLORAN. ONE OF OUR PARAMEDICS.
ALSO ONE OF THE FEW PEOPLE TO KNOW ABOUT MY LIFE AS THOR.

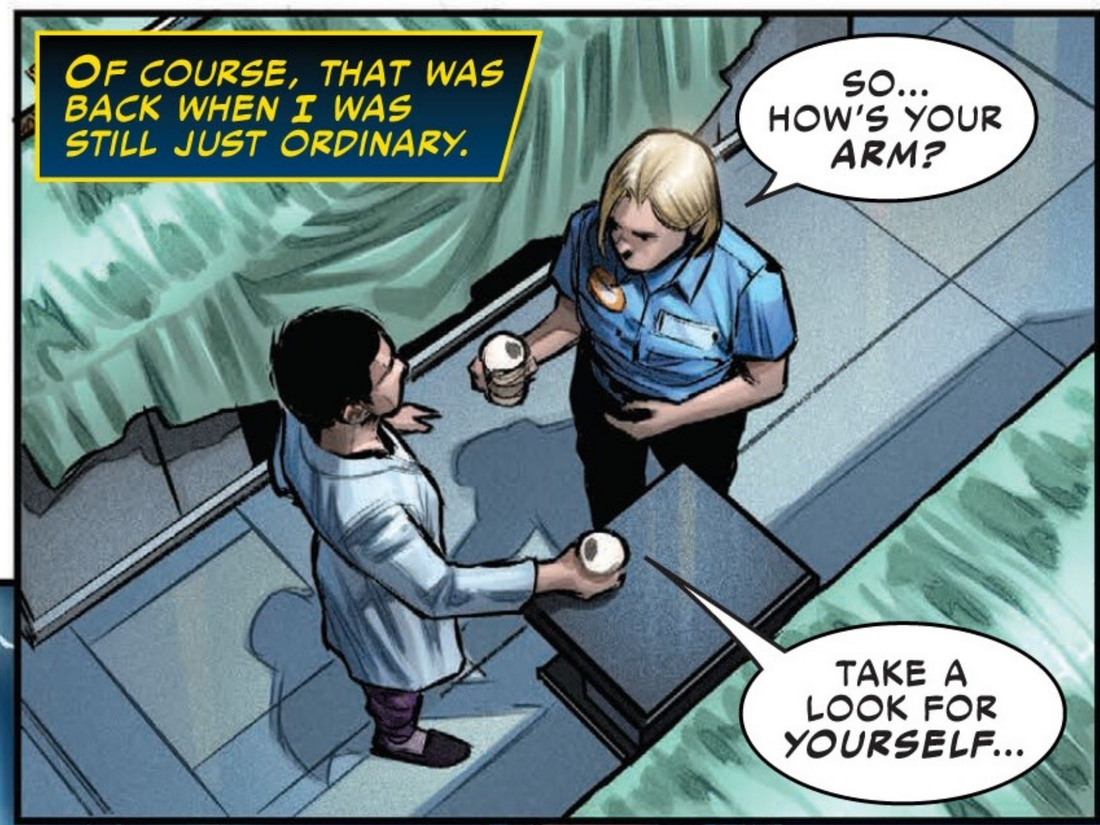

HEY, LISA. I...JUST CAME IN HERE TO...
I KNOW.
BRUNNHILDE.
I KNOW.
THERE'S A REASON FOR THAT.

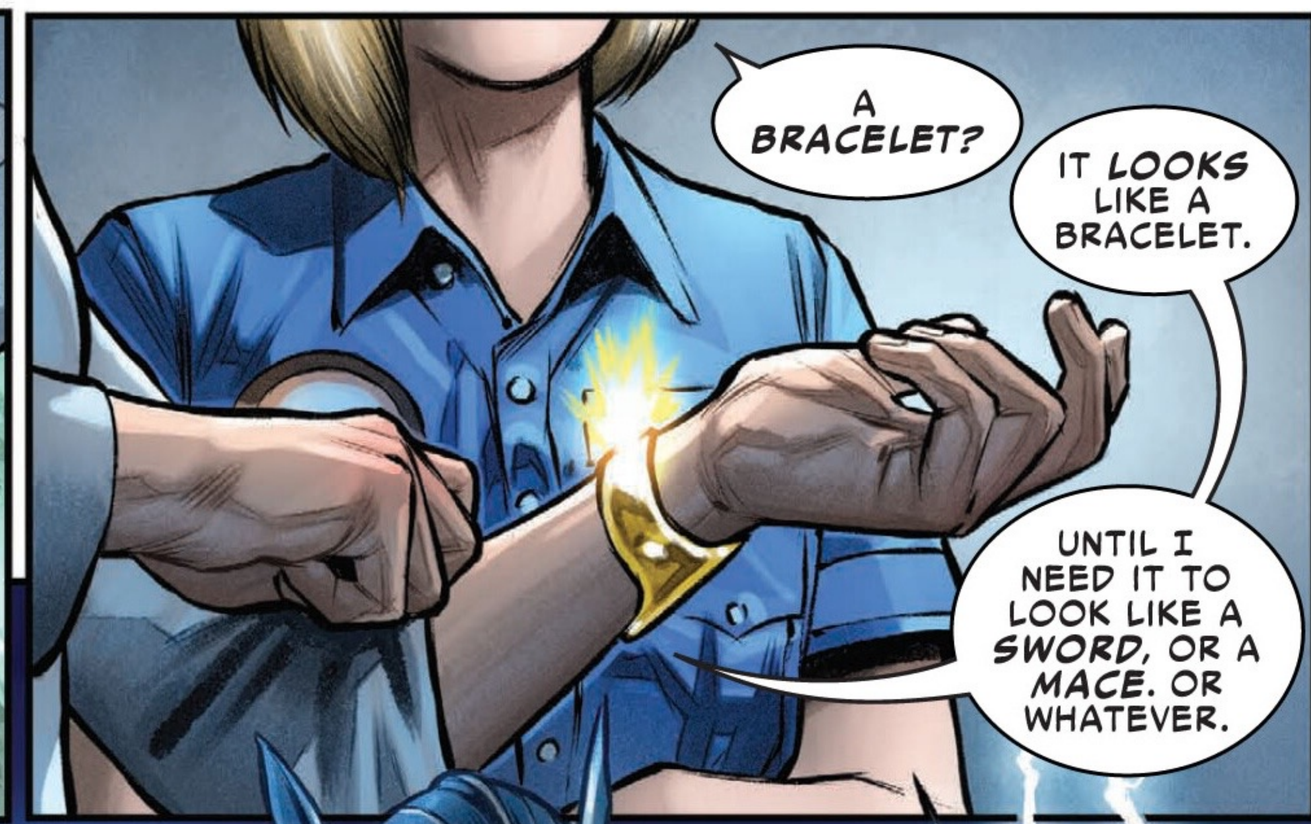

FUN FACT--SHE'S THE ONLY OTHER MEDICAL PROFESSIONAL I KNOW WHO'S DATED A SUPER HERO.
...WHAT'S IT LIKE OUT THERE?
IT'S...WEIRD. A GOOD WEIRD, THOUGH.


IT'S HORRIBLE--SO MANY TRAGEDIES, ALL BURIED IN THE RUBBLE--
--BUT THERE'S THIS OPTIMISM, TOO. LIKE WE CAME THROUGH SOMETHING TERRIBLE, BUT... WE CAME THROUGH. WE CAN REBUILD.
SEEING THAT... FEELING THAT, I FELT LIKE...I DON'T KNOW.
USUALLY I JUST SEE THE TRAGEDY PART.
THEY BROKE UP, OF COURSE--TWO DIFFERENT WORLDS. IT TURNED INTO GOSSIP.
I WAS THE ONLY PERSON ON STAFF WHO OFFERED A SHOULDER.

I KNOW HOW IT FEELS TO BE ORDINARY...
SO, UH, I WAS OUT THERE WITH THIS DAMAGE CONTROL GUY. HE SAID THERE'S AN OPENING FOR SOMEONE WITH MY TRAINING...
WAIT--YOU'RE QUITTING? TO WORK FOR DAMAGE CONTROL?


...AND TO BE IN LOVE WITH SOMETHING GREATER.
I THINK I AM, YEAH.
I THINK IT'S THE JOB I NEED TO DO.





IT'S LIKE... WE NEVER KNEW WHAT THE WAR THOR'S HAMMER WAS MADE FROM. WHAT IF IT ONLY LOOKED LIKE A HAMMER?

HELD THE SHAPE OF ONE BECAUSE THAT'S WHAT ITS OWN THOR NEEDED IT TO BE?

SO...WHEN IT SHATTERED...

IT LOST ITS SHAPE--RESET. IT CAN BE ANYTHING NOW.

AND SO CAN I.

SPEAK OF THE THUNDER, AND IN IT BLOWS.

AND...OH.

OH, THE SORROW IN HIM.

THE PLACE THAT WAITS FOR THE VALIANT DEAD... THE UNENDING FEAST...
...IS NOW AN EMPTY ROOM, SHUTTERED AND SEALED.
DUSTY ALE-HORNS AROUND A DYING FIRE.

PARADISE DOES NOT EXIST IF THERE IS NO WAY TO IT. AND THE WAY IS GONE...FOR THE VALKYRIOR...
...THE VALKYRIOR ARE DEAD.
I'VE NEVER SEEN HIM LIKE THIS.

I'VE SEEN HIM BEATEN--BROKEN, UNWORTHY--BUT NEVER SO... DESOLATE.
IT'S AS IF IN TAKING ON THE RULE OF ASGARD... HE'S TAKEN ON ALL ITS SADNESS.

BRUNNHILDE, BATTLE-SISTER.
I'D GIVE THIS OTHER EYE TO SEE YOU RISE AGAIN...

MORTALS CAN BELIEVE IN A HEAVEN--BUT WE DON'T KNOW. BUT FOR THOR'S PEOPLE... VALHALLA WAS A CERTAINTY.
HE'S NOT JUST MOURNING FRIENDS.
HE'S MOURNING HIS FAITH.

I WANT TO HELP. TO HEAL HIM. HEAL THEM ALL.
IF--IF ASGARD NEEDS A VALKYRIE--
JANE FOSTER...

...I HEAR YOU.
ODIN'S-- BLOOD--
DO YOU ACCEPT OUR TASK, JANE FOSTER?
WILL YOU SHOULDER OUR BURDEN?
THE ALL-WEAPON BURNS ON MY ARM. A TERRIFYING, ECSTATIC FIRE.
IT KNOWS WHAT'S COMING.
WILL YOU STAND BETWEEN THE WORLDS OF THE LIVING AND THE DEAD?
WILL YOU FIGHT FOR BOTH WITH EQUAL COURAGE, WITH UNDRJARN THE ALL-WEAPON UPON YOUR ARM?
WILL YOU BE AS FEARED AS DEATH--AS NEEDED AS REST--AS STRONG AS GRIEF?
WILL YOU BEAR OUR NAME, JANE FOSTER?
...
IT'S THE JOB I NEED TO DO.
THEN I NAME YOU!
BY THE TEN GREAT REALMS AND ALL THE WORLDS BEYOND--
--I NAME YOU VALKYRIE!
THERE'S A BURST OF LIGHT.
A RUSH OF WIND.

A THOUSAND WINGED HORSES, STAMPEDING THROUGH THE SKY...TO THE FINAL REWARD.

VALHALLA IS ALIVE AGAIN. I KNOW-- AS SURE AS FAITH.

AND THE VALKYRIES WILL FIND THEIR HOME THERE...

...ALL SAVE ONE.

MY LADY JANE... I...

I HAVE NEVER SEEN THE LIKE.

WHAT... WHAT JUST HAPPENED?

I'M VALKYRIE.

THAT'S WHAT HAPPENED.

THE REST... I GUESS WE'LL FIGURE OUT.

JOTUNHEIM. THE REALM OF GIANTS. AFTER THE WAR.

KING LAUFEY IS DEAD.

BUTCHERED FROM WITHIN HIS OWN GUT BY HIS COWARD BASTARD.

SAME OLD STORY.

GODS OF WAR. WARS OF GODS. IT GETS TO BE QUITE A LOT, DOESN'T IT?

LOKI. ODIN'S FOUNDLING. TRAITOR TO ALL WHO BREATHE HOT OR COLD.

BIT HARSH, THAT LAST PART.

THAT TRAITOR IS NOW YOUR KING, KOSH.

LOOK. I'M AS GUILTY AS ANYBODY OF KICKING THE OCCASIONAL SNOWBALL DOWNHILL JUST TO WATCH THE AVALANCHE.

JOTUNHEIM HAS NO KING. SICKLE, SON OF SNARR, HAS NO KING.

BUT DIGGING OURSELVES OUT AFTERWARD CAN BE BLOODY TEDIOUS.

LET THE BLADE BE THE ONLY LAW!

SCOOOT

BURBBLEBRRBLE

LET THE GOAT MEAT BOIL IN HOT FAT AS WE FEAST TO OUR NEW TRIBE!

I, SICKLE! KOSH, THE MOTHER OF DEATH! AND VILLMAR THE UNBREAAAAH!

POP

POP

POP

IN MY CASE, EMPHASIS ON THE BLOODY.

AFTER ALL THIS DEATH AND RESURRECTION...

THE HOT GREASE, IT DID CRACKLE AND SINGE UPON YOU.

BLESS YOUR CUNNING, VILLMAR! I KNOW WHAT HAPPENED, IT'S MY FLESH BURNT!

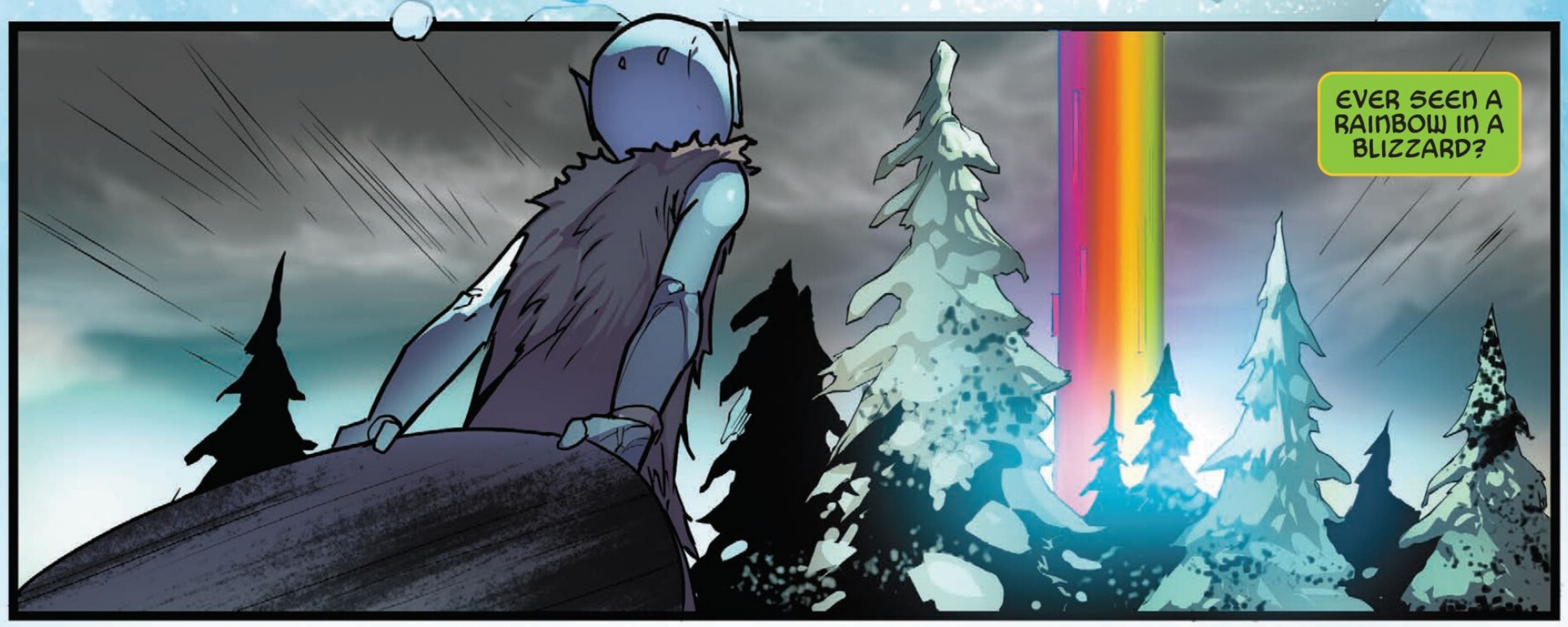
WHO TOOK THE WOODEN LID?!

...AFTER ALL THESE ENDLESS RAGNAROKS...

...WOULD IT KILL US TO JUST *LIVE* A LITTLE?

SKRRRSS

CASE IN POINT...

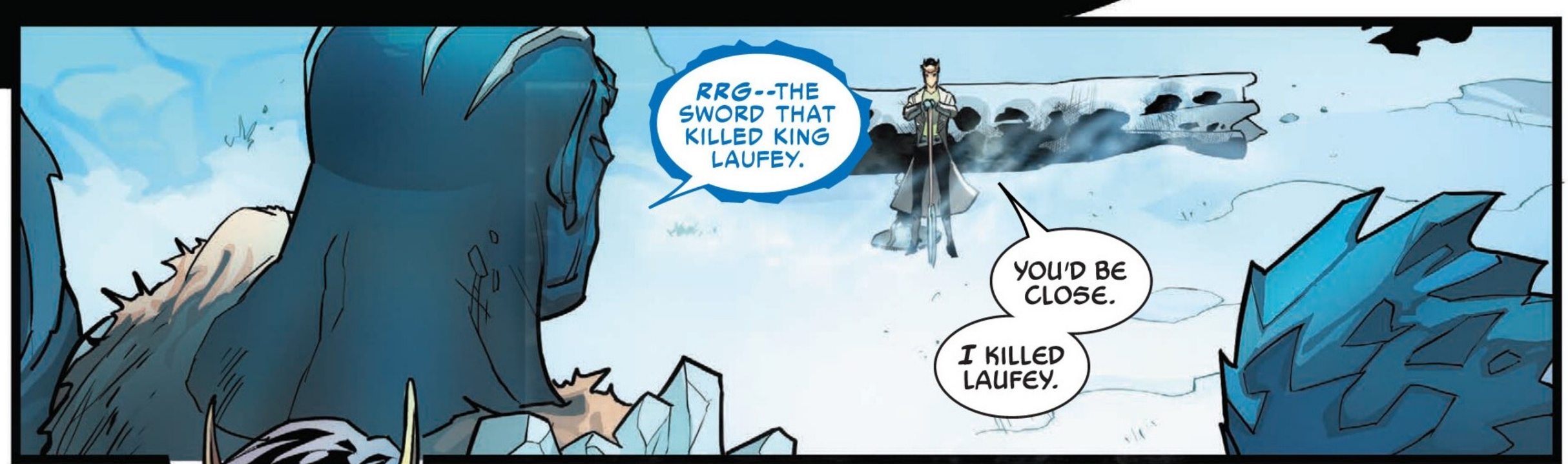


I'LL PICK MY TEETH WITH HIS FEMURS!
I'LL HAVE HIS RIBS FOR FISH-HOOKS!
AH, FINALLY.
THOFT
THERE I AM.
YOU'RE WELCOME.
WELL. "HO HO HO."
WHERE ARE YOU HURRYING OFF TO, LITTLE BOY?

I--I-- I AM CALLED DRRF, YOUR MAJESTY. SON OF NONE WHO WOULD CLAIM ME. AND I'M NO BOY! I WAS JUST BORN SMALL.
SO I SEE! LOOKS LIKE YOU'VE EVEN BEATEN MY OLD RECORD.
MAY I LET YOU IN ON A SECRET, DRRF-THE-FIRST-OF-HIS-NAME?
EVERYONE IS BORN SMALL.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING OUT HERE, YOUR MAJESTY? I THOUGHT THE BIFROST WAS BROKEN.
WORD DOES TRAVEL. IT'S ONLY BROKEN AT THE MOMENT. SO I SIMPLY LEFT EARLIER.
TIME IS ABOUT TO GET A BIT FUZZY FOR ME, YOU SEE--AND THERE IS NO TIME INSIDE THE BIFROST.
BESIDES, SHE OWED ME A FAVOR.
I'LL EXPLAIN LATER. PROBABLY.
AND YOU, LITTLE GIANT? OUT HERE MAKING MISCHIEF?
NEVER! NOT MISCHIEF, MY LORD!
FUN.
I SEE. WELL, FAIR WARNING...SOME FOLK DON'T KNOW THE DIFFERENCE.
THERE HE IS!!

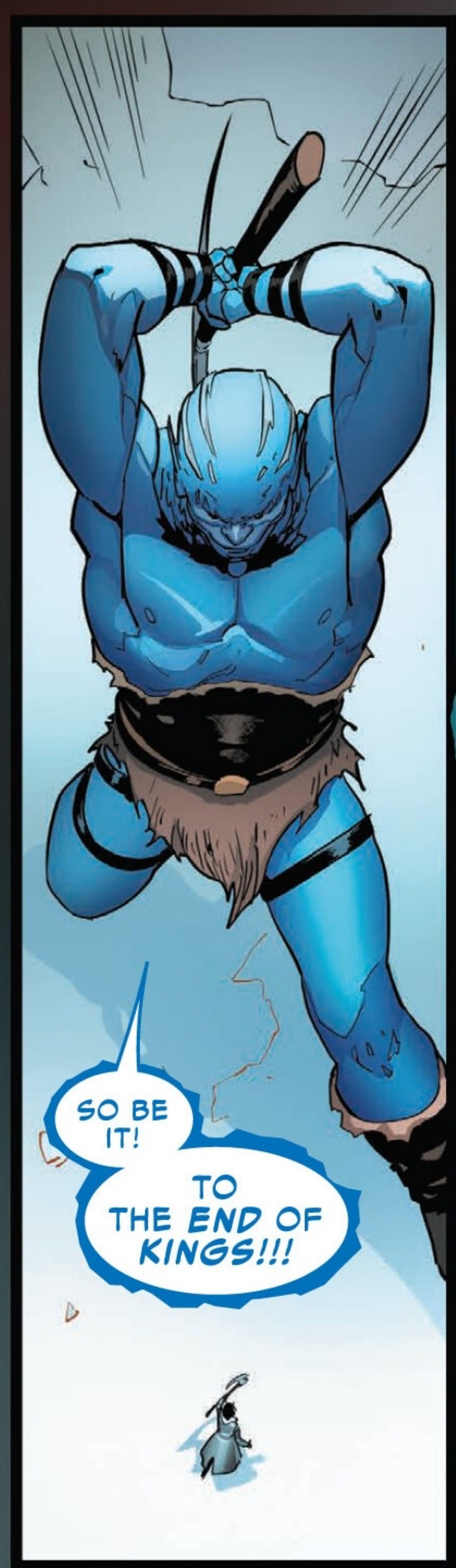
RIGHT ON CUE.
WHAT HO, CITIZENS! HOW CAN YOUR KING SERVE HIS PEOPLE THIS FINE, BLUSTERY DAY?
WE SAW THE BIFROST, "YOUR MAJESTY." WE FEARED IT MAY BE AN ATTACK FROM SOME...ASGARDIAN INVADER.

NO INVADERS, FRIEND! JUST POPPED OUT TO BORROW MY BROTHER'S AX JARNBJORN FOR A BIT. NO ONE IS ANYONE IN JOTUNHEIM WITHOUT A BLADE, RIGHT?
...AND I RATHER DOUBT THEY'D HAVE LET ME KEEP HEIMDALL'S SWORD.


RRG--THE SWORD THAT KILLED KING LAUFEY.
YOU'D BE CLOSE.
I KILLED LAUFEY.

THE SWORD HELPED.
HADN'T YOU HEARD? I'M A HERO NOW.
HERE'S A SECRET ABOUT JOTUNHEIM--THERE'S MAGIC IN THE AIR.
+SNRRT+
BUT THE AVERAGE DENIZEN ISN'T WHAT YOU'D CALL...ADEPT.

MY TRIBE WILL RESPECT YOUR BLOOD-CLAIM TO THE THRONE. BUT SURRENDER THE IMPLING. HE IS A NUISANCE WITH A CHILD'S MIND AND NO TASTE FOR BATTLE.
HE'LL COOK FASTER THAN ANY GOAT.
IS THAT WHO I AM TO BE KING OF? A PACK OF CANNIBALS?
IT'S NOT CANNIBALISM IF HE'S NOT ONE OF US.
OF COURSE. "NOT ONE OF US."
GODS, BUT I AM TIRED OF HEARING THAT. VERY WELL, THEN.
"HAVE AT THEE."
I'M COMPLETELY DOOMED, OF COURSE.
THAT IS, IF I WAS FIGHTING FAIR. THERE'S ONLY ONE THING THESE GIANTS RESPECT. I'M GOING TO NEED TO GET A LITTLE BIGGER.
ᚷᛉ ᚢᚾᚷᛉᛒᚷᛉ ᚹᛉᛊᚱ.
NO, YOUR MAJESTY!
LIKE AN AVENGER. (YOU KNOW THE ONE.)
DRRF! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?! I'M CASTING A SPELL TO SAVE US, YOU SUICIDAL SNOW MONKEY!
PLEASE, NO MORE! NO MORE BLOOD!


SO BE IT!
TO THE END OF KINGS!!!

KA-THUNKSH
NO.
THIS OUTCOME WAS NOT ENTIRELY EXPECTED.
THE WAR IS OVER.

HRRGMPH.
WE'LL SEE.

THERE IS ALWAYS ANOTHER WAR.
HE'S RIGHT, IN HIS STONE-BRAINED WAY.

AND I WAS WRONG. NOT EVERYONE IS BORN SMALL.
WELL. THAT WAS EXCITING. PERHAPS NEXT TIME, I SHOULD BORROW MJOLNIR.
I IMAGINE I'LL BE WORTHY ENOUGH ANY DAY NOW.
SOME OF US ARE BORN GIANTS.
THANK YOU FOR THE RESCUE, DRRF, MAKER-OF-FUN, NUISANCE-OF-JOTUNHEIM.
I HAVE AN UNUSUAL PROPOSITION FOR YOU.
THIS IS THE STORY OF THE TIME AFTER THE WAR. OF HOW THE SMALLEST OF THE GIANTS CAME TO SIT AT THE RIGHT HAND OF THE THRONE...
...AND A STORY OF THE OUTCAST WHO WOULD SIT UPON IT.
GRUMBLE AS YOU LIKE, SICKLE, BUT THE SMALL ONE IS ANOINTED. AND PROTECTED, BESIDES.
+SRRF+ FOR NOW.
A NEW KIND OF KING. A NEW KIND OF GOD.
ONE WHO RULES NOT BY THE BLADE.
BUT BY THE SHIELD.

NEW YORK CITY.

PUNISHER WAR JOURNAL: THE WAR IS OVER ON EARTH.

...NOW WE'RE ON OFFENSE.

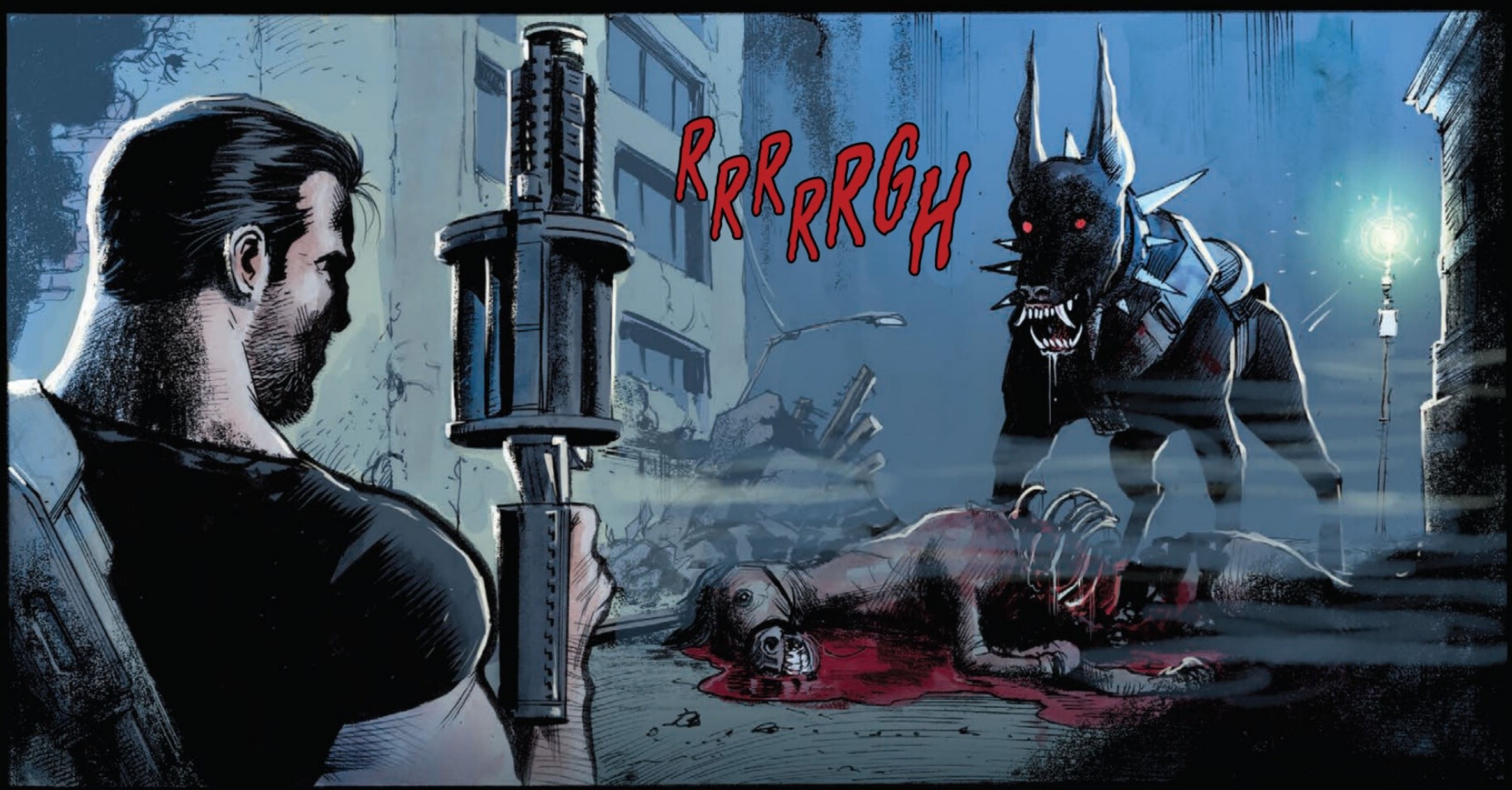
I'M GONNA HUNT THE MONSTERS RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS MISERY...

HNNH.

COME BACK AND PAY FOR WHAT YOU'RE TAKING.

AND HERE'S SOME BARBECUE ON THE HOUSE.

GRRRRRRRR


RRRRRGH

CHOOOF!!

BRING US IN GOOD ALE, GOOD ALE...

...FOR ODIN'S SAKE, BRING US IN GOOD ALE!

WHAT ARE YOU CELEBRATING?

'TIS NO BUSINESS OF YOURS, PUNY MORTAL.
TAKE THY SOUR LOOK ELSEWHERE!

BAM!!
CRASH!!!

YOU DARE--

IT IS NOT TIME FOR CUPS.
WE BROUGHT THIS BATTLE TO MIDGARD, AND THE DEAD HAVE NOT BEEN BURIED.
APOLOGIES, THOR.

THANK YOU FOR JOINING THE FRAY. DO YOU NEED OUR HELP NOW?

NO.
THERE ARE STILL KILLERS ON THE LOOSE.

THAT IS THE WAY OF EVERY WORLD, CASTLE.

I GOT SOMEWHERE TO BE BY SUNRISE.

JONES.
I WAS TRACKING THE MONSTER THAT KILLED YOUR WIFE AND KID...
HE ESCAPED BACK TO THE CESSPOOL HE CRAWLED FROM.

THIS ISN'T OVER. I'M GOING TO HUNT AND KILL THE MONSTER THAT TOOK YOUR FAMILY.

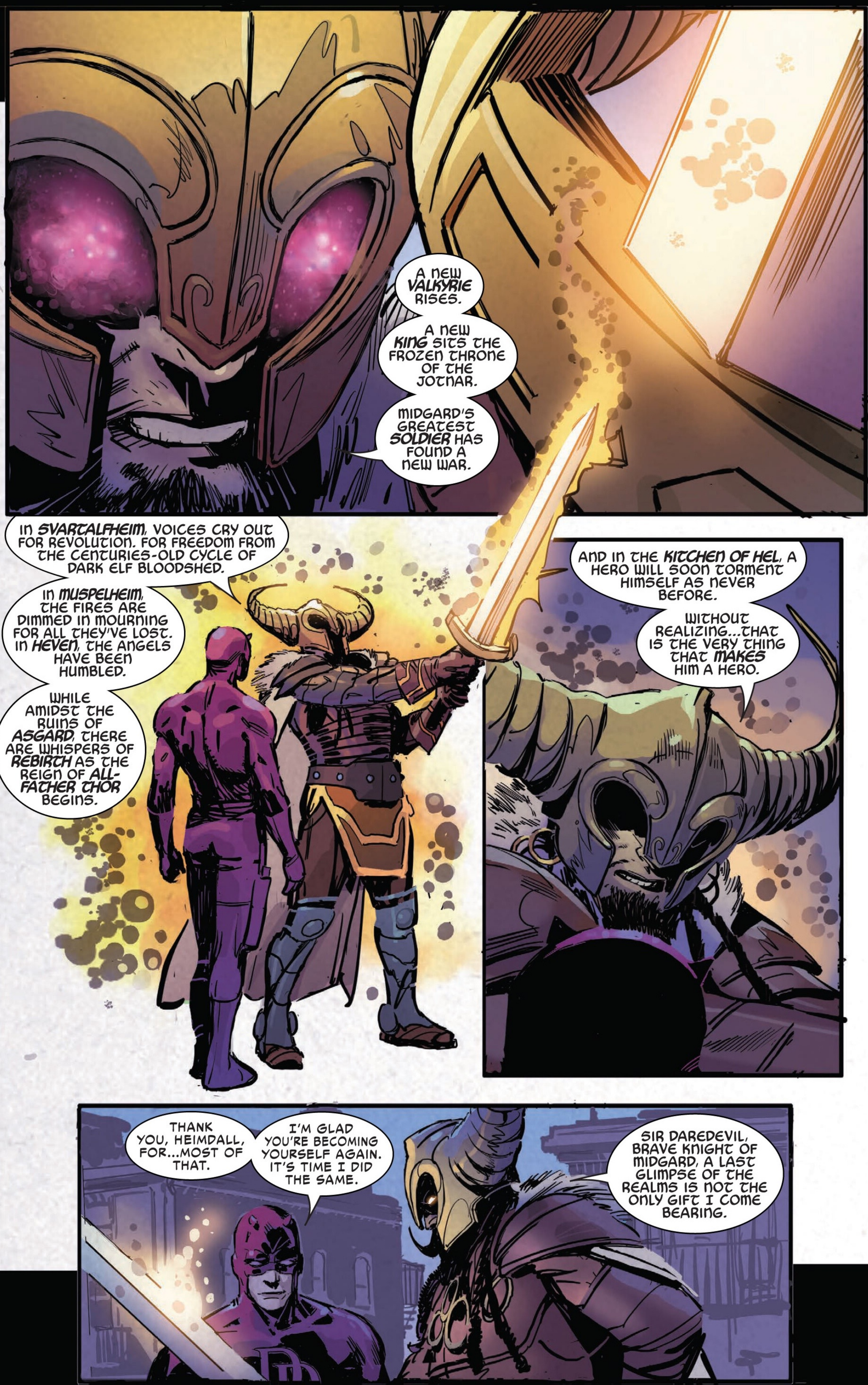
BUT I CAME TO SAY--IF YOU NEVER SEE ME AGAIN, I KILLED THAT FROST GIANT BUT DIED ON THE TRIP HOME.

THANK YOU, FRANK.

THERE ARE SOME FOLKS I WANT YOU TO MEET IN THE VAN HERE.
THEY'RE IN THE SAME BOAT THAT I AM.

WHEN THE MONSTERS ARRIVED, THEY MADE A LOT OF ORPHANS.

I TOLD THEM I KNEW A *MONSTER HUNTER.*
OLI!


A NEW VALKYRIE RISES.
A NEW KING SITS THE FROZEN THRONE OF THE JOTNAR.
MIDGARD'S GREATEST SOLDIER HAS FOUND A NEW WAR.
IN SVARTALFHEIM, VOICES CRY OUT FOR REVOLUTION. FOR FREEDOM FROM THE CENTURIES-OLD CYCLE OF DARK ELF BLOODSHED.
IN MUSPELHEIM, THE FIRES ARE DIMMED IN MOURNING FOR ALL THEY'VE LOST. IN HEVEN, THE ANGELS HAVE BEEN HUMBLED.
WHILE AMIDST THE RUINS OF ASGARD, THERE ARE WHISPERS OF REBIRTH AS THE REIGN OF ALL-FATHER THOR BEGINS.
AND IN THE KITCHEN OF HEL, A HERO WILL SOON TORMENT HIMSELF AS NEVER BEFORE.
WITHOUT REALIZING...THAT IS THE VERY THING THAT MAKES HIM A HERO.
THANK YOU, HEIMDALL, FOR...MOST OF THAT.
I'M GLAD YOU'RE BECOMING YOURSELF AGAIN. IT'S TIME I DID THE SAME.
SIR DAREDEVIL, BRAVE KNIGHT OF MIDGARD, A LAST GLIMPSE OF THE REALMS IS NOT THE ONLY GIFT I COME BEARING.

THESE... ARE PIECES OF YGGDRASIL. THE WORLD TREE THAT GREW FROM THE SUN.
I HAD THEM CARVED BY THE SAME DWARVES WHO FORGED THOR'S HAMMERS. AS A SMALL TOKEN OF MY GRATITUDE.
HEIMDALL... I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY.
SAY YOU'LL USE THEM WELL. AND REMEMBER EVERY TIME YOU WIELD THEM...
...THAT YOU WERE THE GOD WITHOUT FEAR. A FINER GOD THAN MANY I'VE KNOWN WHO WERE BORN TO DIVINITY.
AND COME THE END OF DAYS, KNOW THERE WILL BE A PLACE OF HONOR RESERVED FOR YOU IN VALHALLA ALONGSIDE THE GREATEST WARRIORS WHO EVER LIVED.
THANK YOU. TRULY. BUT...
...YOU SHOULD GIVE THAT SEAT IN VALHALLA TO MY DAD. HE EARNED IT MORE THAN I EVER COULD.
AND I'M PRETTY SURE I'VE ALREADY GOT A ROOM RESERVED IN THE...OTHER PLACE, WHETHER I LIKE IT OR--
AAARRGH!!!

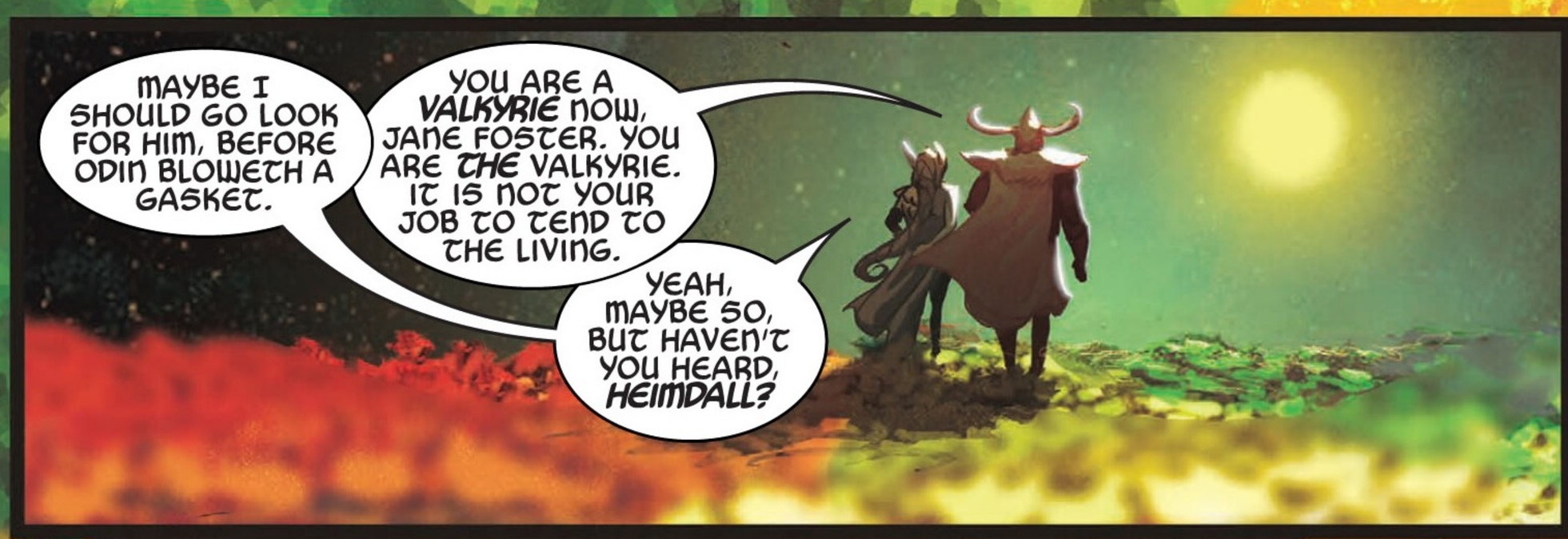
MUGGING. THREE BLOCKS FROM HERE. TWO MEN, BOTH ARMED.
AYE, AND THEY'VE KILLED BEFORE. I CAN SMELL THEIR WANTON DISREGARD FOR HUMAN LIFE. INCLUDING THEIR OWN.
THEN HOW DO YOU FEEL, HEIMDALL...
...ABOUT ANSWERING ONE LAST PRAYER?
AYE! FOR THE KITCHEN OF HEL!
FOR MIDGARD!

THOR #16

Once Upon a Time in Asgard

MIDGARD.
MISSISSIPPI.
"F5, THEY SAID. A WHOLE MILE WIDE. STAYED ON THE GROUND PERT NEAR ALL DAY."
TOOK THE CHURCH RIGHT DOWN TO THE DAD-GUM FOUNDATION. IT'S A WONDER NOBODY WAS KILT.
WE COULDN'T NEVER AFFORD NO INSURANCE. AND THERE AIN'T EXACTLY A BUNCH O' TONY STARKS IN THIS HERE CONGREGATION. WEREN'T NO WAY WE WAS GO'N BE ABLE TO REBUILD.
BUT WE SURE PRAYED ABOUT IT. THAT WE COULD DO. AND WELL, I GUESS IT'S LIKE THE GOOD BOOK SAYS...
...GOD WORKS IN MYSTERIOUS WAYS.
THE WOOD IS FROM ASGARD, FRESHLY HEWN BY MASTER BUILDER DWARVES. ONCE WE ARE FINISHED, YOUR CHURCH WILL STAND FOR A THOUSAND YEARS.
YOU DO GOOD WORK IN YOUR COMMUNITY, PASTOR, HELPING PEOPLE IN NEED, NO MATTER THEIR RACE, RELIGION OR SEXUAL IDENTITY. WE NEED MORE CHURCHES LIKE YOURS.
WE DO OUR BEST, SIR. IT'S ALWAYS NICE TO KNOW THERE'S SOMEBODY LOOKING OUT. AND WE SURELY DO APPRECIATE THE HELP...
...BUT A FELLA LIKE YOU, MR. THOR, I GOTTA ASK...ARE YOU SURE THERE AIN'T SOMEWHERE MORE IMPORTANT YOU OUGHTA BE?
no.

ASGARD.
"WHERE IN THE NAME OF THE GODS IS HE?"
HOW CAN THE BOY RULE ALL OF ASGARD IF HE CANNOT TELL TIME?
BLAST IT, PERHAPS I SHOULD RETHINK THIS ENTIRE--
HAVE FAITH IN YOUR SON, ODIN.
EASY FOR YOU TO SAY.
THOR UNDERSTANDS THE IMPORTANCE OF THIS DAY. AND I PROMISE YOU, HE WILL HONOR IT, AS ONLY HE CAN.
I'D WAGER I'M DRUNKIER. NO ONE IN ALL OF ASGARD IS DRUNKIER THAN YOUNG THOR!
RIGHT. SO HE'S DRUNK THEN?
HMPH. DEFINITELY RETHINKING.



LOTS OF THINGS ARE CHANGING AROUND HERE.

AYE. I HAVE HEARD THIS AS WELL.

"BEHOLD THE HEART OF THE NEW BIFROST GARDEN..."

...THE WATCHTOWER TREE! GROWN FROM A VESTIGE OF YGGDRASIL ITSELF...
...FROM THE SAME WORLD TREE THAT BLOSSOMED IN THE SUN DURING THE WAR OF THE REALMS.
AT NIGHT, WHEN THE BRANCHES CRACKLE WITH STARLIGHT, IT SHALL SERVE AS A REMINDER TO ALL THE REALMS OF THE HARD-FOUGHT PEACE WE HAVE WON.
AND THE DILIGENT WORK THAT MUST EVER BE DONE TO MAINTAIN THAT PEACE BY THOSE OF US GATHERED HERE TODAY.
WELL SAID, SENATOR VOLSTAGG. I PRAY I AM UP TO THE TASK OF REPRESENTING MIDGARD IN THIS HALLOWED COUNCIL AND WORKING FOR THE PROSPERITY OF ALL REALMS.
WE ARE GRATEFUL TO HAVE YOU HERE AMONG US, SENATOR T'CHALLA. WELCOME...
...TO THE CONGRESS OF WORLDS.
NOW...FOR OUR FIRST IMPERATIVE PIECE OF BUSINESS, SHALL WE DISCUSS HOW BEST TO ORGANIZE THE LINE FOR THE POST-CORONATION BUFFET? I VOTE WE GO IN ORDER OF VOLUMINOSITY.

YES. APOLOGIES, THORI, BUT IT WOULD APPEAR YOUR TROLL-MURDERING DAYS ARE BEHIND YOU, MY FRIEND.

THORI IS... VERY...ANGRY ABOUT THIS. GRRR.

IS THIS WHAT PEACE FEELS LIKE? LIKE A WET STING IN THE EYE?

PEACE AT LAST. THANK THE DOG-GODS.

RRRGH, I HEAR THE AXES OF MY PEOPLE SLICING THROUGH BEDROCK! THESE STORIES ABOUT TREATIES ARE NOTHING BUT ASGARDIAN LIES!
THE TROLLS ARE COMING FOR THEIR KING! ULIK WILL BE FREED FROM THESE BLASTED ROOT DUNGEONS!
YOU'RE AN IDIOT, ULIK. EVEN FOR A TROLL. FACE IT, YOU'VE LOST. WE ALL HAVE. TO THE MOST WRETCHED FOE OF ALL.
PEACE.
SPEAK FOR YOURSELF, ENCHANTRESS.
THE FIRES OF MUSPELHEIM MELT PEACE INTO TALLOW. MARK MY BLISTERING WORDS... THE QUEEN OF CINDERS WILL BURN AGAIN.
NOT IF WE HAVE ANYTHING TO SAY ABOUT IT.
AND WE MOST ASSUREDLY DO.
YES, SAY HELLO TO ASGARD'S NEWLY APPOINTED MINISTERS OF JUSTICE: HOGUN, FANDRAL AND HILDEGARDE. THE MINISTERS THREE!
HAS THOR STILL NOT ARRIVED? I BETTER NOT HAVE WASHED THE BLOOD OUT OF MY CLOTHES FOR NOTHING.

GAAGGH, THIS IS BEYOND INFURIATING! HOW DOES HE KEEP DOING IT?

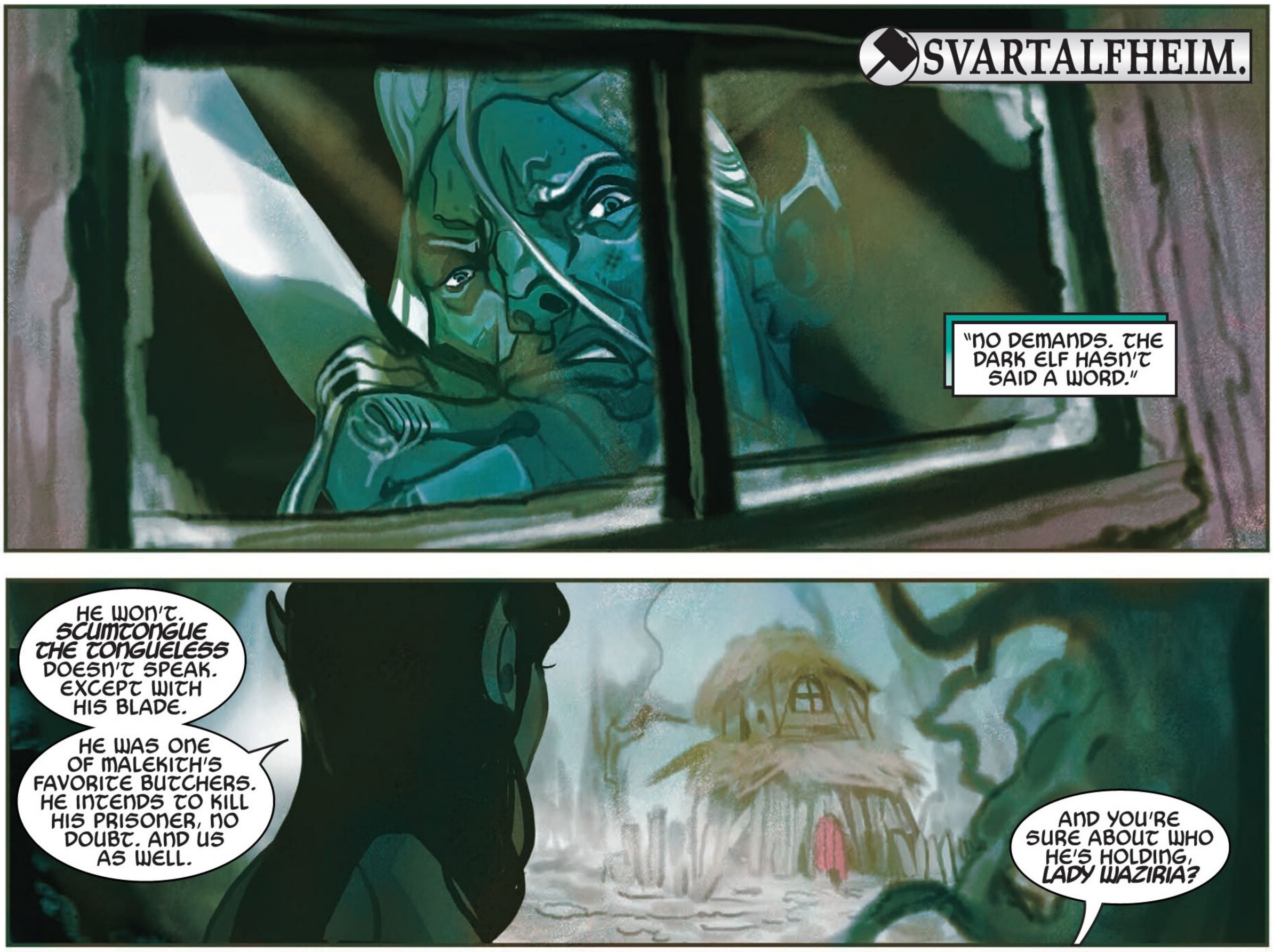
ROSALIND, HE'S THOR. SINCE WHEN HAS HE EVER SHOWN UP ON TIME FOR AN ASGARDIAN ROYAL FUNCTION?
I WAGER YOU TWO ELF BLADES HE'S AT LEAST ANOTHER THREE HOURS LATE.
NO, NOT THOR. I MEAN DARIO AGGER.
HE SIDED WITH MALEKITH IN THE WAR OF THE REALMS. HE HAD ROXXON INVADE ANTARCTICA!

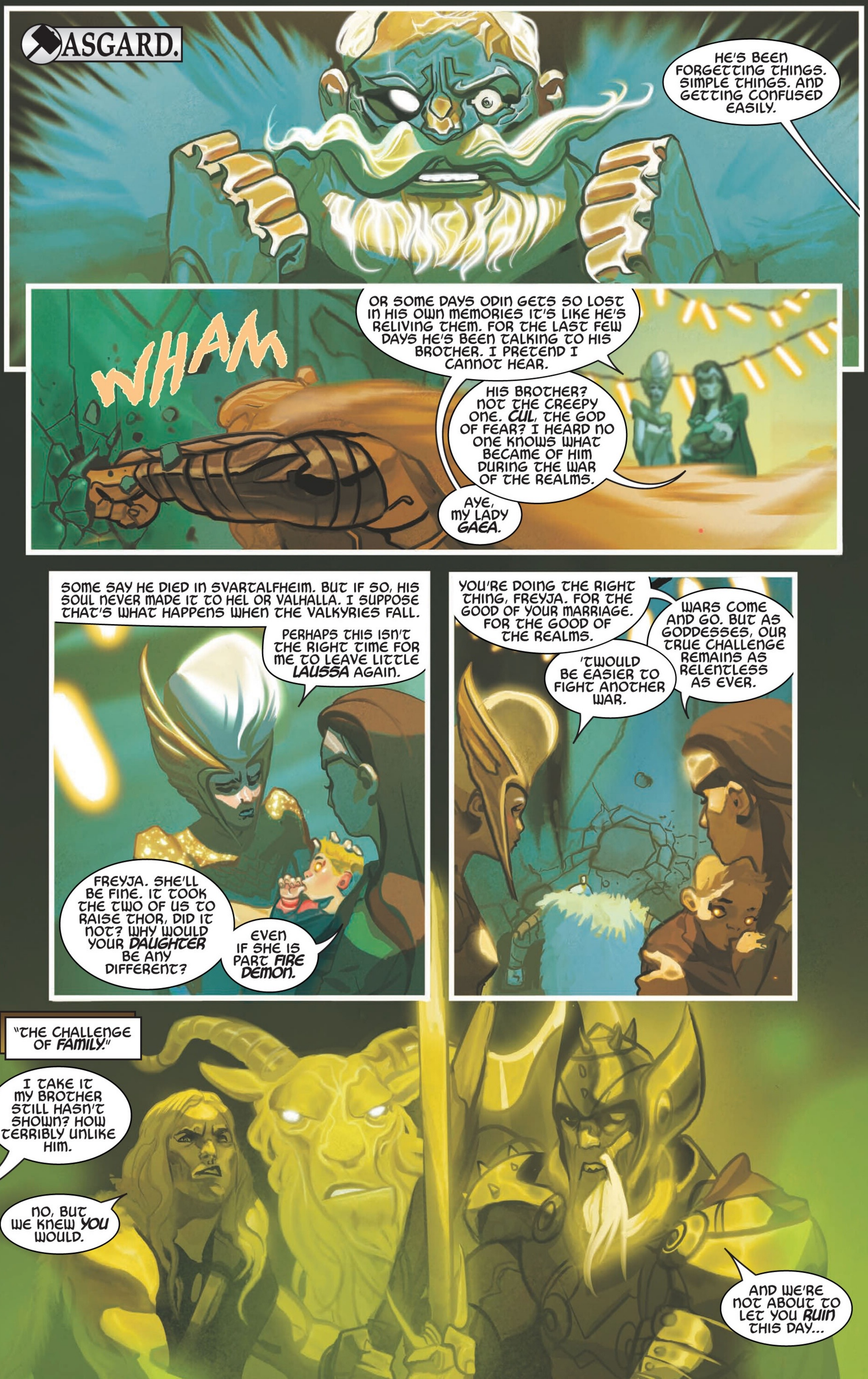
AND SOMEHOW HE'S GETTING OFF SCOT-FREE! HE HOLDS A PRESS CONFERENCE AND SAYS IT'S ALL FAKE NEWS AND PEOPLE BELIEVE HIM. HE CLAIMS THE VIDEOS WERE DOCTORED BY WAKANDA.

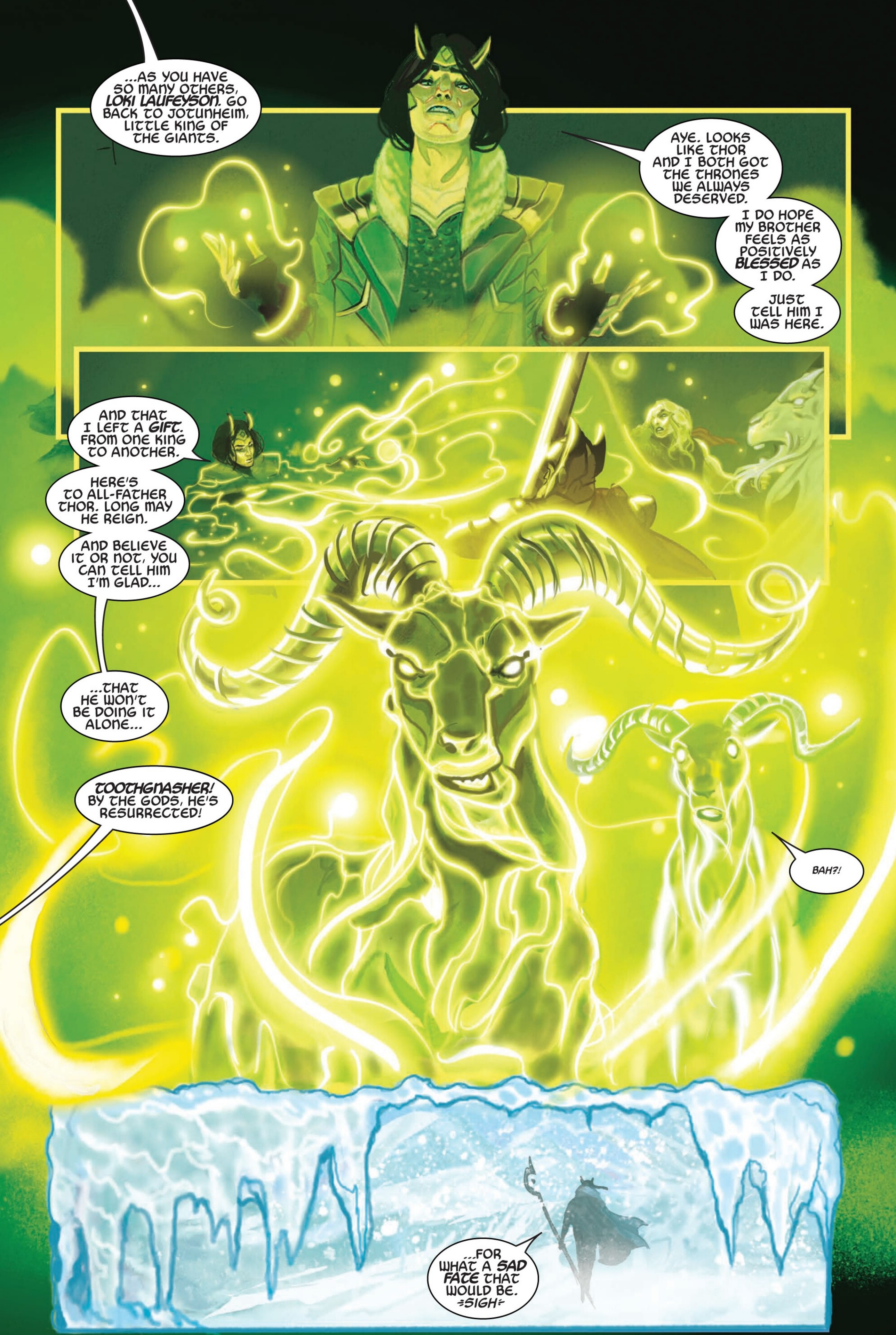
GOD, I WISH I'D SHOT HIM MORE.
WARS NEVER HAVE TIDY ENDS. NOT FOR THE ONES WHO LIVE. ALL WE CAN DO IS RAISE A TOAST TO THE FALLEN... AND CONTINUE THE FIGHT.
YEAH, YOU'RE DEFINITELY RIGHT ABOUT ONE THING, SIF...

I COULD USE A DRINK.
NOT AS MUCH AS ODIN COULD.
SOUND EVERY HORN IN ASGARD! SEND FORTH EVERY RAVEN! AND SOMEONE, ANYONE...

HUMAN ORGAN FOR TRANSPLANT
"...FIND ME THOR."
IT'S A HEART. A PERFECT MATCH. IF WE CAN GET IT TO SYDNEY IN TIME, THERE'S A CHANCE WE CAN SAVE THE GIRL'S LIFE.
MIDGARD. AUSTRALIA.
BUT THAT'S ALMOST 4,000 KILOMETERS AWAY.
AYE. TELL YOUR PEOPLE THERE TO EXPECT DELIVERY...
...MOMENTARILY.


SVARTALFHEIM.
"NO DEMANDS. THE DARK ELF HASN'T SAID A WORD."
HE WON'T. SCUMTONGUE THE TONGUELESS DOESN'T SPEAK. EXCEPT WITH HIS BLADE.
HE WAS ONE OF MALEKITH'S FAVORITE BUTCHERS. HE INTENDS TO KILL HIS PRISONER, NO DOUBT. AND US AS WELL.
AND YOU'RE SURE ABOUT WHO HE'S HOLDING, LADY WAZIRIA?
AYE. MY SOURCES SAY IT'S ONE OF THE MISSING NORNS.
WE SAVE HER, THERE'S A CHANCE WE SAVE FATE ITSELF. NOT BAD FOR A DAY'S WORK.
I BELIEVE YOU'LL FIND, SIR BALDER, THAT THAT'S THE USUAL KIND OF WORK FOR THOSE OF US HERE...
...IN THE LEAGUE OF REALMS.


ASGARD.
HE'S BEEN FORGETTING THINGS. SIMPLE THINGS. AND GETTING CONFUSED EASILY.
WHAM
OR SOME DAYS ODIN GETS SO LOST IN HIS OWN MEMORIES IT'S LIKE HE'S RELIVING THEM. FOR THE LAST FEW DAYS HE'S BEEN TALKING TO HIS BROTHER. I PRETEND I CANNOT HEAR.
HIS BROTHER? NOT THE CREEPY ONE. CUL, THE GOD OF FEAR? I HEARD NO ONE KNOWS WHAT BECAME OF HIM DURING THE WAR OF THE REALMS.
AYE, MY LADY GAEA.
SOME SAY HE DIED IN SVARTALFHEIM. BUT IF SO, HIS SOUL NEVER MADE IT TO HEL OR VALHALLA. I SUPPOSE THAT'S WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THE VALKYRIES FALL.
PERHAPS THIS ISN'T THE RIGHT TIME FOR ME TO LEAVE LITTLE LAUSSA AGAIN.
FREYJA. SHE'LL BE FINE. IT TOOK THE TWO OF US TO RAISE THOR, DID IT NOT? WHY WOULD YOUR DAUGHTER BE ANY DIFFERENT?
EVEN IF SHE IS PART FIRE DEMON.
YOU'RE DOING THE RIGHT THING, FREYJA. FOR THE GOOD OF YOUR MARRIAGE. FOR THE GOOD OF THE REALMS.
WARS COME AND GO. BUT AS GODDESSES, OUR TRUE CHALLENGE REMAINS AS RELENTLESS AS EVER.
'TWOULD BE EASIER TO FIGHT ANOTHER WAR.
"THE CHALLENGE OF FAMILY."
I TAKE IT MY BROTHER STILL HASN'T SHOWN? HOW TERRIBLY UNLIKE HIM.
NO, BUT WE KNEW YOU WOULD.
AND WE'RE NOT ABOUT TO LET YOU RUIN THIS DAY...


...AS YOU HAVE SO MANY OTHERS, LOKI LAUFEYSON. GO BACK TO JOTUNHEIM, LITTLE KING OF THE GIANTS.
AYE. LOOKS LIKE THOR AND I BOTH GOT THE THRONES WE ALWAYS DESERVED.
I DO HOPE MY BROTHER FEELS AS POSITIVELY BLESSED AS I DO.
JUST TELL HIM I WAS HERE.
AND THAT I LEFT A GIFT. FROM ONE KING TO ANOTHER.
HERE'S TO ALL-FATHER THOR. LONG MAY HE REIGN.
AND BELIEVE IT OR NOT, YOU CAN TELL HIM I'M GLAD...
...THAT HE WON'T BE DOING IT ALONE...
TOOTHGNASHER! BY THE GODS, HE'S RESURRECTED!
BAH?!
...FOR WHAT A SAD FATE THAT WOULD BE. =SIGH=

SVARTALFHEIM.
I'VE...NEVER PRAYED BEFORE. BEFORE THE WAR, IT WAS NEVER ALLOWED.
SO I'M SORRY...IF I'M NOT DOING IT RIGHT. BUT WE'RE JUST SO HUNGRY HERE. ALL THE FOOD WE HAD WENT TO FEED THE ARMIES.
MALEKITH ONLY EVER TRAINED HIS PEOPLE FOR WAR. I KNOW HOW TO FORGE VENOM-TIPPED, FANG-BARBED ARROWHEADS, BUT NOT HOW TO FARM.
PLEASE... IN THE NAME OF CUL, THE LIBERATOR, SOMEONE HELP US, OR THE DARK ELVES WILL STARVE INTO EXTINCTION.
I SAY THEE NAY!
NO ONE STARVES. NOT TODAY OF ALL DAYS. NOT EVER.
I AM ALL-FATHER THOR. AND I BRING THE TIDINGS OF ASGARD.

NO. I DON'T BELIEVE HE IS.

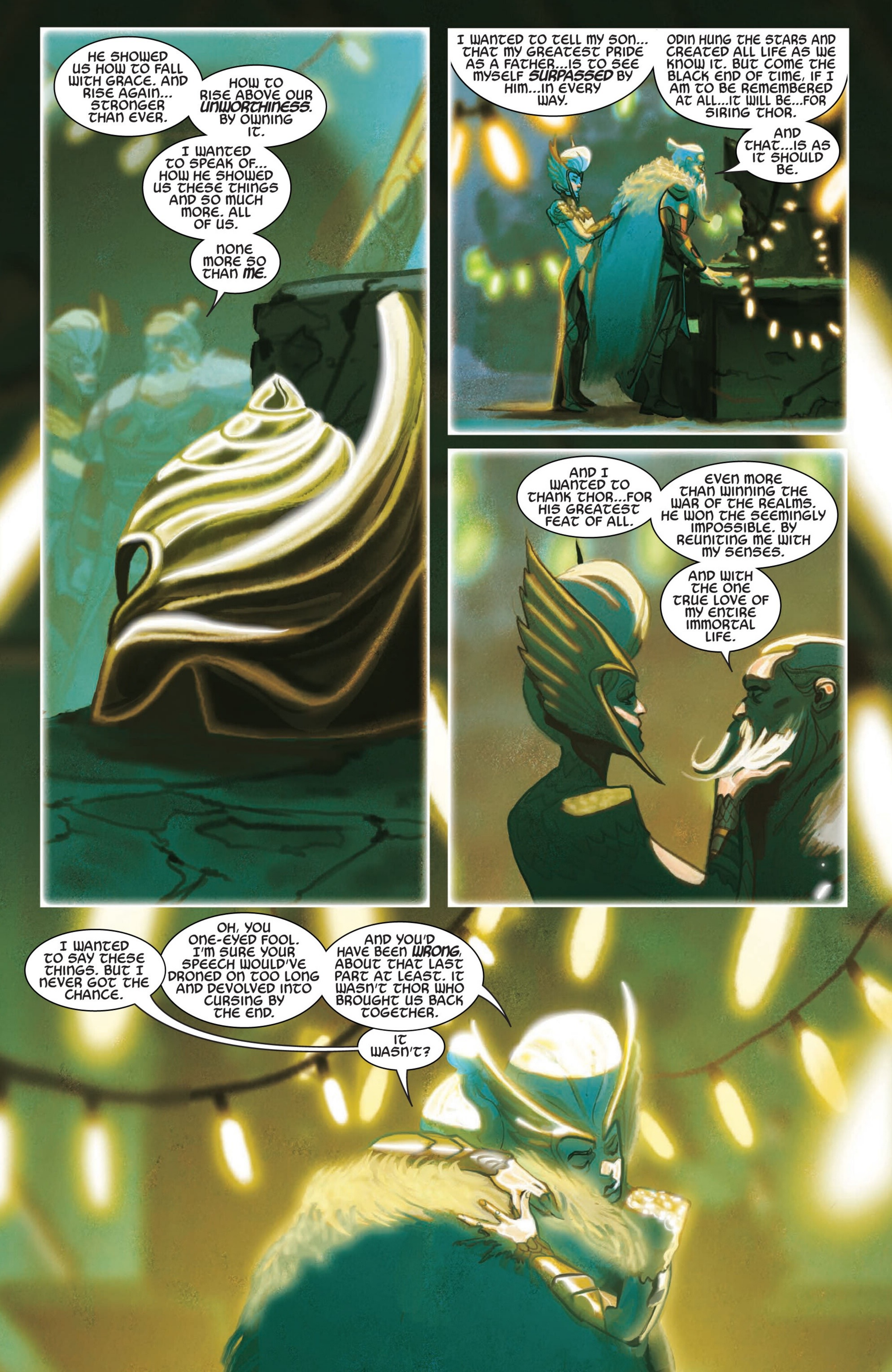
OUR SON DOESN'T WANT TO BE HANDED A CROWN. HE WANTS TO BE OUT THERE, EARNING IT.

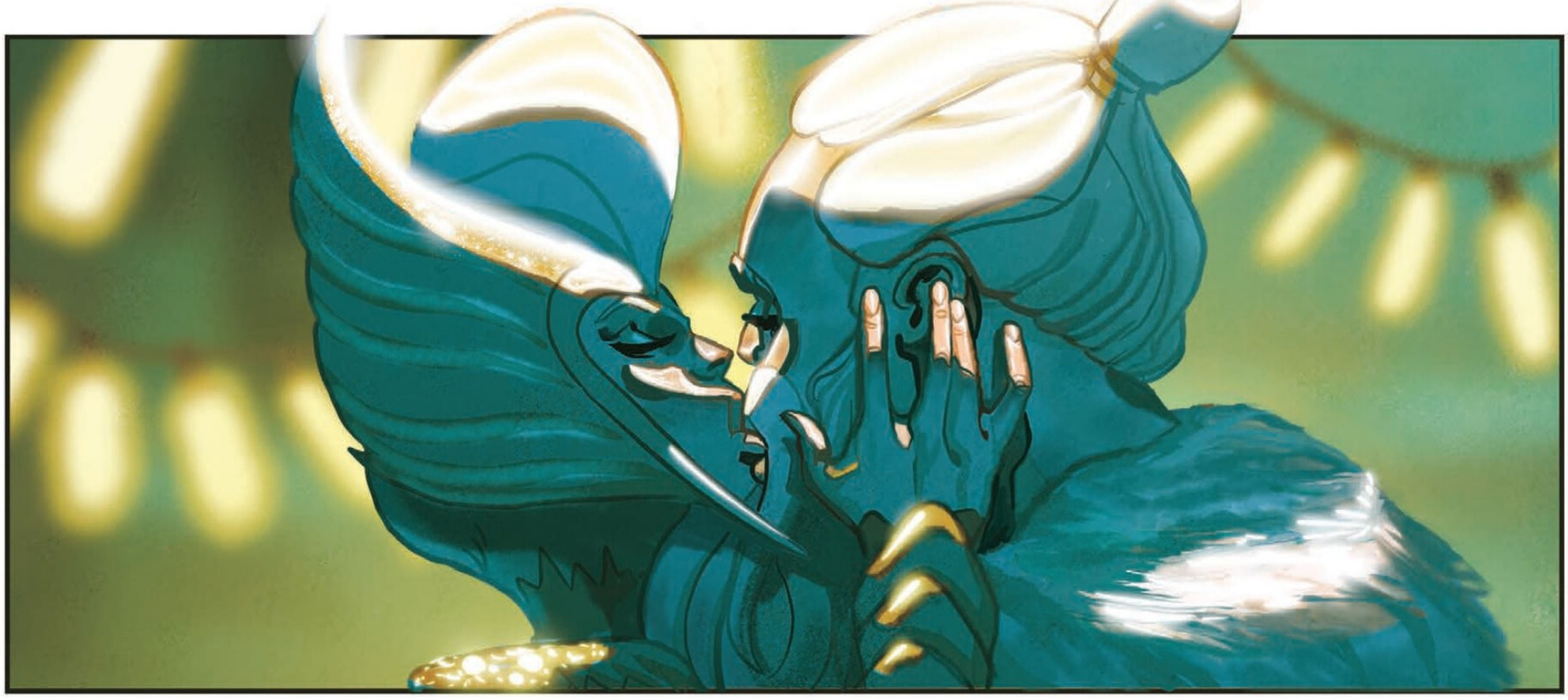
BUT...I HAD A WHOLE SPEECH PREPARED.

ABOUT HOW HE CHANGED THE LIVES OF EVERYONE HERE.

SAVED US. INSPIRED US. OUTDRANK US.

SHOWED US HOW TO SOAR AS A GOD. TO WALK AS A MAN. TO RAGE AS THE MIGHTIEST OF STORMS.


HE SHOWED US HOW TO FALL WITH GRACE. AND RISE AGAIN... STRONGER THAN EVER.
HOW TO RISE ABOVE OUR UNWORTHINESS. BY OWNING IT.
I WANTED TO SPEAK OF... HOW HE SHOWED US THESE THINGS AND SO MUCH MORE. ALL OF US.
NONE MORE SO THAN ME.
I WANTED TO TELL MY SON... THAT MY GREATEST PRIDE AS A FATHER...IS TO SEE MYSELF SURPASSED BY HIM...IN EVERY WAY.
ODIN HUNG THE STARS AND CREATED ALL LIFE AS WE KNOW IT. BUT COME THE BLACK END OF TIME, IF I AM TO BE REMEMBERED AT ALL...IT WILL BE...FOR SIRING THOR.
AND THAT...IS AS IT SHOULD BE.
AND I WANTED TO THANK THOR...FOR HIS GREATEST FEAT OF ALL.
EVEN MORE THAN WINNING THE WAR OF THE REALMS. HE WON THE SEEMINGLY IMPOSSIBLE. BY REUNITING ME WITH MY SENSES.
AND WITH THE ONE TRUE LOVE OF MY ENTIRE IMMORTAL LIFE.
I WANTED TO SAY THESE THINGS. BUT I NEVER GOT THE CHANCE.
OH, YOU ONE-EYED FOOL. I'M SURE YOUR SPEECH WOULD'VE DRONED ON TOO LONG AND DEVOLVED INTO CURSING BY THE END.
AND YOU'D HAVE BEEN WRONG, ABOUT THAT LAST PART AT LEAST. IT WASN'T THOR WHO BROUGHT US BACK TOGETHER.
IT WASN'T?



COME, HUSBAND.
WHERE ARE WE GOING?
AWAY FROM THIS PLACE FOR A WHILE. JUST YOU AND I.
BUT WHAT OF ASGARD? IT'S STILL BEING REBUILT...
AYE.

AND WE LEAVE IT IN GOOD HANDS.
OF COURSE HE DIDN'T SHOW!
A STORM DOESN'T WAIT FOR A CORONATION BEFORE IT DECIDES TO GO BE A STORM!
BUT TRUST YOUR NEW VALKYRIE, ASGARDIANS--IF WE SAY THIS LOUD ENOUGH, HE'LL HEAR US WHEREVER HE'S AT!

HERE'S TO ALL-FATHER THOR!
LONG MAY HE THUNDER!

LONG MAY HE THUNDER!!!!
I SUPPOSE WE SHOULD GET BACK TO OUR OWN TIMES.

AYE. I MISS THE SMELL OF VIKINGS.
AND I MISS MY GRANDDAUGHTERS.
GRANDDAUGHTERS? GODS, DON'T TELL ME I GET MARRIED SOMEDAY?!

BOY, IN THE YEARS TO COME, YOU WILL DO MANY THINGS YOU CANNOT YET IMAGINE. TRY TO SLOW DOWN EVERY NOW AND AGAIN TO ENJOY THE GOOD ONES.
AND TRY NOT TO DRINK AWAY ALL OF THE BAD. YOU MIGHT LEARN A THING FROM A FEW OF THEM.

SO FAR I'VE LEARNED THAT I'LL STILL BE ABLE TO BRING A BIT OF THUNDER, EVEN WHEN I'M A TRILLION YEARS OLD.
FARE THEE WELL, OLD MAN.
FARE THEE WELL, YOUNG THUNDER GOD.
LET ME TAKE A WILD GUESS AS TO WHAT YOU'RE GOING TO DO THE MOMENT YOU GET HOME...

YOU CAN WAIT.

HEIMDALL! READY THE BIFROST! AND TELL MIDGARD TO READY ITS WINE AND WOMEN AND LESSER GODS IN NEED OF SMITING!
FOR THE MIGHTY THOR HAS A *LIFE* TO LIVE BEFORE HE GROWS OLD!

FROM THE RUINS OF THE PAST... TO THE CRUMBLING DESOLATION OF THE *FUTURE*.

ALL THAT WORK YET TO BE DONE FOR THE NEWLY CROWNED ALL-FATHER...ALL ULTIMATELY FOR NAUGHT.
IF ONLY I COULD'VE TOLD HIM WHAT A CURSE THAT CROWN WILL BE.
CONGRATULATIONS, KING THOR. NOW YOU GET TO OUTLIVE EVERYONE YOU'VE EVER KNOWN.

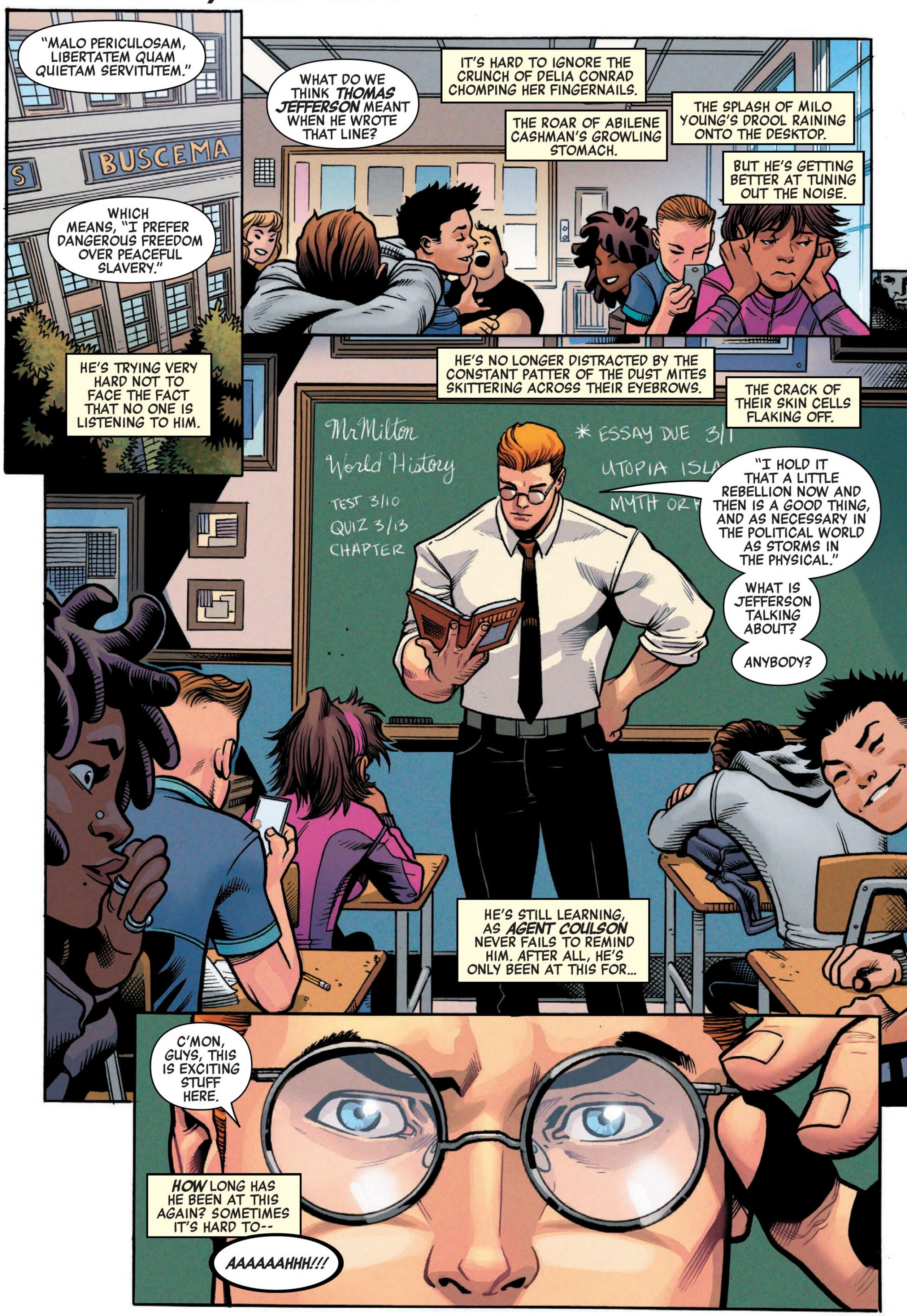
EVERY REALM. EVERY WORLD YOU'VE EVER SAVED.
YOU WILL BE THERE TO WATCH THE FINAL WHIMPERING DEATH OF YOUR ENTIRE UNIVERSE.
AND BE UNABLE TO DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT.
HOW DOES THAT SOUND, OH MIGHTY KING?
GRRRGGH!!!
HA!

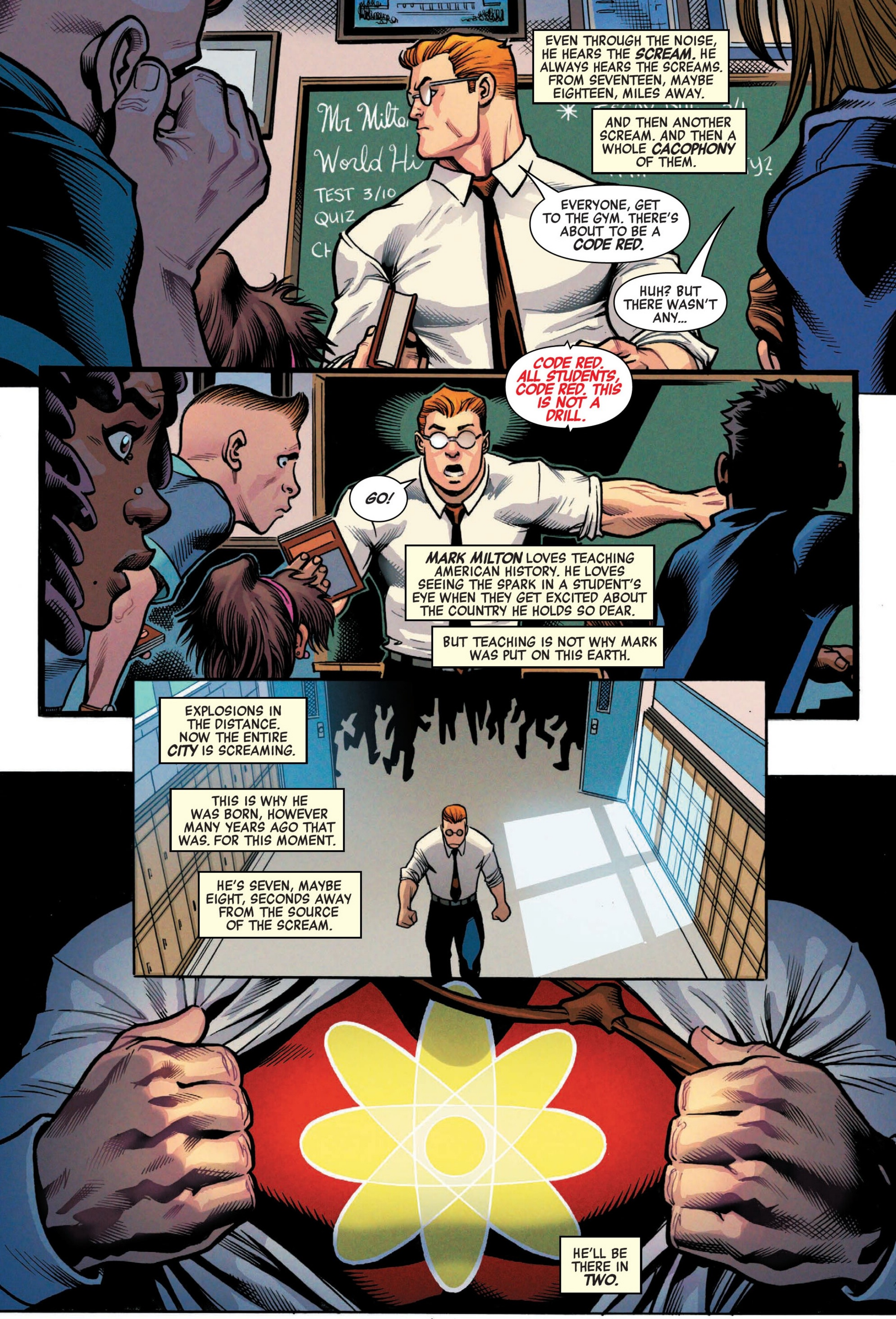
SOUNDS ABOUT RIGHT TO ME!

AVENGERS #18

Crisis on Ten Realms

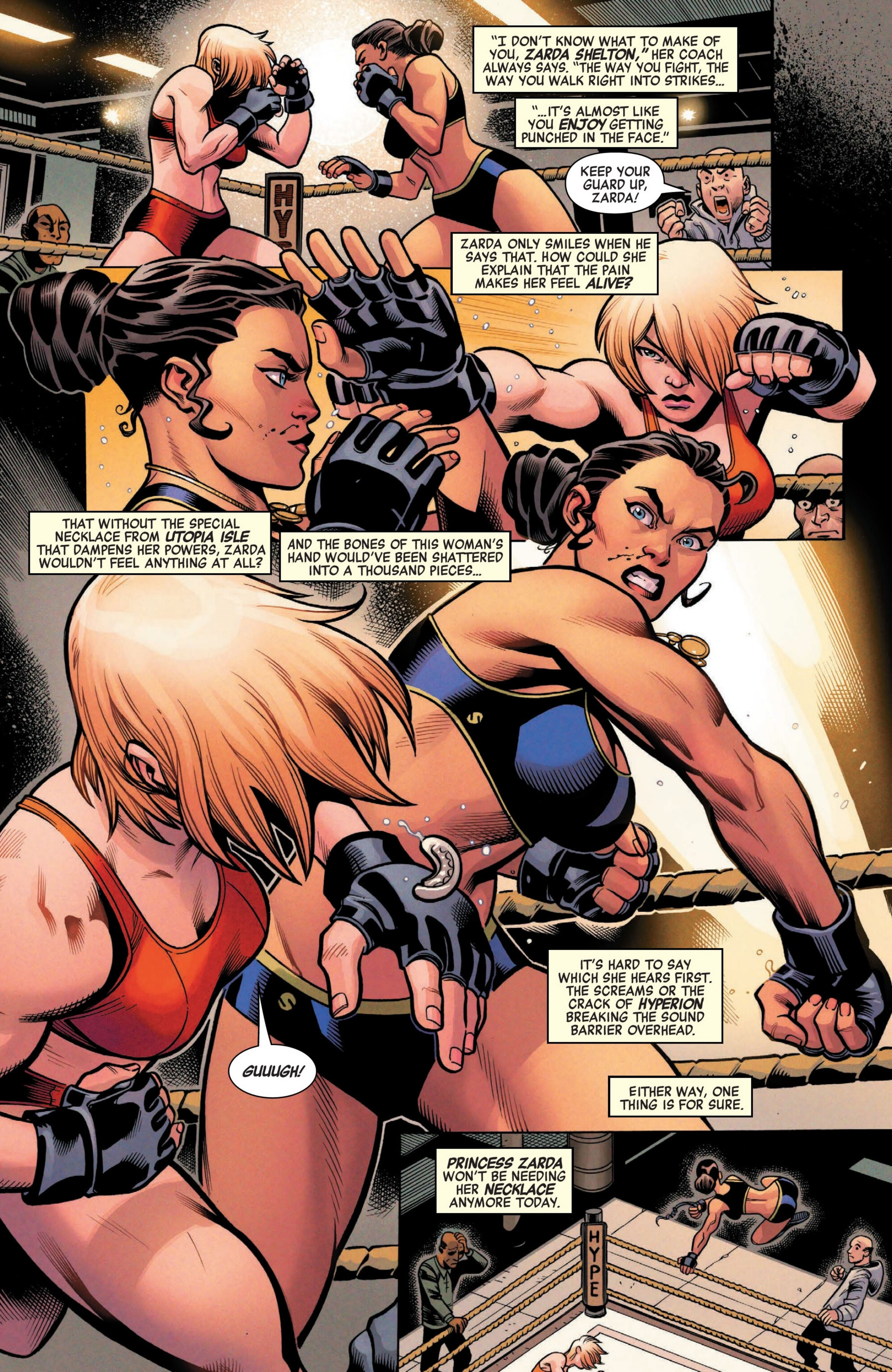
KENSINGTON, MARYLAND.

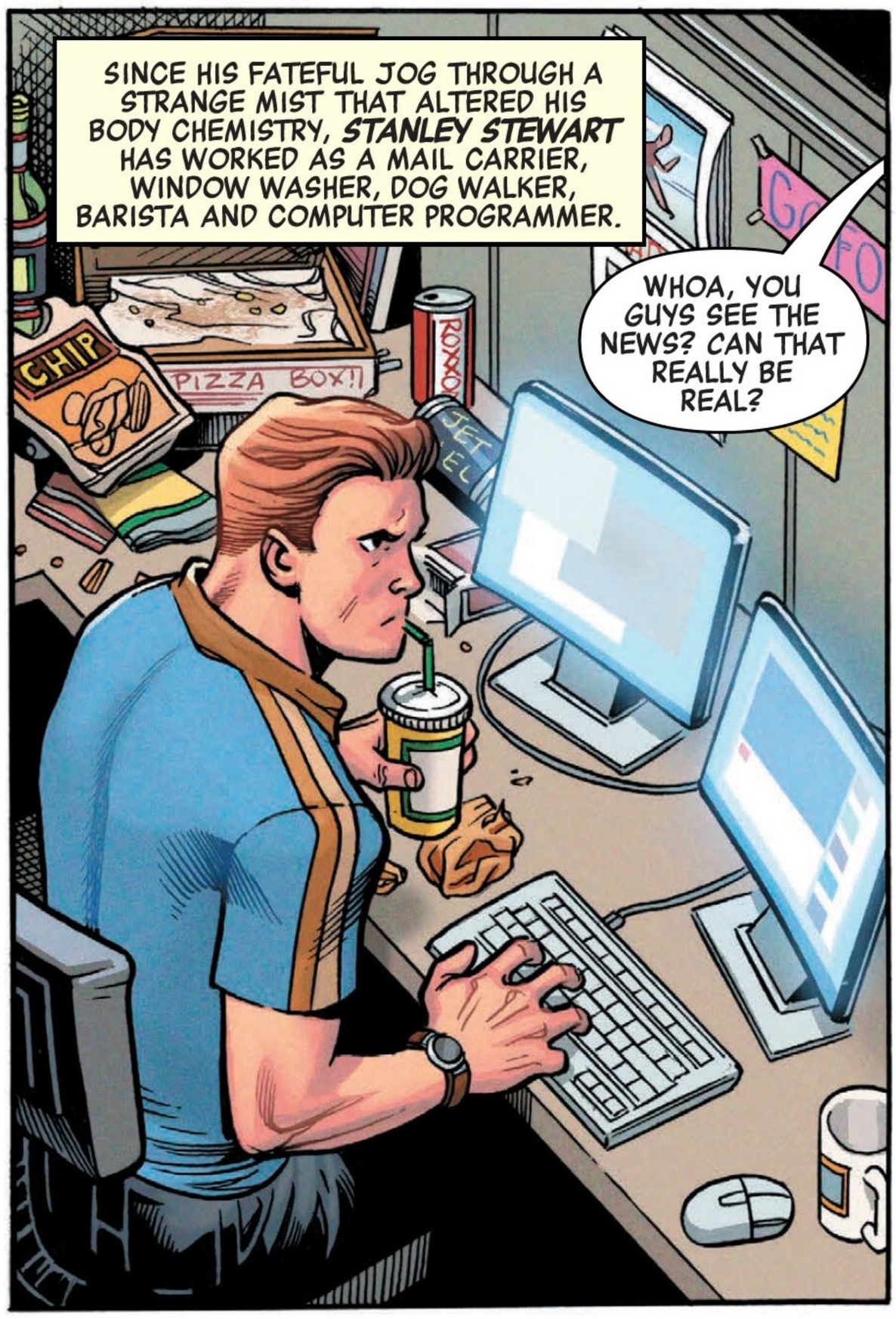


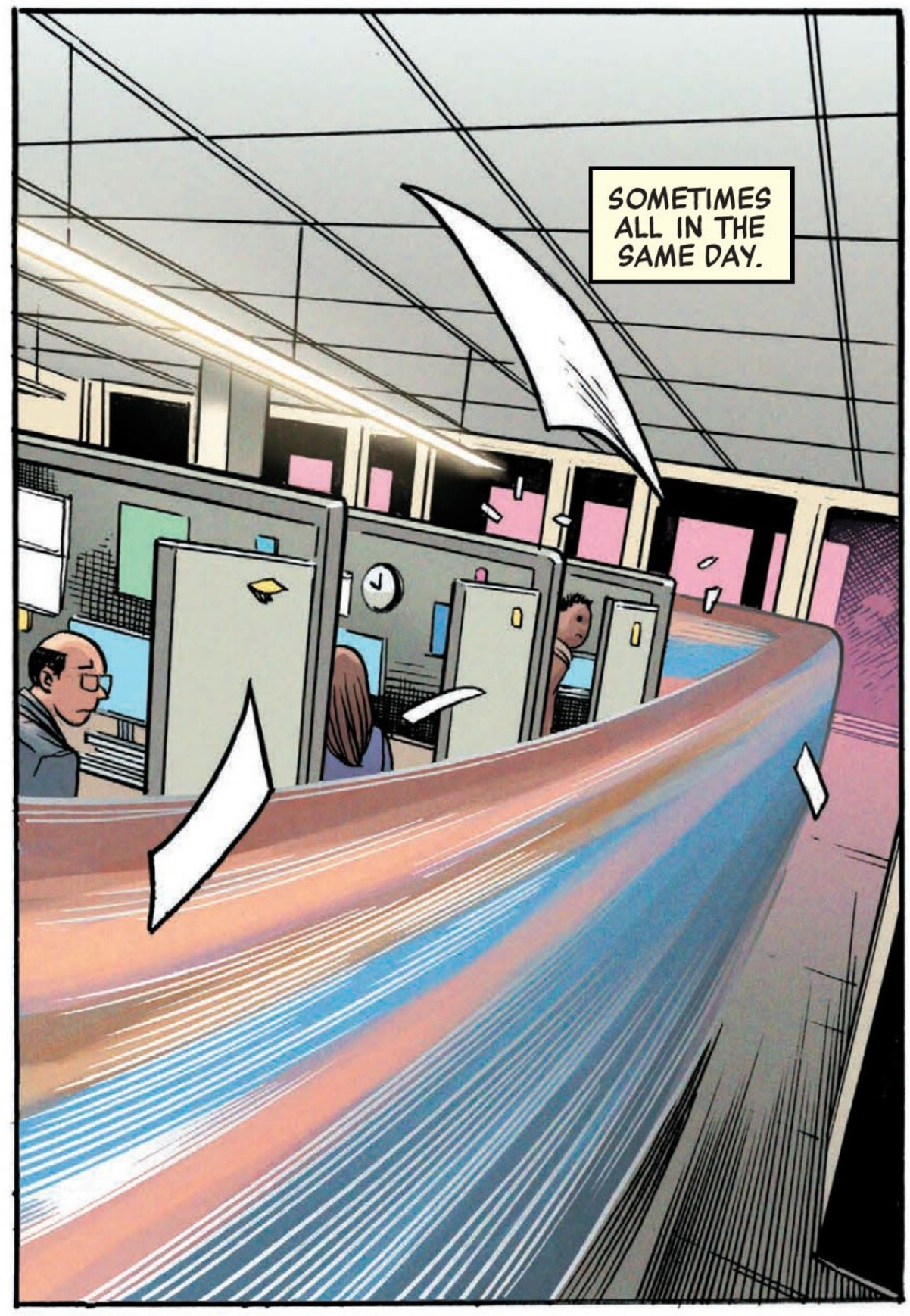

EVEN THROUGH THE NOISE, HE HEARS THE SCREAM. HE ALWAYS HEARS THE SCREAMS. FROM SEVENTEEN, MAYBE EIGHTEEN, MILES AWAY.
AND THEN ANOTHER SCREAM. AND THEN A WHOLE CACOPHONY OF THEM.
EVERYONE, GET TO THE GYM. THERE'S ABOUT TO BE A CODE RED.
HUH? BUT THERE WASN'T ANY...
CODE RED. ALL STUDENTS, CODE RED. THIS IS NOT A DRILL.
GO!
MARK MILTON LOVES TEACHING AMERICAN HISTORY. HE LOVES SEEING THE SPARK IN A STUDENT'S EYE WHEN THEY GET EXCITED ABOUT THE COUNTRY HE HOLDS SO DEAR.
BUT TEACHING IS NOT WHY MARK WAS PUT ON THIS EARTH.
EXPLOSIONS IN THE DISTANCE. NOW THE ENTIRE CITY IS SCREAMING.
THIS IS WHY HE WAS BORN, HOWEVER MANY YEARS AGO THAT WAS. FOR THIS MOMENT.
HE'S SEVEN, MAYBE EIGHT, SECONDS AWAY FROM THE SOURCE OF THE SCREAM.
HE'LL BE THERE IN TWO.

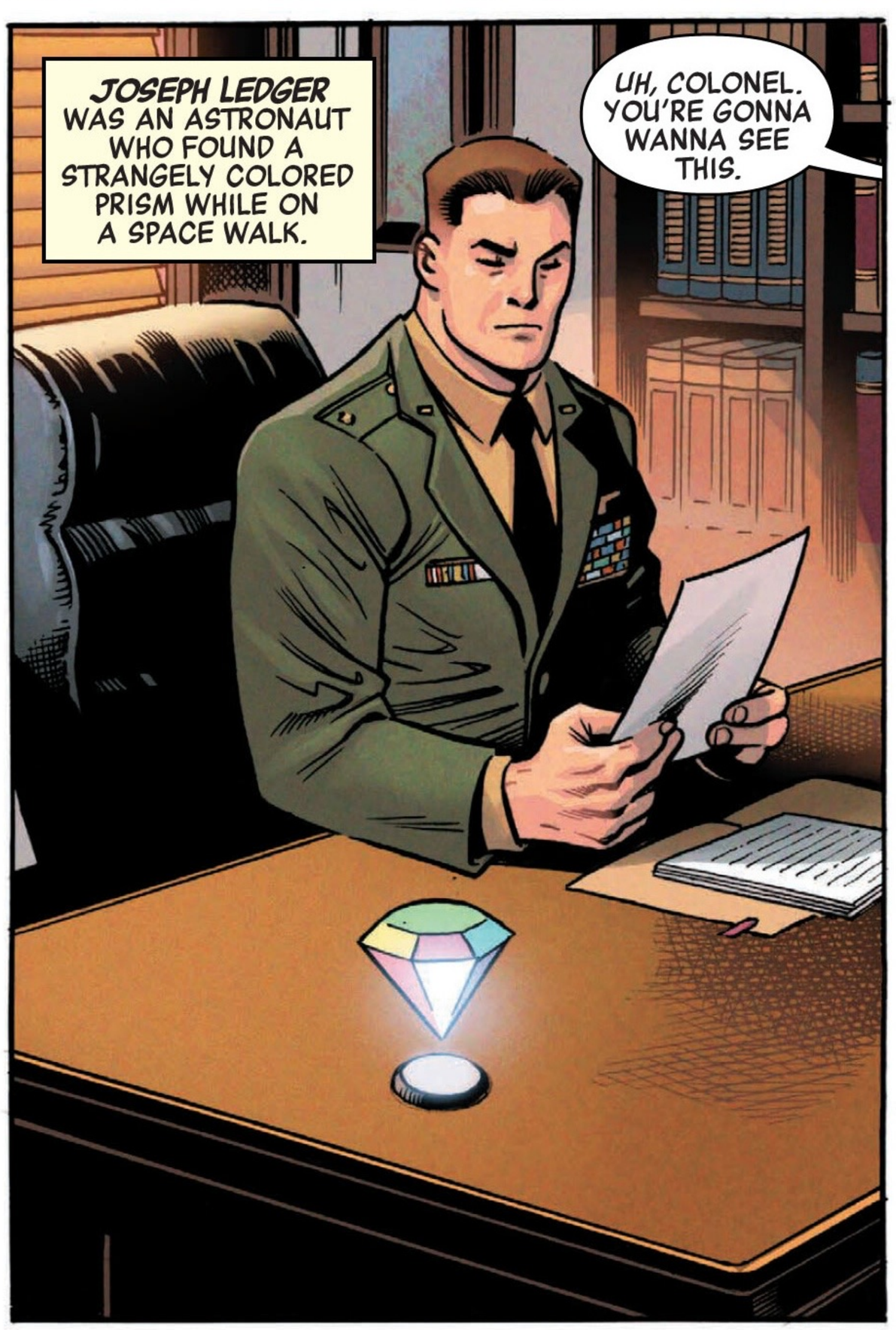
CODE RED. ALL REPRESENTATIVES TO THE TUNNELS. THIS IS NOT A DRILL.
BOOM BOOM
GOOD LORD, THOSE EXPLOSIONS SOUND LIKE THEY'RE COMING FROM THE MALL. DOES ANYBODY KNOW WHAT'S HAPPENING?
IF IT'S ATLANTEANS INVADING, WE'LL LET THE PRESIDENT BOMB EVERY DAMN OCEAN STRAIGHT TO HELL.
THOSE AREN'T EXPLOSIONS, THINKS KYLE RICHMOND, THE NEWLY ELECTED REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.
THEY SOUND MORE LIKE FOOTSTEPS.
CONGRESSMAN RICHMOND. THE TUNNELS ARE THIS WAY, SIR.
I'M NOT GOING TO THE TUNNELS.
YES, SIR.
OF COURSE, SIR.
YOUR CAR WILL BE WAITING, SIR.

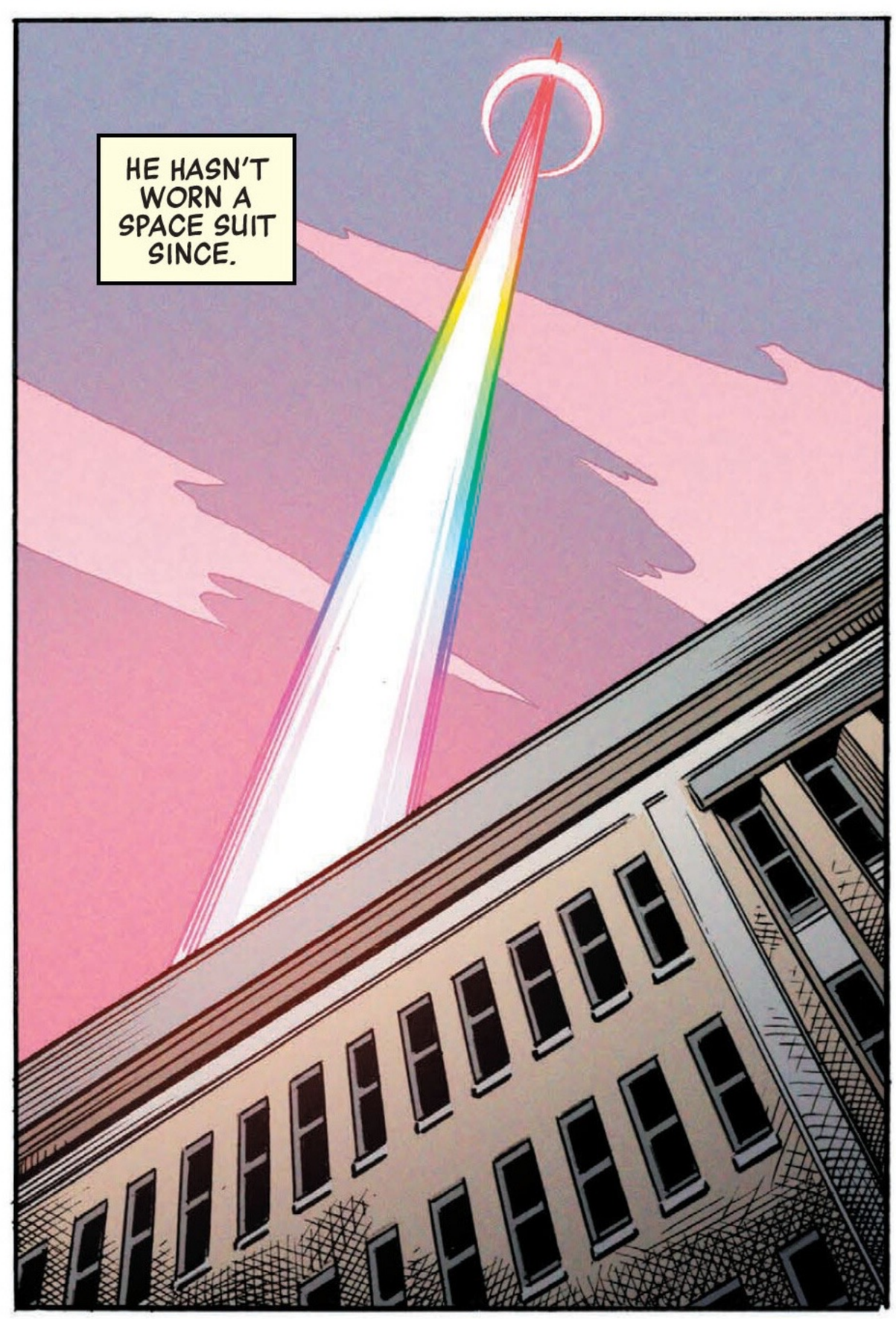
SINCE WASHINGTON, D.C. IS A SPECIAL FEDERAL DISTRICT, ITS REPRESENTATIVE HAS NO REAL VOTING POWER IN CONGRESS.
THE SITUATION APPEARS TO BE CONCENTRATED AT THE OTHER END OF THE NATIONAL MALL, SIR, BUT IT'S EXPANDING RAPIDLY.
KYLE RICHMOND IS A DELEGATE WITHOUT THE FULL POWERS OF A CONGRESSMAN.
WILL YOU BE REQUIRING ANYTHING ELSE FROM US, SIR?
NO, THAT'LL BE ALL FOR NOW.
YES, SIR. *LMDS* POWERING DOWN.
THE *WEAKEST* MEMBER OF THE HOUSE, SOME WOULD SAY.
THEY WOULD BE *WRONG.*

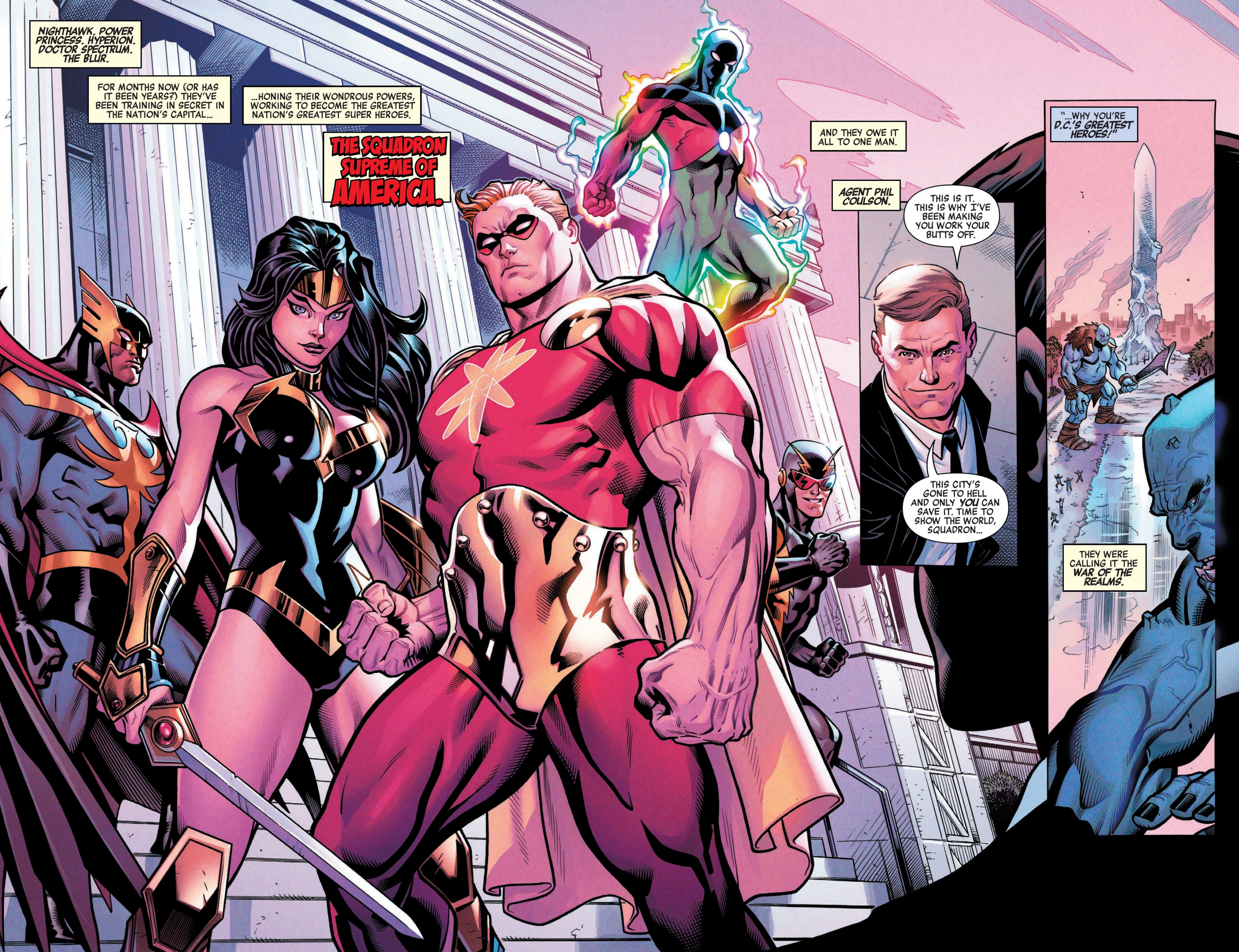

"I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO MAKE OF YOU, ZARDA SHELTON," HER COACH ALWAYS SAYS. "THE WAY YOU FIGHT, THE WAY YOU WALK RIGHT INTO STRIKES...
"...IT'S ALMOST LIKE YOU ENJOY GETTING PUNCHED IN THE FACE."
KEEP YOUR GUARD UP, ZARDA!
ZARDA ONLY SMILES WHEN HE SAYS THAT. HOW COULD SHE EXPLAIN THAT THE PAIN MAKES HER FEEL ALIVE?
THAT WITHOUT THE SPECIAL NECKLACE FROM UTOPIA ISLE THAT DAMPENS HER POWERS, ZARDA WOULDN'T FEEL ANYTHING AT ALL?
AND THE BONES OF THIS WOMAN'S HAND WOULD'VE BEEN SHATTERED INTO A THOUSAND PIECES...
GUUUGH!
IT'S HARD TO SAY WHICH SHE HEARS FIRST. THE SCREAMS OR THE CRACK OF HYPERION BREAKING THE SOUND BARRIER OVERHEAD.
EITHER WAY, ONE THING IS FOR SURE.
PRINCESS ZARDA WON'T BE NEEDING HER NECKLACE ANYMORE TODAY.
HYPE


SINCE HIS FATEFUL JOG THROUGH A STRANGE MIST THAT ALTERED HIS BODY CHEMISTRY, STANLEY STEWART HAS WORKED AS A MAIL CARRIER, WINDOW WASHER, DOG WALKER, BARISTA AND COMPUTER PROGRAMMER.
WHOA, YOU GUYS SEE THE NEWS? CAN THAT REALLY BE REAL?
CHIP
PIZZA BOX!!
ROXXO


SOMETIMES ALL IN THE SAME DAY.

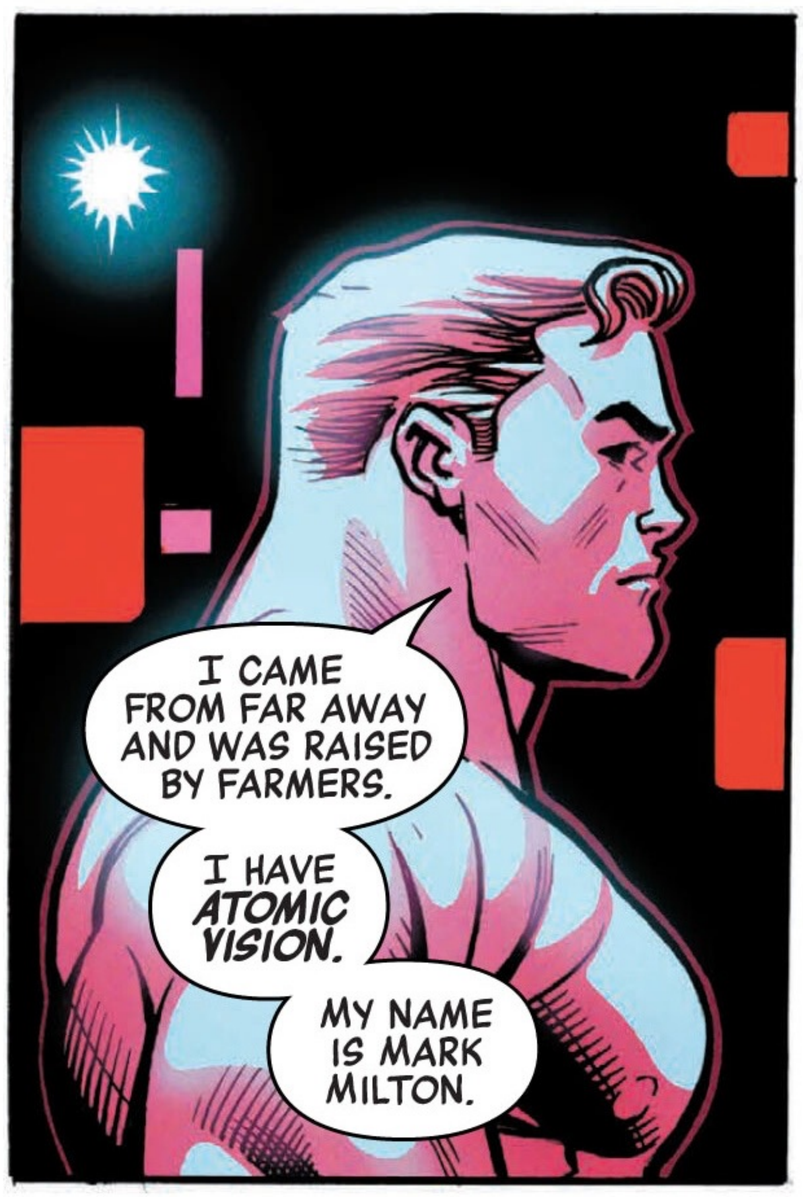

JOSEPH LEDGER WAS AN ASTRONAUT WHO FOUND A STRANGELY COLORED PRISM WHILE ON A SPACE WALK.
UH, COLONEL. YOU'RE GONNA WANNA SEE THIS.


HE HASN'T WORN A SPACE SUIT SINCE.

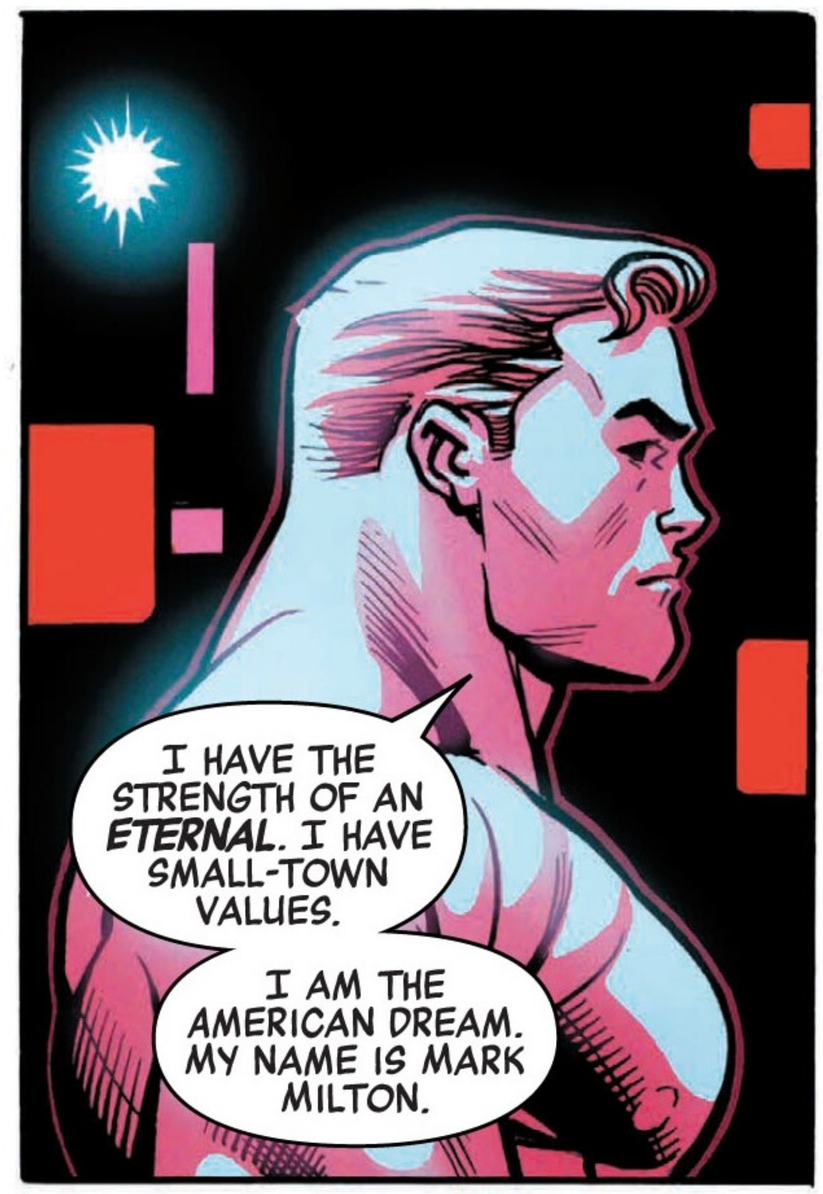

NIGHTHAWK. POWER PRINCESS. HYPERION. DOCTOR SPECTRUM. THE BLUR.
FOR MONTHS NOW (OR HAS IT BEEN YEARS?) THEY'VE BEEN TRAINING IN SECRET IN THE NATION'S CAPITAL...
...HONING THEIR WONDROUS POWERS, WORKING TO BECOME THE GREATEST NATION'S GREATEST SUPER HEROES.
THE SQUADRON SUPREME OF AMERICA.
AND THEY OWE IT ALL TO ONE MAN.
AGENT PHIL COULSON.
THIS IS IT. THIS IS WHY I'VE BEEN MAKING YOU WORK YOUR BUTTS OFF.
THIS CITY'S GONE TO HELL AND ONLY YOU CAN SAVE IT. TIME TO SHOW THE WORLD, SQUADRON...
"...WHY YOU'RE D.C.'S GREATEST HEROES!"
THEY WERE CALLING IT THE WAR OF THE REALMS.

AN INVASION OF THE FIERCEST ARMIES FROM ACROSS THE MYSTICAL TEN REALMS. GIANTS, TROLLS, FIRE GOBLINS.
ALL LED BY A VILLAINOUS DARK ELF NAMED MALEKITH THE ACCURSED.
IT WAS THE SORT OF THING THAT THOR USUALLY DEALT WITH. BUT WORD WAS THOR WAS NOWHERE TO BE FOUND.
AND THE AVENGERS WERE BUSY BATTLING (AND LOSING TO) MALEKITH'S FORCES IN MANHATTAN.
MALEKITH'S ARMIES WERE WELL-SEASONED AND BLOODIED AFTER MARCHING FROM REALM TO REALM FOR MONTHS, LAYING WASTE TO THEM ALL.
GAARGH!
GUGGH!
WHICH MEANT THE FROST GIANTS OF JOTUNHEIM EXPECTED TO CONTROL ALL OF NORTH AMERICA BY THE END OF THE DAY.
BY THE TIME THEY REACHED MIDGARD, THEY WERE SALTY AS HEL AND READY FOR ANYTHING THE EARTH HAD TO OFFER.

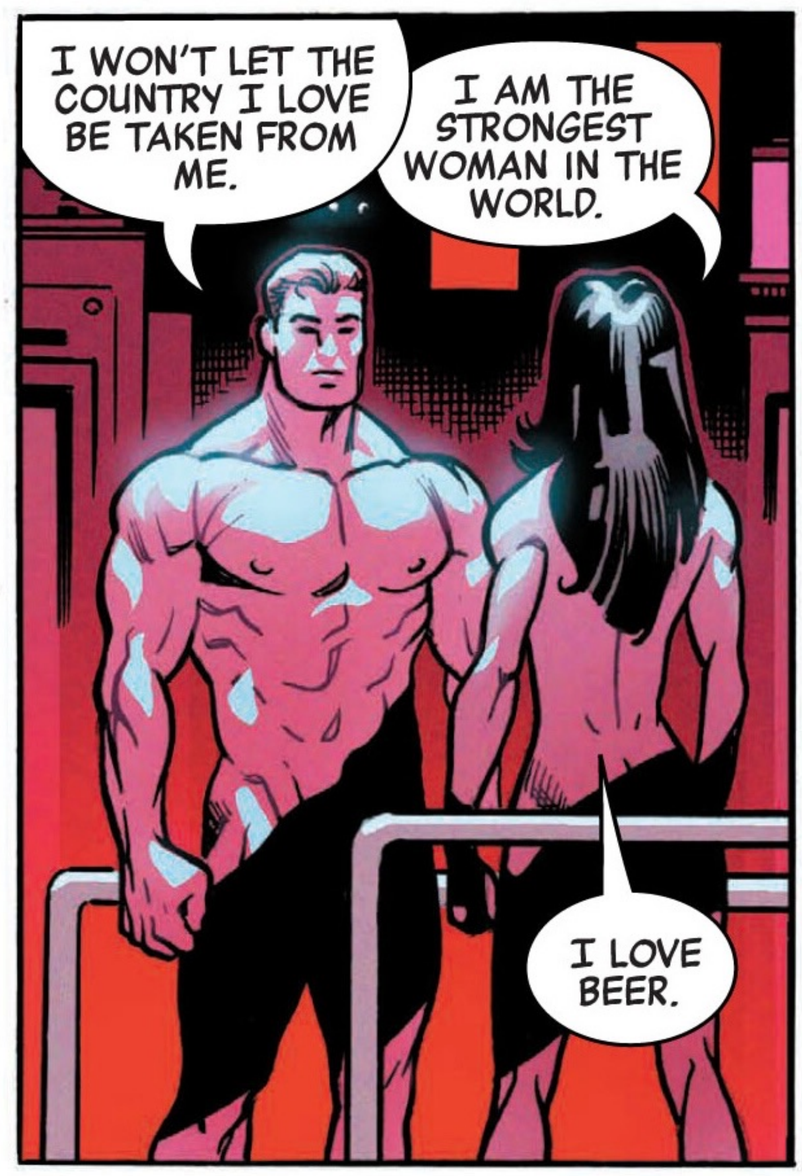
OR SO THEY THOUGHT.
HA! REMINDS ME OF A COLD MORNING SWIM BACK ON UTOPIA ISLE! WE SHOULD BE NAKED FOR THIS, HYPERION!
FOCUS, ZARDA! THERE ARE LIVES AT STAKE!
NOT OURS, LOVER. NOT TODAY.
TODAY IS THE DAY WE CAN FINALLY STOP HOLDING BACK! HA HA HAA!
FROST GIANTS! LAY DOWN YOUR WEAPONS AND SURRENDER YOURSELVES TO THE PROPER AUTHORITIES!
THIS NATION IS UNDER OUR PROTECTION!
"MY NAME IS MARK MILTON, AND I LOVE AMERICA."

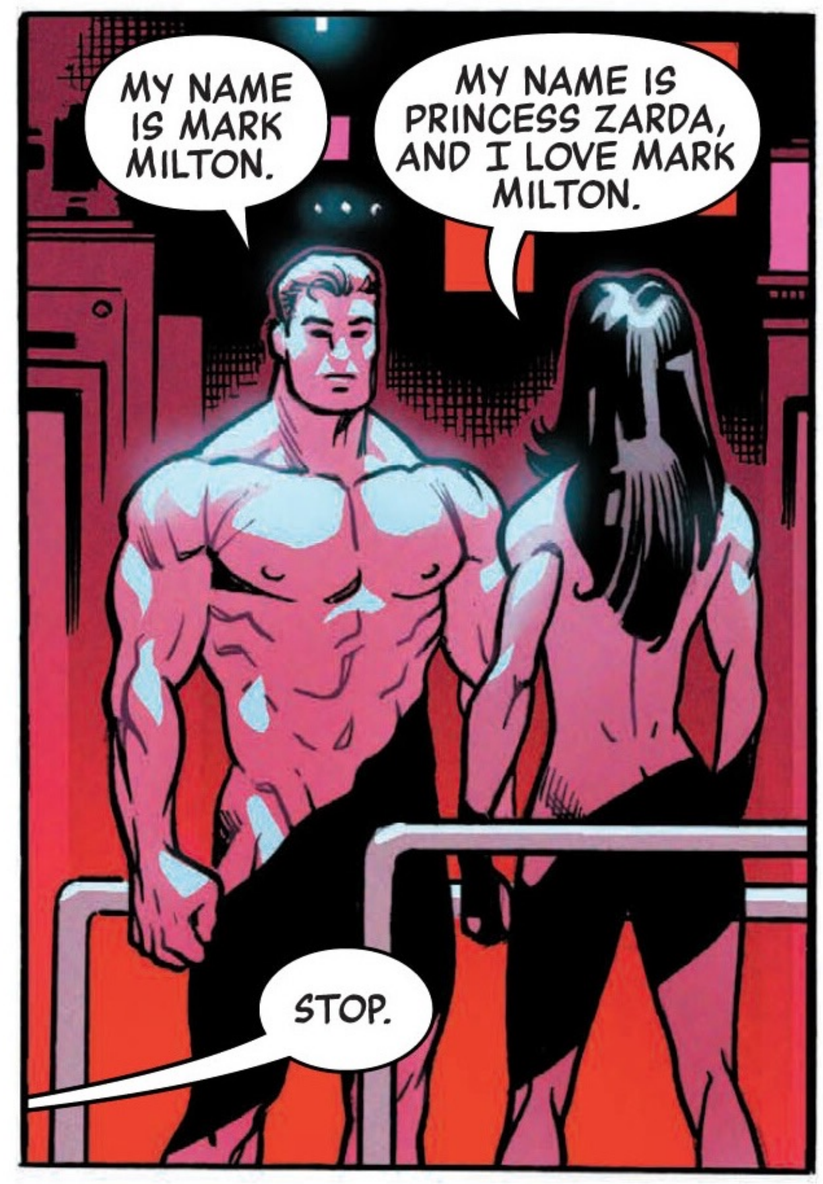

I CAME FROM FAR AWAY AND WAS RAISED BY FARMERS.
I HAVE ATOMIC VISION.
MY NAME IS MARK MILTON.

MY NAME IS PRINCESS ZARDA, AND I COME FROM A MYSTERIOUS ISLAND OF WARRIOR WOMEN.
I KNOW THE PRICE OF PARADISE IS PAID IN BLOOD.
I LOVE YOUR AMERICAN BEER.


I HAVE THE STRENGTH OF AN ETERNAL. I HAVE SMALL-TOWN VALUES.
I AM THE AMERICAN DREAM. MY NAME IS MARK MILTON.

I WILL FIGHT FOR AMERICA.
I COME FROM UTOPIA ISLE, BUT I LOVE AMERICA EVEN MORE.
I WILL KILL FOR AMERICA.


I WON'T LET THE COUNTRY I LOVE BE TAKEN FROM ME.
I AM THE STRONGEST WOMAN IN THE WORLD.
I LOVE BEER.


MY NAME IS MARK MILTON.
MY NAME IS PRINCESS ZARDA, AND I LOVE MARK MILTON.
STOP.

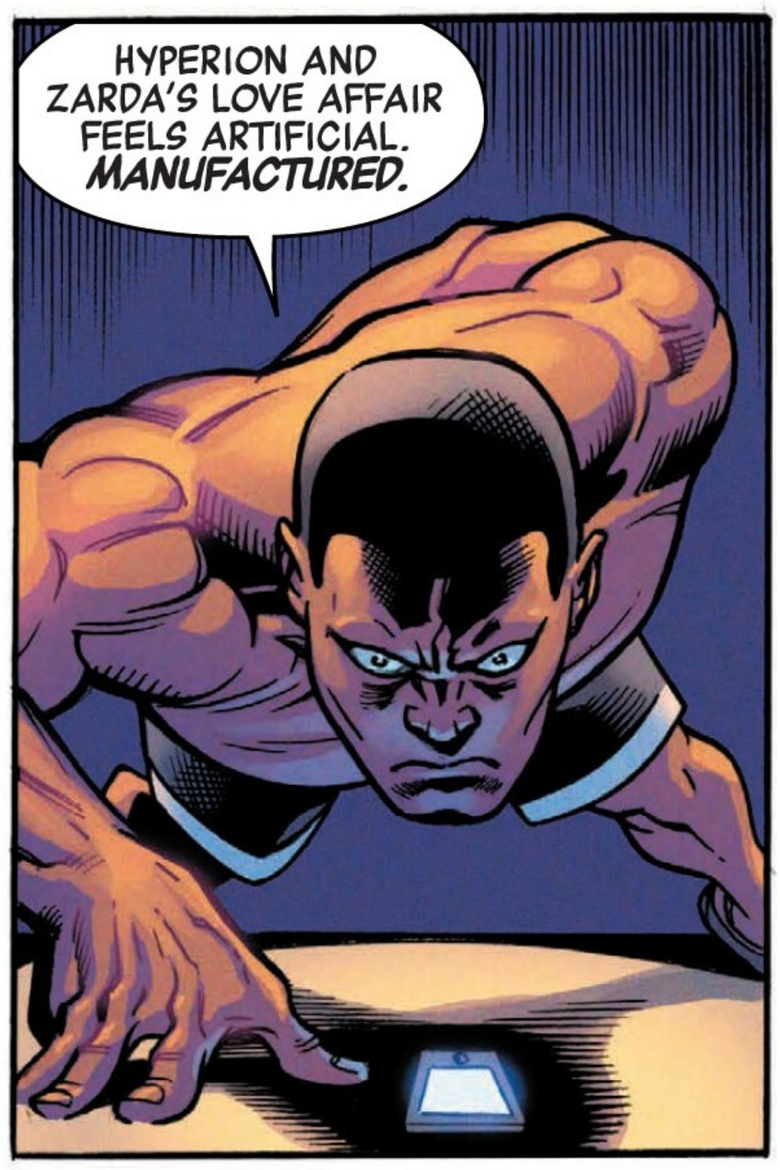
LESS LOVE, MORE LUST FOR POWER PRINCESS.
I WANT HER WILDER, MORE ARROGANT.

DANGEROUS. THINK THOR, BUT WITH BOOBS.
OR WOLVERINE. YOU KNOW, THE OLD THEM. BEFORE THEY WENT ALL SOFT.

START AGAIN FROM THE TOP.
MY NAME IS MARK MILTON.

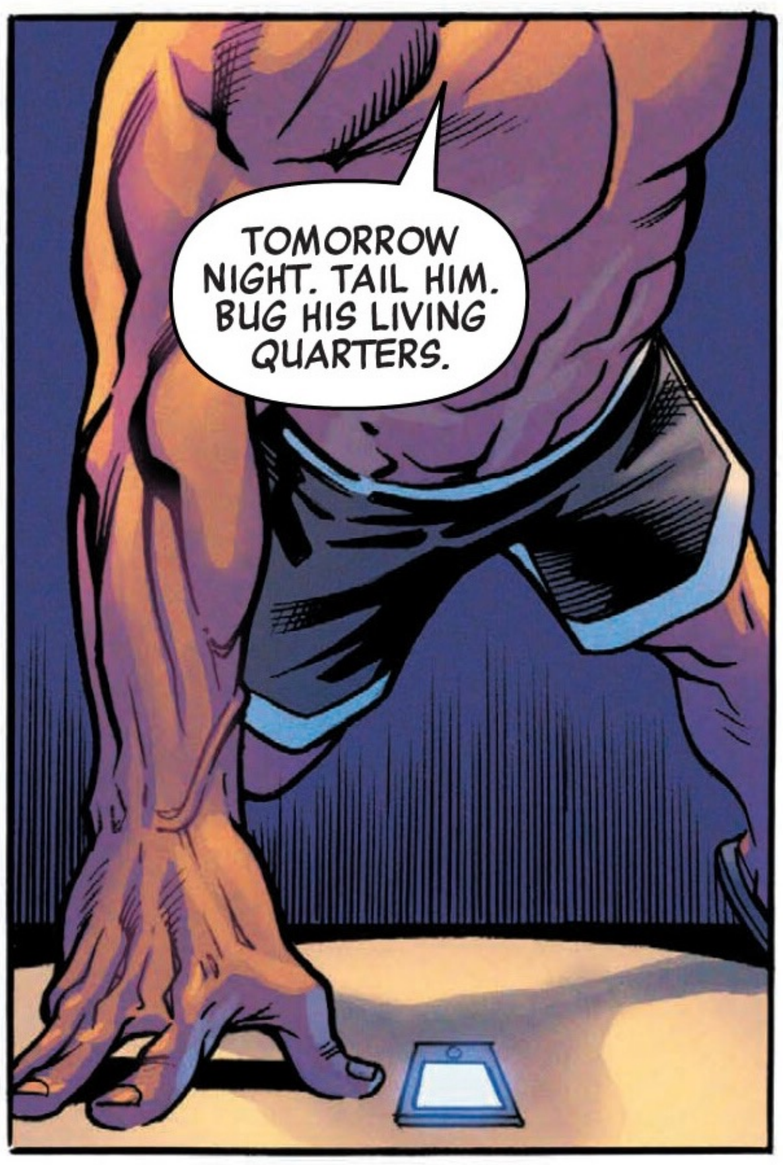
WANNA KNOW WHY YOU FROST GIANTS WILL NEVER CONQUER THIS COUNTRY?
RRRRGHH! STUPID LITTLE GNAT!
AFTER MY PARENTS DIED, INSTEAD OF MELTING LIKE A SNOWFLAKE, I WORKED EVERY NIGHT, LEARNING TO FIGHT AND DESIGNING WEAPONS.
CLICK
BOOM
LIKE THE GAMMA GRENADES I'VE JUST AFFIXED TO EVERY SINGLE ONE OF YOUR JOINTS.
THAT'S WHY INVADERS LIKE YOU WILL NEVER WIN.
BOOM
BECAUSE OF ME.
PAUSE

NIGHTHAWK'S WORK JOURNAL. SIDE QUERY.


HYPERION AND ZARDA'S LOVE AFFAIR FEELS ARTIFICIAL. *MANUFACTURED.*

ARE SOME OF THE WEAKER-MINDED TEAM MEMBERS BEING *MENTALLY INFLUENCED* BY OUR HANDLERS?

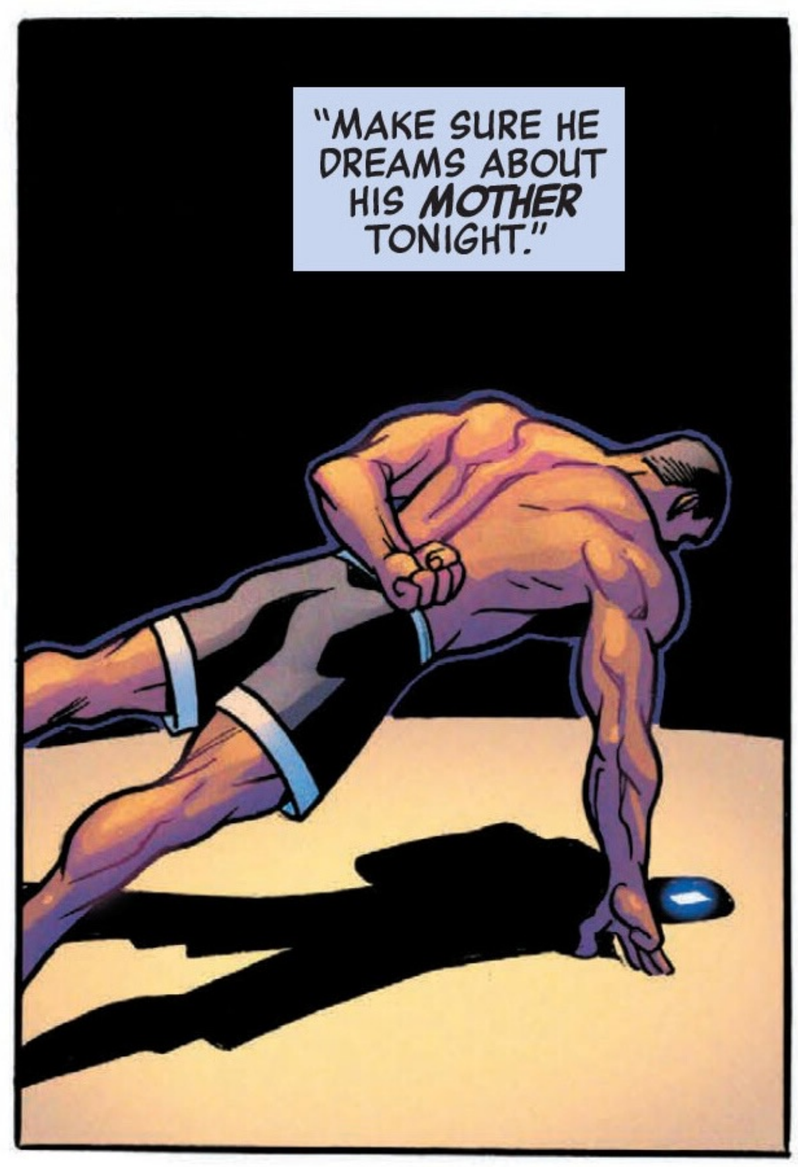
NEVER TRUSTED *THUNDERBOLT ROSS.* TRUST COULSON EVEN LESS.


TOMORROW NIGHT. TAIL HIM. BUG HIS LIVING QUARTERS.

LET THEM THINK THEY'RE FOOLING ME.

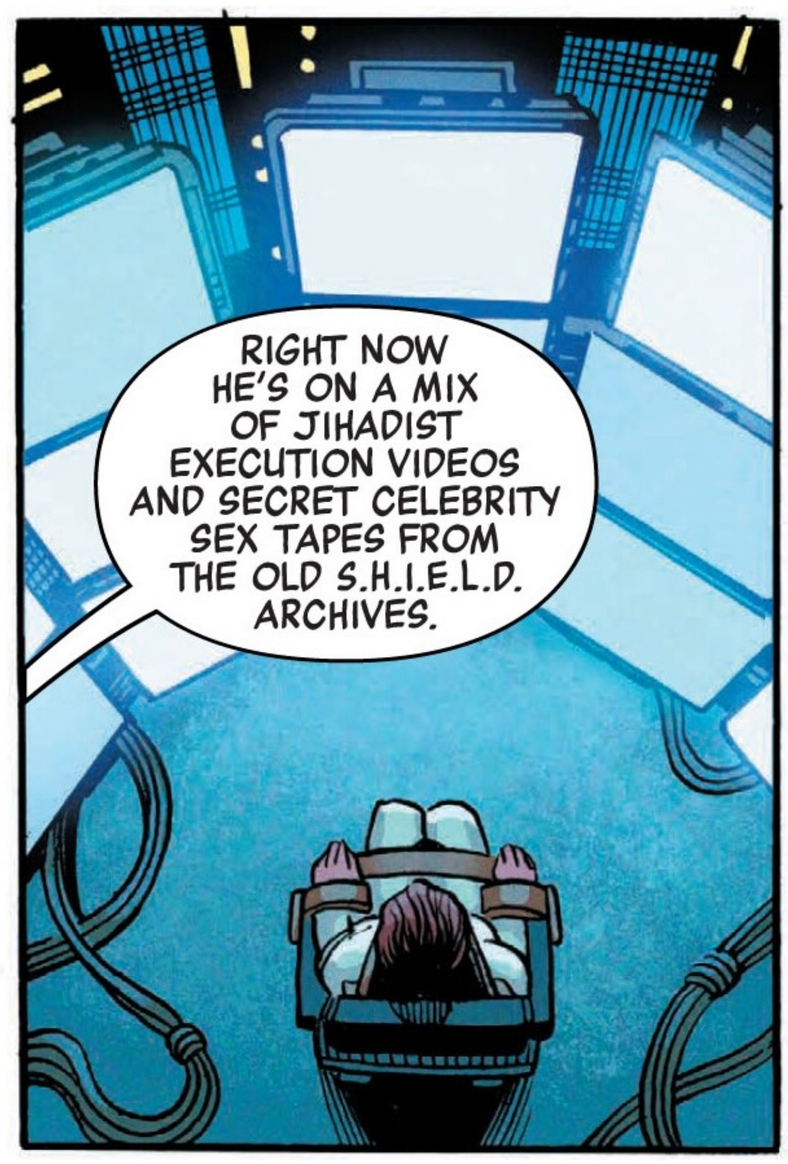
BUT THE *NIGHTHAWK* IS ALWAYS ONE STEP AHEAD.

GOOD. LET'S HOLD RICHMOND'S DOUBT METER AT LEVEL EIGHT. JEALOUSY AT FOUR.
HE'S BEST WHEN HE'S *BROODING.*


"MAKE SURE HE DREAMS ABOUT HIS *MOTHER* TONIGHT."

GRRRGH! STAND STILL, BLAST YOU!
YEAH NO THANKS.
ARRRRGGHH!!!
HEY MIND IF I TAKE A SELFIE WHILE WE FIGHT NIGHTHAWK MADE ME THIS SUPER-COOL HIGH-SPEED CAMERA PHONE SMILE!
DID THAT ONCE FOR ABOUT A WHOLE SECOND AND DIDN'T LIKE IT MUCH NOPE NOT AT ALL.
WHAT IN THE NAME OF YMIR...
WAIT THAT GUY'S HEAD'S GONE NO OKAY THERE IT IS.
SEVEN HUNDRED LIKES SWEET BEST DAY EVER!

BLUR'S ON HOUR 27.
WE HAD TO LOOP IN MORE SERVERS JUST TO KEEP UP WITH THE SPEED OF HIS BRAIN.


RIGHT NOW HE'S ON A MIX OF JIHADIST EXECUTION VIDEOS AND SECRET CELEBRITY SEX TAPES FROM THE OLD S.H.I.E.L.D. ARCHIVES.

WHO KNEW VISION WAS SUCH A FREAK IN THE SHEETS? HASHTAG, I DID.
I DON'T LIKE IT, COULSON.

I'M ALL FOR HOOKING CAR BATTERIES TO TERRORISTS' PRIVATES IF THAT'S WHAT IT TAKES TO KEEP THE COUNTRY SAFE.
BUT TORTURING OUR OWN CITIZENS? THAT CROSSES THE LINE.

I WANT THIS SHUT DOWN.
COLONEL LEDGER...
GENERAL ROSS IS DEAD, WHICH MEANS I'M RUNNING THIS SQUADRON NOW! AND I SAY--

DOESN'T IT REMIND YOU OF WHAT YOUR MOTHER'S SECOND COUSIN ONCE REMOVED ALWAYS SAID?

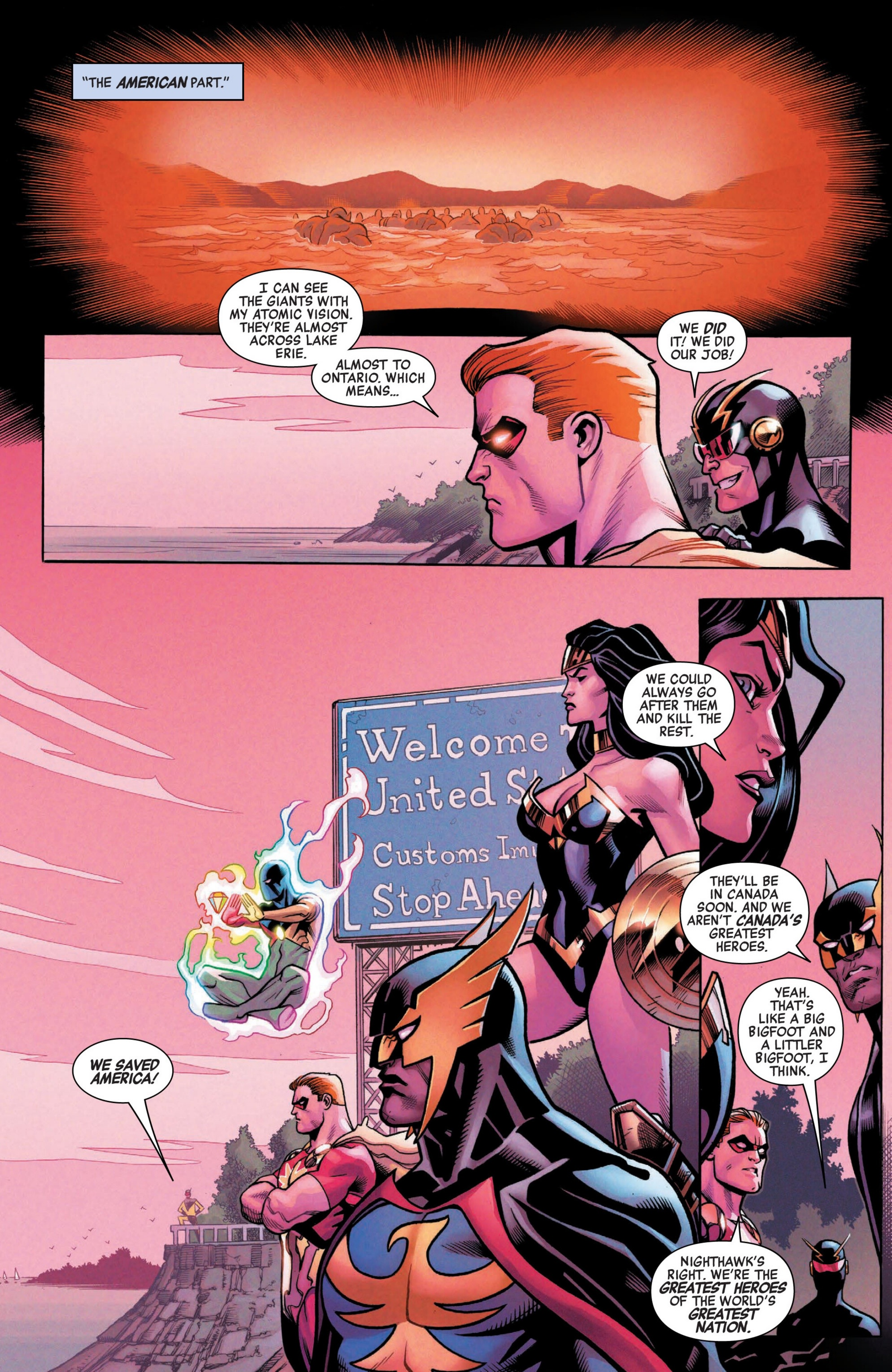
IT...REMINDS ME OF WHAT MY MOTHER'S SECOND COUSIN ONCE REMOVED ALWAYS SAID.
WHAT... WHAT WAS THAT AGAIN?

CARRY ON, AGENT COULSON.
EXACTLY.
CARRY ON, AGENT COULSON.

HA! FASTER!
THERE'S NO STOPPING US NOW!

THIS IS COLONEL LEDGER TO THE SQUADRON!
THE GIANTS ARE ON THE RUN!
I'M IN PURSUIT, HALFWAY ACROSS MARYLAND AT THIS POINT!
THESE SONSUVGUNS CAN BOOK IT!
I'LL HERD THEM ALL THE WAY THROUGH PENNSYLVANIA!
RECOMMEND THE REST OF YOU ROUND UP ANY STRAGGLERS AND MEET ME AT LAKE ERIE!
DOCTOR SPECTRUM OUT!
GOD BLESS THE U.S.A.!
"SO...IT'S COMING ALONG NICELY, THEN."

I SAW THE PIECE ROXX NEWS DID AFTER THE BATTLE WITH THE GIANTS IN D.C. QUITE GLOWING.
ONE DAY ON THE JOB AND YOUR SQUADRON ARE ALREADY AMERICA'S FAVORITE NEW HEROES.
YES, SIR. THERE'S NOTHING BETTER THAN A WAR FOR MAKING HEROES.
AND WE'VE SURE GOT A BIG ONE ON OUR HANDS RIGHT NOW.
DO WE HAVE YOU TO THANK FOR THAT TOO, SIR?
DEAR ME, NO. A WAR OF THE REALMS IS A BIT OUTSIDE MY SPHERE OF INFLUENCE.
OH, DO TRY THE ZEBRA. IT'S QUITE DELECTABLE.
IN MY EXPERIENCE, SIR, NOTHING'S OUTSIDE YOUR SPHERE OF INFLUENCE. BUT EITHER WAY, WE'LL TURN THIS WAR TO OUR ADVANTAGE. JUST AS LONG AS WE WIN.
THAT WILL BE NO EASY TASK. MALEKITH'S FORCES ARE SWEEPING ACROSS THE GLOBE. YOU'LL HAVE TO RALLY QUITE THE ARMY TO SAVE YOUR WORLD.
WORLD?
I'M AFRAID THE WORLD ISN'T MY RESPONSIBILITY.
JUST THE BEST LITTLE PART OF IT.


"THE AMERICAN PART."
I CAN SEE THE GIANTS WITH MY ATOMIC VISION. THEY'RE ALMOST ACROSS LAKE ERIE.
ALMOST TO ONTARIO. WHICH MEANS...
WE DID IT! WE DID OUR JOB!
WE COULD ALWAYS GO AFTER THEM AND KILL THE REST.
THEY'LL BE IN CANADA SOON. AND WE AREN'T CANADA'S GREATEST HEROES.
YEAH. THAT'S LIKE A BIG BIGFOOT AND A LITTLER BIGFOOT, I THINK.
NIGHTHAWK'S RIGHT. WE'RE THE GREATEST HEROES OF THE WORLD'S GREATEST NATION.
WE SAVED AMERICA!

THE SQUADRON SUPREME OF *AMERICA!*

COULSON, I'M GETTING REPORTS OF FROST GIANTS RAMPAGING ALL ACROSS THE COUNTRY.

I SUGGEST WE SPLIT THE SQUADRON AND TAKE THE FIGHT TO THE MAIN POPULATION CENTERS, STARTING WITH NEW YORK AND LOS ANGELES.

YEAH, GOOD PLAN, BUT YOU'RE ALL GOING TO **OHIO.**

IT'S WHAT WE CALL A **BATTLEGROUND STATE.**

SO YOU HAVE YOUR HEROES. AND YOU HAVE YOUR WAR.

OH YES, AND YOU HAVE YOUR **LIFE** BACK AS WELL.

IS THERE ANYTHING ELSE I CAN DO FOR YOU, AGENT COULSON?

YES, SIR, THERE IS. YOU CAN RAISE A GLASS WITH ME.

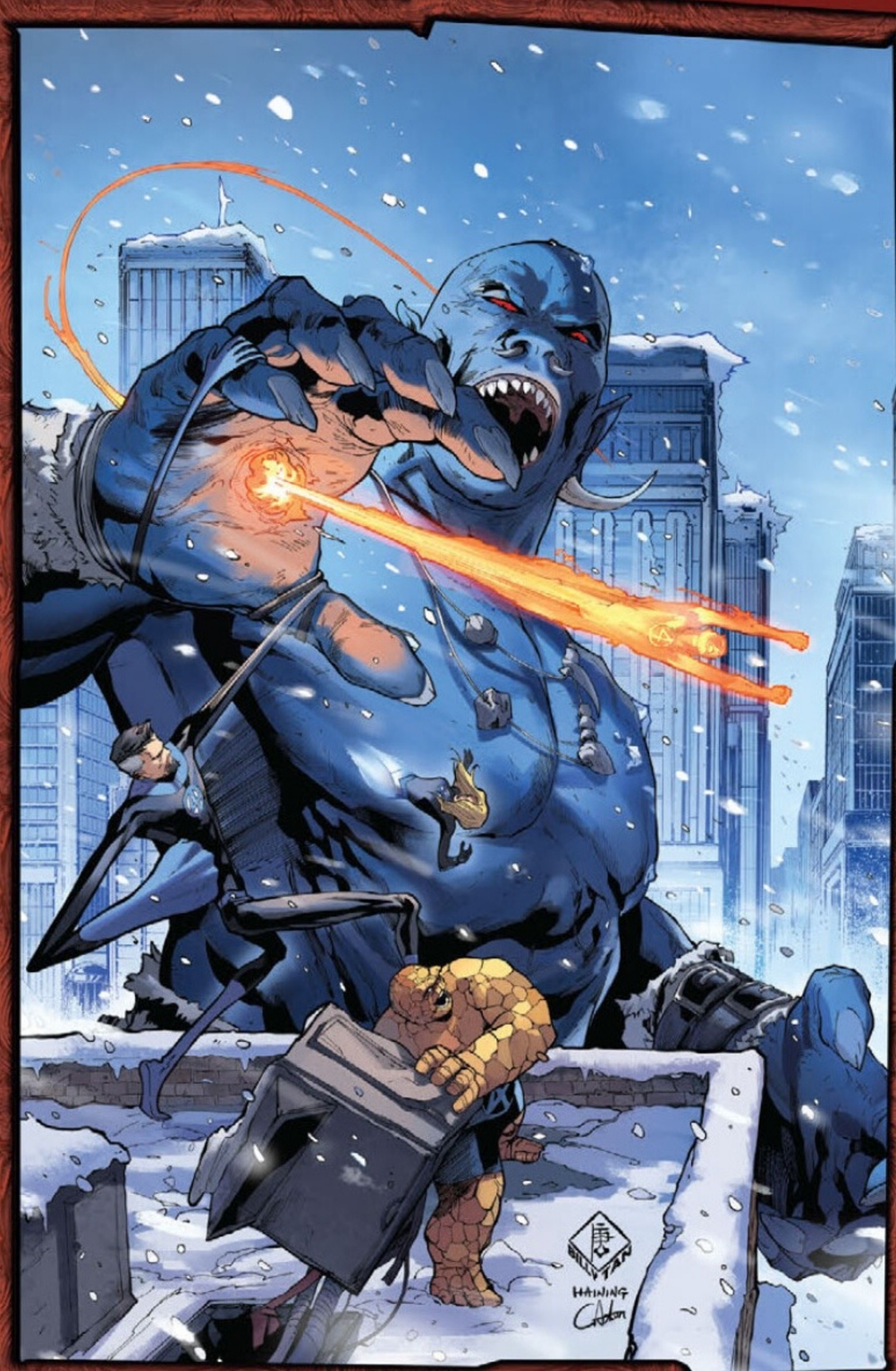
HERE'S TO THE FUTURE.

A RED, WHITE AND BLUE ONE.
INDEED.
THOUGH MOSTLY RED, I HOPE.

WAR OF THE REALMS #1 VARIANT BY
Joe Quesada, Kevin Nowlan & Richard Isanove

WAR OF THE REALMS #1 VARIANT BY
Sana Takeda

WAR OF THE REALMS #2 VARIANT BY
Julian Totino Tedesco



WAR OF THE REALMS #3 VARIANT BY
Billy Tan, Haining & Gadson of Tan Comics

AVENGERS #19

The Man in the Mountain

LOOK, THIS MAY SURPRISE YOU, BECAUSE I KNOW I COME ACROSS LIKE A PRETTY BIG DEAL AND ALL...
...BUT NORMALLY I AIN'T MUCH A PART OF THESE KINDS OF HIGH-FALUTIN GOINGS-ON.
YOU KNOW THE KIND I MEAN.
THE WORLD-SHAKING, NEVER-GONNA-BE-THE-SAME-AGAIN-EVEN-IF-WE-WIN KINDA STUFF THAT HAS ALL THE BIG-LEAGUE HEROES TEAMING UP TOGETHER.
OR SOMETIMES FIGHTING EACH OTHER, I GUESS. I DON'T KNOW. LIKE I SAID, I NEVER GET THE CALL.
I'M USUALLY DRUNK AND READ ABOUT IT IN THE PAPER THE NEXT DAY.
BUT THAT WAS BEFORE I BECAME PART OF THE AVENGERS CREW.
YEAH, THESE DAYS, I SUPPOSE YOU COULD SAY...

...THAT OL' GORILLA-MAN IS FINALLY RIGHT WHERE HE BELONGS.
WUNDAGORE ZOO. TRANSIA.
YOU UTTER MORON. THIS IS YOUR IDEA OF AN INCONSPICUOUS MEETING PLACE?
YOUR STUPIDITY IS GOING TO GET US BOTH KILLED, AGENT HALE.
NAH. PROBABLY NOT. I MEAN, IT'S GOTTEN ME THIS FAR.
AND YOU KNOW WHAT'S CONSPICUOUS? A GORILLA AND A BEAR WALKING INTO A BAR AND ORDERING BEERS.
HERE, NOBODY BATS AN EYE AT US.
SO RELAX, URSA MAJOR. AND REMEMBER WHY WE'RE TALKING.
LET'S HEAR IT. EVERYTHING. THE PANTHER'S ANXIOUS TO KNOW HOW THIS WHOLE UNDERCOVER OPERATION IS GOING.
GRRH. I MUST BE A FOOL FOR BETRAYING MY COUNTRY TO YOU PEOPLE.

YOU'RE NOT BETRAYING YOUR COUNTRY. JUST THE WINTER GUARD. WE BOTH KNOW THE RED WIDOW AIN'T EXACTLY GOT THE RUSSIAN PEOPLE'S BEST INTERESTS IN MIND.
SHE'S BEEN KEEPING ME CLOSE. I SUSPECT BECAUSE SHE DOESN'T FULLY TRUST ME. THOUGH GETTING KICKED OUT OF AVENGERS MOUNTAIN CERTAINLY HELPED.
I STILL CAN'T FIGURE OUT WHAT SHE'S AFTER, OTHER THAN--
RIGHT. SO ABOUT THE DRACULA STUFF? YOU DID LIKE WE WANTED?
YES. THE OLD VAMPIRE HAS BEEN SENT TO ROT IN CHERNOBYL. THOUGH FOR THE LIFE OF ME I CANNOT UNDERSTAND WHY THE BLACK PANTHER WOULD SPECIFICALLY REQUEST SUCH A THING.
LET THE PANTHER WORRY ABOUT THAT, PAL.
YOU JUST KEEP PLAYING THE BIG, SURLY DRUNK. I KNOW IT'S A REAL STRETCH FOR YOU.
SAYS THE ONLY MAN-BEAST TO EVER OUTDRINK ME. THOUGH IF YOU'RE FEELING UP TO A REMATCH...
CAN'T. I'M ON DUTY.
HA! THAT'S A GOOD ONE. FOR A SECOND THERE IT SEEMED LIKE YOU WERE CONSIDERING YOURSELF OF SOME ACTUAL IMPORTANCE TO THE WORLD! DRINK UP, GORILLA-MAN!
OKAY, SO MAYBE ONE DRINK WON'T--
KEN!
BALOO

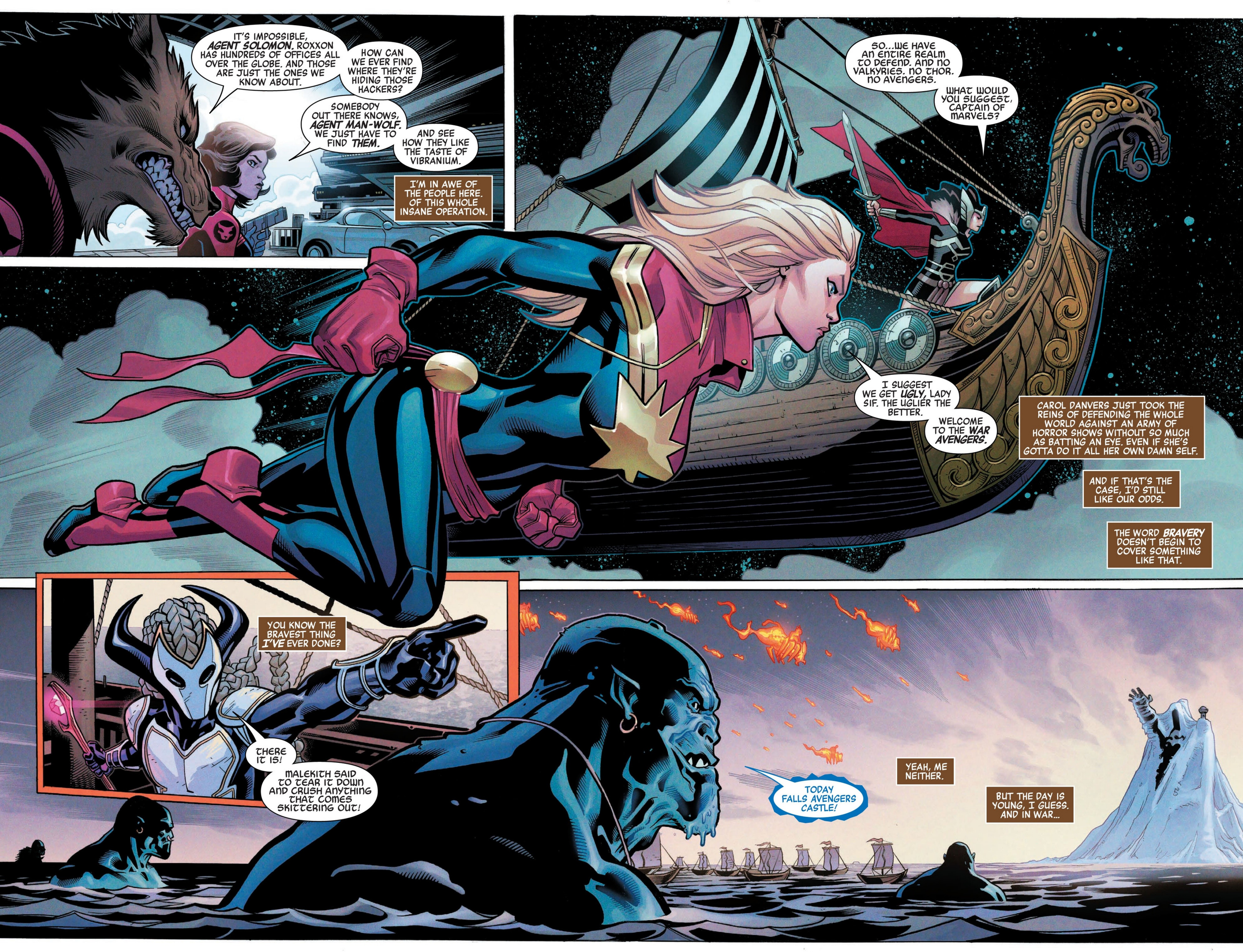
KEN! WE GOTTA GO!
BOZHE MOI. THIS IS DEFINITELY BECOMING LESS INCONSPICUOUS BY THE DAMN SECOND.
KA-ZAR, WHAT THE HELL, BUDDY? I'M WORKING HERE!
SHUT UP AND LOOK AT YOUR WAKANDAN POCKET COMPUTER THINGIE!
IT'S CALLED A CELLPHONE, YOU DINOSAUR-LOVING HILLBILLY, AND IT...
...IT'S GOT NO SIGNAL.
EXACTLY! IT'S SUPPOSED TO WORK EVEN IN THE NEGATIVE ZONE! IF IT'S DOWN, THAT TELLS ME SOMETHING'S WRONG! BAD WRONG!
GOTTA RUN, URSUS. AGENTS OF WAKANDA BUSINESS.
HEH, LOOK AT THE GORILLA-MAN GO. THE AVENGERS' TRAINED MONKEY.
IT'S SAD, KEN, SEEING YOU LIKE THIS! I REMEMBER WHEN YOU USED TO BE FUN!
YEAH, WELL... WHAT'S MORE FUN THAN SAVING THE WORLD?

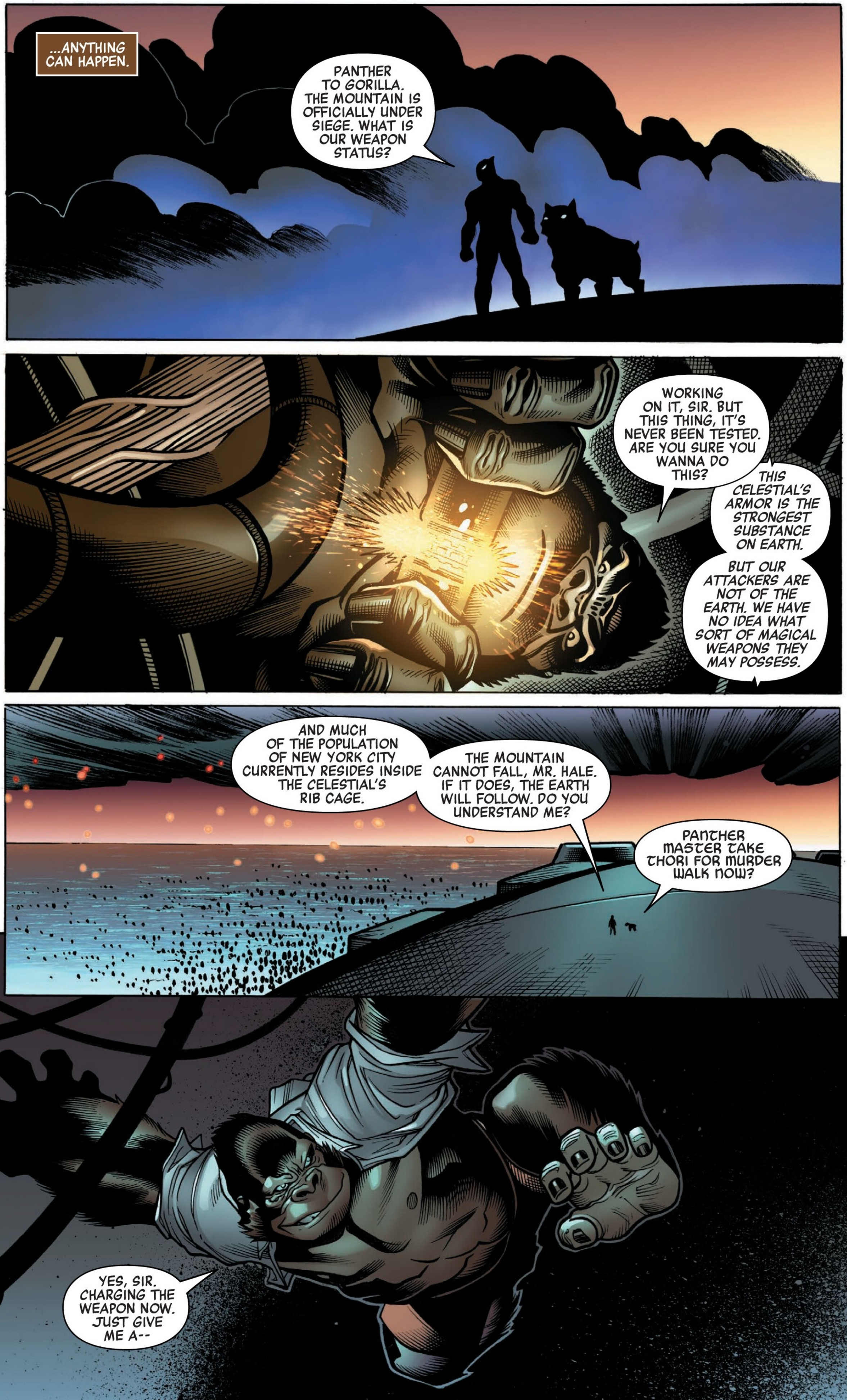
I DON'T HEAR URSA MAJOR'S ANSWER, BUT IT DOESN'T MATTER, 'CAUSE I KNOW WHAT HE'D SAY.
THIS WAY! EVERYONE, TRY TO REMAIN CALM!
SAME THING I WOULDA SAID A FEW MONTHS AGO.
YOU'VE BEEN TELEPORTED TO *AVENGERS MOUNTAIN!* THE SAFEST PLACE ON THE FACE OF THE EARTH! JUST FOLLOW ME TO THE RIB CAGE BUNKERS!
"IT'S MORE FUN TO NOT GIVE A DAMN."
I BELIEVED THAT THEN. WITH ALL MY APE HEART.
DOC, YOU DID IT. YOUR SPELL EVACUATED ALL OF NEW YORK CITY.
WHAT ABOUT THE *VALKYRIES?*
BUT NOW I'M DOING MY BEST...TO GIVE ALL THE DAMNS I GOT.
BOSS MAN! WHAT'S HAPPENING? WHERE'S THE FIRE?

EVERYWHERE THAT CAN BURN, AGENT HALE.
FOLLOW ME.
I DON'T SCARE EASY.
COMES FROM BEING A BIG HAIRY TANK WITH THE MIND OF A THRILL-SEEKER AND SOLDIER OF FORTUNE (MINUS THE FORTUNE).
THE EARTH HAS BEEN INVADED.
WE ARE AT WAR WITH AN ARMY OF FANTASTICAL CREATURES FROM BEYOND THIS REALM.
LED BY MALEKITH, KING OF THE DARK ELVES.
BUT THE BLACK PANTHER SCARES THE HOLY BEJEEBUS OUTTA ME.
ELVES. THAT DON'T SOUND SO BAD. DOESN'T THOR WHIP THOSE GUYS ALL THE TIME?
THOR IS TRAPPED IN THE LAND OF THE FROST GIANTS.
WHILE THE STREETS OF MANHATTAN ARE DRENCHED IN THE BLOOD OF THE VALKYRIES.
AND OUR GLOBAL NETWORKS HAVE BEEN HACKED BY OPERATIVES OF THE ROXXON ENERGY CORPORATION.
PEOPLE THINK IT'S HIS CRAZY TECH YOU GOTTA BE AFRAID OF. OR HIS WAKANDAN KUNG FU. OR THE FACT HE'S BASICALLY LIKE A GOD TO HIS PEOPLE.
BUT THAT AIN'T IT.
WELL, JUST TELL ME WHO YOU NEED PUNCHED AND I'M YOUR GORILLA, SIR.
I'M GOING TO NEED YOU RIGHT HERE, AGENT HALE.
I SWEAR, THE BLACK PANTHER IS THE ONLY MAN ON THE PLANET... WHO CAN MURDER YOU WITH JUST A STARE.
YOU'RE HEAD OF SECURITY FOR AVENGERS MOUNTAIN. YOU'RE ABOUT TO HAVE TO EARN THAT TITLE.

AH, DAMN. YOU MEAN...
YES, I DO. ARE WE PREPARED?
AS FAR AS ANYBODY'S BEEN ABLE TO TELL, THIS CELESTIAL'S STAFF HAS PUT DOWN ROOTS THAT REACH ALL THE WAY TO THE EARTH'S CORE.
STARK SAYS IF WE CAN CHANNEL THAT ENERGY THROUGH THE MOUNTAIN'S FLESH TECH WITHOUT...YOU KNOW, BLOWING OURSELVES ALL TO HELL...THE POSSIBILITIES ARE DAMN NEAR LIMITLESS.
"I NEED MORE THAN POSSIBILITIES RIGHT NOW, HALE.
"AND STARK HAS A PROJECT OF HIS OWN."
CAN YOU HANDLE THIS, AGENT GORILLA-MAN? CAN YOU KEEP THIS MOUNTAIN SECURE? THOUSANDS OF EVACUEES ARE DEPENDING ON YOU.
WE'LL BE READY FOR ANYTHING, SIR.
BE READY FOR WAR.
BECAUSE IT'S COMING.
YES, SIR, YOUR HIGHNESS. AND AS SOON AS I'M DONE HERE, I CAN GIVE YOU MY FULL REPORT ON THE MEETING WITH URSA MAJOR.
THERE'S STILL NO WORD ON DRACULA, OR WHERE THE RUSSIANS HAVE HIDDEN--
SAVE IT, HALE.

"LET'S SEE IF WE LIVE LONG ENOUGH TO CARE."
JOTUNHEIM STRIKEFORCE! WITH ME!
I'VE MET A HUNDRED LOUDMOUTH RICH MEN LIKE TONY STARK IN MY LIFE.
THEY NEVER IMPRESS ME MUCH.
ANY MAN WHO CAN'T ADMIT HOW MUCH HE HATES HIMSELF AIN'T A MAN I WANNA GO DRINKING WITH.
WE'VE GOT A GOD TO SAVE.
ONLY EXCEPTION TO THAT RULE...IS STEVE ROGERS.
BUT ROGERS AIN'T A MAN. HE'S A FLAG WITH FISTS. AND MORE GUTS THAN A PACK OF LIONS COULD EAT IN A SITTING.
OUR MISSION IS TO INFILTRATE SVARTALFHEIM AMIDST THOUSANDS OF MURDEROUS DARK ELVES AND MOVE UNDETECTED IN ORDER TO REACH THE BLACK BIFROST.
JUST STANDING NEXT TO HIM MAKES ME FEEL PROUD AND ASHAMED ALL AT ONCE.
MOSTLY ASHAMED.
SOMETHING TELLS ME WE WON'T BE VERY SUCCESSFUL WHEN IT COMES TO THE UNDETECTED PART.
CAN I BRING MY CAR?


IT'S IMPOSSIBLE, AGENT SOLOMON. ROXXON HAS HUNDREDS OF OFFICES ALL OVER THE GLOBE. AND THOSE ARE JUST THE ONES WE KNOW ABOUT.
HOW CAN WE EVER FIND WHERE THEY'RE HIDING THOSE HACKERS?
SOMEBODY OUT THERE KNOWS, AGENT MAN-WOLF. WE JUST HAVE TO FIND THEM.
AND SEE HOW THEY LIKE THE TASTE OF VIBRANIUM.
I'M IN AWE OF THE PEOPLE HERE. OF THIS WHOLE INSANE OPERATION.
SO...WE HAVE AN ENTIRE REALM TO DEFEND. AND NO VALKYRIES. NO THOR. NO AVENGERS.
WHAT WOULD YOU SUGGEST, CAPTAIN OF MARVELS?
I SUGGEST WE GET UGLY, LADY SIF. THE UGLIER THE BETTER.
WELCOME TO THE WAR AVENGERS.
CAROL DANVERS JUST TOOK THE REINS OF DEFENDING THE WHOLE WORLD AGAINST AN ARMY OF HORROR SHOWS WITHOUT SO MUCH AS BATTING AN EYE. EVEN IF SHE'S GOTTA DO IT ALL HER OWN DAMN SELF.
AND IF THAT'S THE CASE, I'D STILL LIKE OUR ODDS.
THE WORD BRAVERY DOESN'T BEGIN TO COVER SOMETHING LIKE THAT.
YOU KNOW THE BRAVEST THING I'VE EVER DONE?
THERE IT IS!
MALEKITH SAID TO TEAR IT DOWN AND CRUSH ANYTHING THAT COMES SKITTERING OUT!
TODAY FALLS AVENGERS CASTLE!
YEAH, ME NEITHER.
BUT THE DAY IS YOUNG, I GUESS. AND IN WAR...


...ANYTHING CAN HAPPEN.
PANTHER TO GORILLA. THE MOUNTAIN IS OFFICIALLY UNDER SIEGE. WHAT IS OUR WEAPON STATUS?
WORKING ON IT, SIR. BUT THIS THING, IT'S NEVER BEEN TESTED. ARE YOU SURE YOU WANNA DO THIS?
THIS CELESTIAL'S ARMOR IS THE STRONGEST SUBSTANCE ON EARTH.
BUT OUR ATTACKERS ARE NOT OF THE EARTH. WE HAVE NO IDEA WHAT SORT OF MAGICAL WEAPONS THEY MAY POSSESS.
AND MUCH OF THE POPULATION OF NEW YORK CITY CURRENTLY RESIDES INSIDE THE CELESTIAL'S RIB CAGE.
THE MOUNTAIN CANNOT FALL, MR. HALE. IF IT DOES, THE EARTH WILL FOLLOW. DO YOU UNDERSTAND ME?
PANTHER MASTER TAKE THORI FOR MURDER WALK NOW?
YES, SIR. CHARGING THE WEAPON NOW. JUST GIVE ME A--

WARNING. SECURITY BREACH DETECTED.
YA DON'T SAY?!
PANTHER TO GORILLA! MALEKITH HAS A BIFROST! AN INTERDIMENSIONAL TELEPORTER! HE'S USING IT TO INFILTRATE THE MOUNTAIN!
HALE, DO YOU READ ME?!
GAAARRGH!
DOG?
SLAY THE GUARD DOG. BURN THE CASTLE.
POORLY KEPT SECRET ABOUT ME. I'M CURSED. AND I DON'T LIKE IT ALL THAT MUCH.
WHO YOU CALLING DOG, ELF?!
THERE'VE BEEN PLENTY OF DAYS I'VE WANTED NOTHING MORE THAN TO DIE. ANY WHICH WAY I POSSIBLY COULD.
JUST AS LONG AS I'D BE RID OF THE GORILLA-MAN ONCE AND FOR ALL.

TODAY AIN'T ONE A' THEM DAYS.
RRRGGH!!!
KILL THE GORILLA-MAN AND YOU LIVE FOREVER.
THAT'S THE WAY THE LEGEND GOES. BUT OVER THE YEARS I'VE SORTA ADDED A SECOND VERSE TO IT.
ZZZRRRRK
PISS OFF THE GORILLA-MAN... AND YOU DIE SCREAMING.
MAYBE IT AIN'T AS CATCHY AS "AVENGERS ASSEMBLE." BUT IT GETS THE DAMN JOB DONE.

AND SO DO I.
AH, SUPER. I FIXED IT.
HALE! DAMN IT, I NEED YOUR STATUS NOW!
MY STATUS IS I LOVED MY MOMMA!
AARRRRGGGH!!!
HALE, YOU DID IT. POWER LEVELS RISING.
SHURI, ARE YOU IN POSITION? PREPARE TO OPEN FIRE!
THAT SHOULDA BEEN IT. I SHOULDA DIED SAVING AVENGERS MOUNTAIN.
SAVING THE WHOLE FLAMING WORLD.
BUT AIN'T IT JUST MY LUCK... I'M STILL ALIVE.

I *DID* HAVE ONE OF THEM *NEAR-DEATH* EXPERIENCES PEOPLE ALWAYS TALK ABOUT.

WHERE YOU SEE GOD AND HEAR HIS VOICE.

KEN!

ONLY THIS WASN'T NO GOD THEY TEACH YOU ABOUT IN CHURCH.

KEN, DON'T BE DEAD!

AND HE DIDN'T PREACH NO GOSPEL.

BUDDY, CAN YOU HEAR ME?

I SAW IT.

BUT HE DID OPEN MY EYES.

ANTARCTICA.

ROXXON IS HIDING IN... ANTARCTICA.

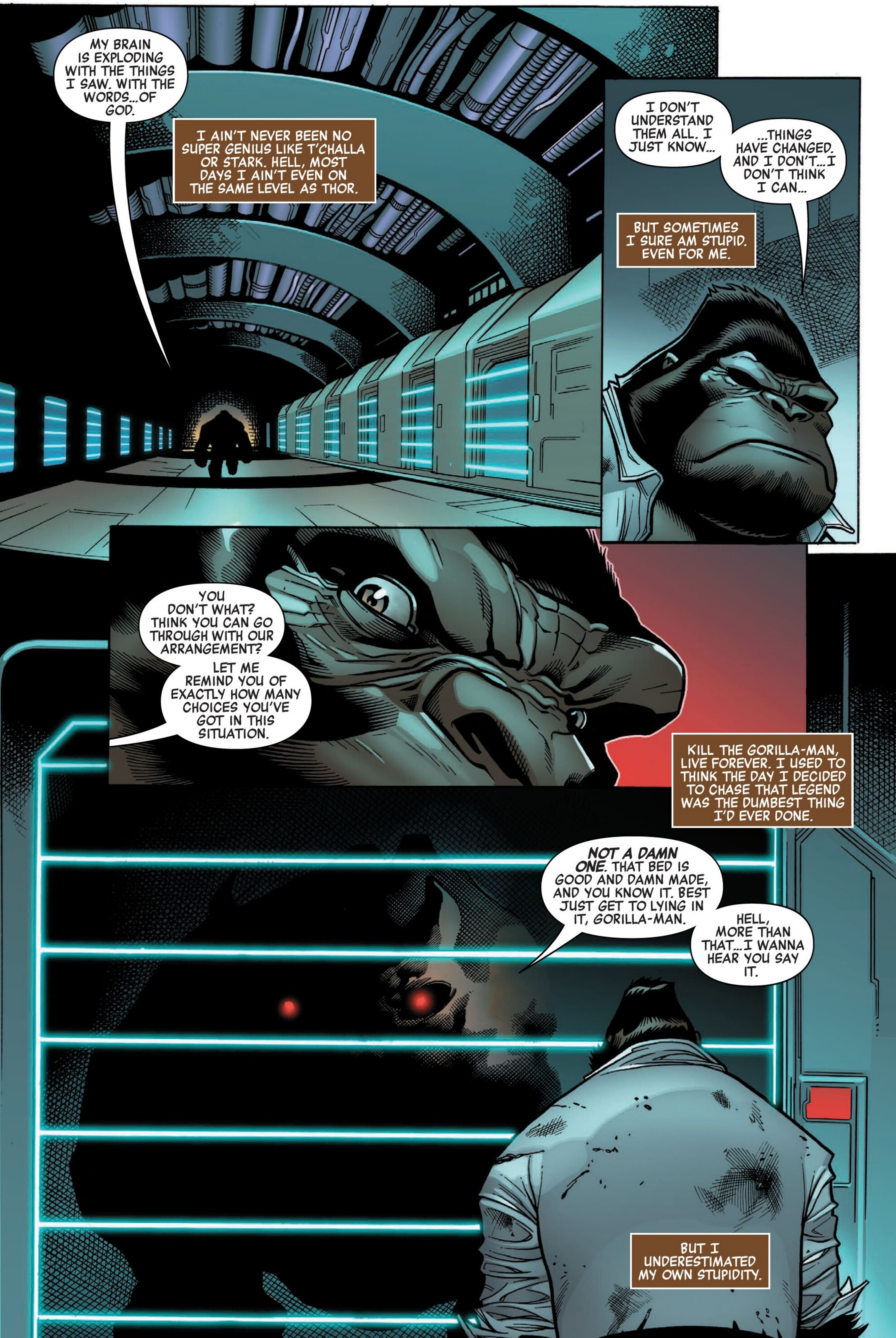
INFIRMARY
DR. NEMESIS TO PANTHER. THE GOD AND THE GORILLA WILL BOTH LIVE.
NEED A BREAK FROM DOCTORING. THERE BETTER STILL BE SOME ELVES OUT THERE FOR ME TO RIDDLE WITH HYPODERMICS.

I KNOW THAT LOOK. EVEN ON A PRIMATE.

A GOD SPOKE TO YOU.
THE *CELESTIAL*. THE MOUNTAIN ITSELF. AND IT DID MORE THAN JUST SPEAK TO ME. IT SHOWED ME...

WHATEVER IT SHOWED YOU WAS FOR YOU ALONE.
WORD OF ADVICE FROM ALL-FATHER ODIN... WHEN GODS TALK TO YOU, IT'S FOR A REASON.

YOU'D BEST FIGURE OUT WHAT THAT IS.


MY BRAIN IS EXPLODING WITH THE THINGS I SAW. WITH THE WORDS...OF GOD.
I AIN'T NEVER BEEN NO SUPER GENIUS LIKE T'CHALLA OR STARK. HELL, MOST DAYS I AIN'T EVEN ON THE SAME LEVEL AS THOR.
I DON'T UNDERSTAND THEM ALL. I JUST KNOW...
...THINGS HAVE CHANGED. AND I DON'T...I DON'T THINK I CAN...
BUT SOMETIMES I SURE AM STUPID. EVEN FOR ME.
YOU DON'T WHAT? THINK YOU CAN GO THROUGH WITH OUR ARRANGEMENT?
LET ME REMIND YOU OF EXACTLY HOW MANY CHOICES YOU'VE GOT IN THIS SITUATION.
KILL THE GORILLA-MAN, LIVE FOREVER. I USED TO THINK THE DAY I DECIDED TO CHASE THAT LEGEND WAS THE DUMBEST THING I'D EVER DONE.
NOT A DAMN ONE. THAT BED IS GOOD AND DAMN MADE, AND YOU KNOW IT. BEST JUST GET TO LYING IN IT, GORILLA-MAN.
HELL, MORE THAN THAT...I WANNA HEAR YOU SAY IT.
BUT I UNDERESTIMATED MY OWN STUPIDITY.

I SERVE DRACULA.
I SERVE THE LEGION OF THE UNLIVING.
I...AM A LOYAL SUBJECT OF THE KINGDOM OF THE DAMNED.
HEH. DAMN RIGHT YOU ARE.
WORST WAS THE DAY I DECIDED TO FINALLY GET RID OF THE CURSE ONCE AND FOR ALL.
THE DAY I BETRAYED THE AVENGERS.

AVENGERS #20

No Fun

EARLIER.

CHARMING. WITTY. SENSATIONAL.

THE JOLLY JADE *GIANTESS*. THE SASSIEST *SUPER-LAWYER* IN ALL OF *BROOKLYN*. MORE LAUGHS THAN A BARREL OF DEADPOOLS.

FUN.

FOR YEARS, THAT'S HOW THE WORLD DESCRIBED MY CLIENT.

UNTIL THE *ACCUSED* HERE CAME ALONG. AND FLUSHED ALL THAT GLOBAL ADORATION RIGHT DOWN THE GAMMA-IRRADIATED TOILET.

RRRGH. OBJECTION. SOME STILL LIKE--

OVERRULED!

THE ACCUSED WOULD LIKE YOU TO BELIEVE SHE'S NOT AT FAULT FOR WHAT HAPPENED TO MY CLIENT.

THAT THESE CHANGES IN HER PERSONALITY ARE THE UNFORTUNATE SIDE EFFECT OF HER NEW POWERS, WHICH WERE AWAKENED INSIDE HER BY SOME MEDDLING SPACE GIANTS...

...AND THAT SINCE THAT HAPPENED, SHE'S BEEN DOING HER BEST TO REGAIN CONTROL OF HERSELF, TO DO RIGHT BY MY CLIENT AND GIVE THE WORLD BACK THE GORGEOUS, GREEN, FUN-LOVING *BOMBSHELL* THEY KNOW AND LOVE.

BUT THAT'S A COMPLETE *LIE*, ISN'T IT?

THE TRUTH IS...THE *SHE-HULK* IS *DEAD*.

AND YOU KILLED HER, YOU MONSTER.
OBJECTION. HULK DIDN'T KILL ANY--
OVERRULED!
AND YOU KEEP KILLING HER ALL OVER AGAIN, DON'T YOU? ONE "HULK SMASH" AT A TIME.
EVERY DAY YOU GIVE IN TO THIS 'ROIDED-OUT, NO-FUN PERVERSION OF YOURSELF. HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN WHO YOU ARE?!
ANSWER THE QUESTION! YOU'RE UNDER OATH!
HHHRGH.

RRRRRRRRRGGGGHH!!!
THAT'S WHAT I THOUGHT YOU'D SAY.
YOUR HONOR, PERMISSION TO TREAT THE WITNESS AS HOSTILE?
PER... PERMISSION GRANTED.
LADIES OF THE JURY, I ASK YOU...
IS THIS THE FACE WE WANT TO PRESENT TO THE WORLD? AFTER EVERYTHING WE'VE WORKED TO ACCOMPLISH OVER THE YEARS, IS THIS THE SORT OF MUSCLE-BOUND DOWNER OF A HULK WE WANT TO BE?
I IMPLORE YOU TO LEVY THE MAXIMUM SENTENCE AGAINST THE ACCUSED.
AND ERASE HER FROM EXISTENCE!
OR BETTER YET, I'LL DO IT MYSELF!
GGGRRGH!!!
ORDER!

ORDER IN THE COURT!

STOP THIS! THIS ISN'T...

STOP OR I'LL... I'LL...

GAAARRGGGH!!!

THAT'S ENOUGH FOR TODAY.

UUGH. FEEL LIKE...I MADE SOME PROGRESS. THAT'S THE LONGEST I'VE GONE WITHOUT PUNCHING MYSELF.

THESE WEEKLY SESSIONS OF PSYCHOACTIVE CALISTHENICS ARE UNDOUBTEDLY STRENGTHENING YOUR SUBCONSCIOUS CONTROL MUSCLES, JENNIFER, BUT YOUR ***GAMMA EMISSIONS*** WERE AGAIN REACHING CRITICAL LEVELS.

YOU STILL HAVE MUCH WORK TO DO, I'M AFRAID, TO AVOID ANOTHER ***EXPLOSIVE OUTBURST*** LIKE WE SAW IN RUSSIA.

RIGHT. DEFINITELY DON'T WANT ANY MORE OF THOSE.

DO I?

NOW.
AUSTRALIA.
AS ORIGIN STORIES GO, MINE WON'T EVER BE MISTAKEN FOR THE SUPER HERO CITIZEN KANE.
RRRRRGGH!
I GOT SHOT AND NEEDED A BLOOD TRANSFUSION. SO I GOT ONE-- FROM MY COUSIN.
MY COUSIN THE HULK.
YADA YADA YADA, YOU WOULDN'T LIKE ME WHEN I'M ANGRY.

EXCEPT PEOPLE *DID* LIKE ME. A LOT.

I WAS AN OMEGA-LEVEL THREAT IN THE CHARM DEPARTMENT. I WAS THE HULK YOU'D WANT TO HAVE A GLASS OF PINOT WITH.

GRRGGH!!! MORE TROLLS!

WANT MORE DAMN TROLLS!

KILL THE BEAST! IN THE NAME OF ULIK!

AND THE CRAZIEST PART WAS, MY POWERS, FOR THE MOST PART...MADE ME HAPPY. AN INCREDIBLY RARE OCCURRENCE IN MY LINE OF WORK.

I ACTUALLY ENJOYED BEING A SUPER HERO.

I LOVED BEING THE FUN HULK. I LOVED IT A WHOLE HELLUVA LOT.

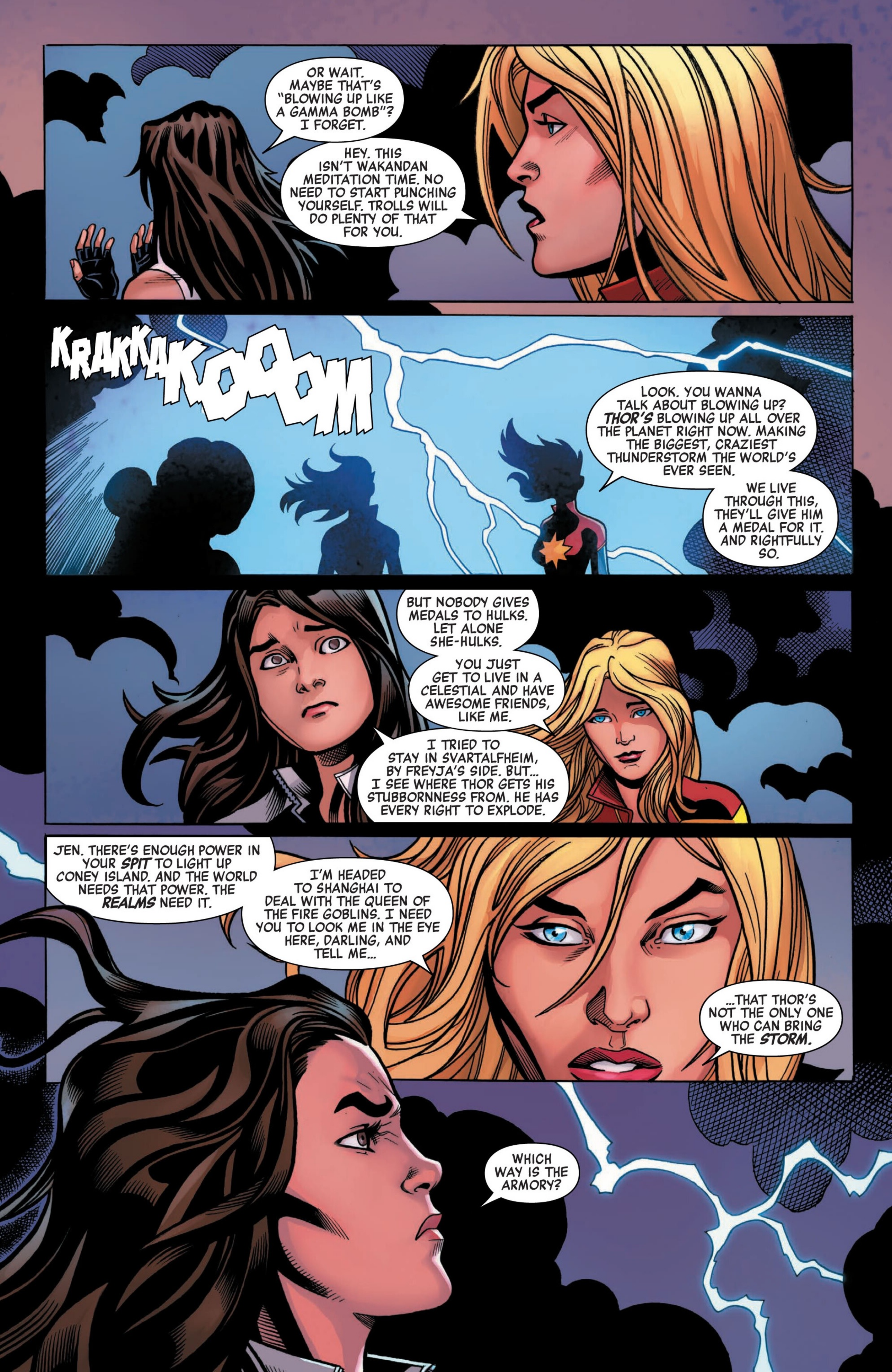
GGRRRRGGH!

SO HOW COME I DON'T MISS IT?

RRRRRRGGH!

THERE'S A WAR ON. AND THE TROLLS HAVE TAKEN AUSTRALIA.
I'M PART OF THE TEAM THAT'S TAKING IT BACK.
THESE TROLLS MAY COME FROM A FARAWAY REALM, BUT I KNOW THEIR KIND.
THEY WOULD'VE LAUGHED AT THE OLD ME. MADE CRASS JOKES EVEN AS I WAS TAKING THEM DOWN.
THIS TIME, NOBODY'S LAUGHING. NOT EVEN A SNICKER.
AND I LOVE IT WITH ALL MY BIG, GREEN, GLOWING HEART.
GRRGH!

TROLLS.
HERE'S YOUR OFFICIAL AVENGERS SITREP ON THESE BASTARDS.
THEY'RE MEAN, STRONG AND TOUGH AS BARGAIN-BIN BRAS.
THAT'S PRETTY DAMN TOUGH.
THEY MOVE IN PACKS, MOSTLY UNDERGROUND.
THEIR KING IS ULIK.
CONFIRMED KILLER. CLASS 100 STRENGTH. CAN MAKE THOR BLEED, AND HAS ON PLENTY OF OCCASIONS.
YOUR MISSION, JEN, SHOULD YOU CHOOSE TO--
I CHOOSE.
YOUR MISSION IS TO PUNCH TROLLS. A WHOLE HULKING LOT.
WHAT LUCK. PUNCHING TROLLS JUST HAPPENS TO BE MY NEW FAVORITE PASTTIME.


OR WAIT. MAYBE THAT'S "BLOWING UP LIKE A GAMMA BOMB"? I FORGET.
HEY. THIS ISN'T WAKANDAN MEDITATION TIME. NO NEED TO START PUNCHING YOURSELF. TROLLS WILL DO PLENTY OF THAT FOR YOU.
KRAKKAKOOOM
LOOK. YOU WANNA TALK ABOUT BLOWING UP? THOR'S BLOWING UP ALL OVER THE PLANET RIGHT NOW. MAKING THE BIGGEST, CRAZIEST THUNDERSTORM THE WORLD'S EVER SEEN.
WE LIVE THROUGH THIS, THEY'LL GIVE HIM A MEDAL FOR IT. AND RIGHTFULLY SO.
BUT NOBODY GIVES MEDALS TO HULKS. LET ALONE SHE-HULKS.
YOU JUST GET TO LIVE IN A CELESTIAL AND HAVE AWESOME FRIENDS, LIKE ME.
I TRIED TO STAY IN SVARTALFHEIM, BY FREYJA'S SIDE. BUT... I SEE WHERE THOR GETS HIS STUBBORNNESS FROM. HE HAS EVERY RIGHT TO EXPLODE.
JEN. THERE'S ENOUGH POWER IN YOUR SPIT TO LIGHT UP CONEY ISLAND. AND THE WORLD NEEDS THAT POWER. THE REALMS NEED IT.
I'M HEADED TO SHANGHAI TO DEAL WITH THE QUEEN OF THE FIRE GOBLINS. I NEED YOU TO LOOK ME IN THE EYE HERE, DARLING, AND TELL ME...
...THAT THOR'S NOT THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN BRING THE STORM.
WHICH WAY IS THE ARMORY?

DON'T MAKE ME FEEL INVALIDATED.
YOU WOULDN'T LIKE ME WHEN I FEEL INVALIDATED.
ASK THE KING OF THE TROLLS.
SAY IT AGAIN!

WHAT? WHAT'D I SAY?
THAT THOR IS HIS NAME, NOT A LEGACY? SO HOW CAN ANYONE ELSE USE--
RRRG
GGH!!!
HHGH. MARRY ME.

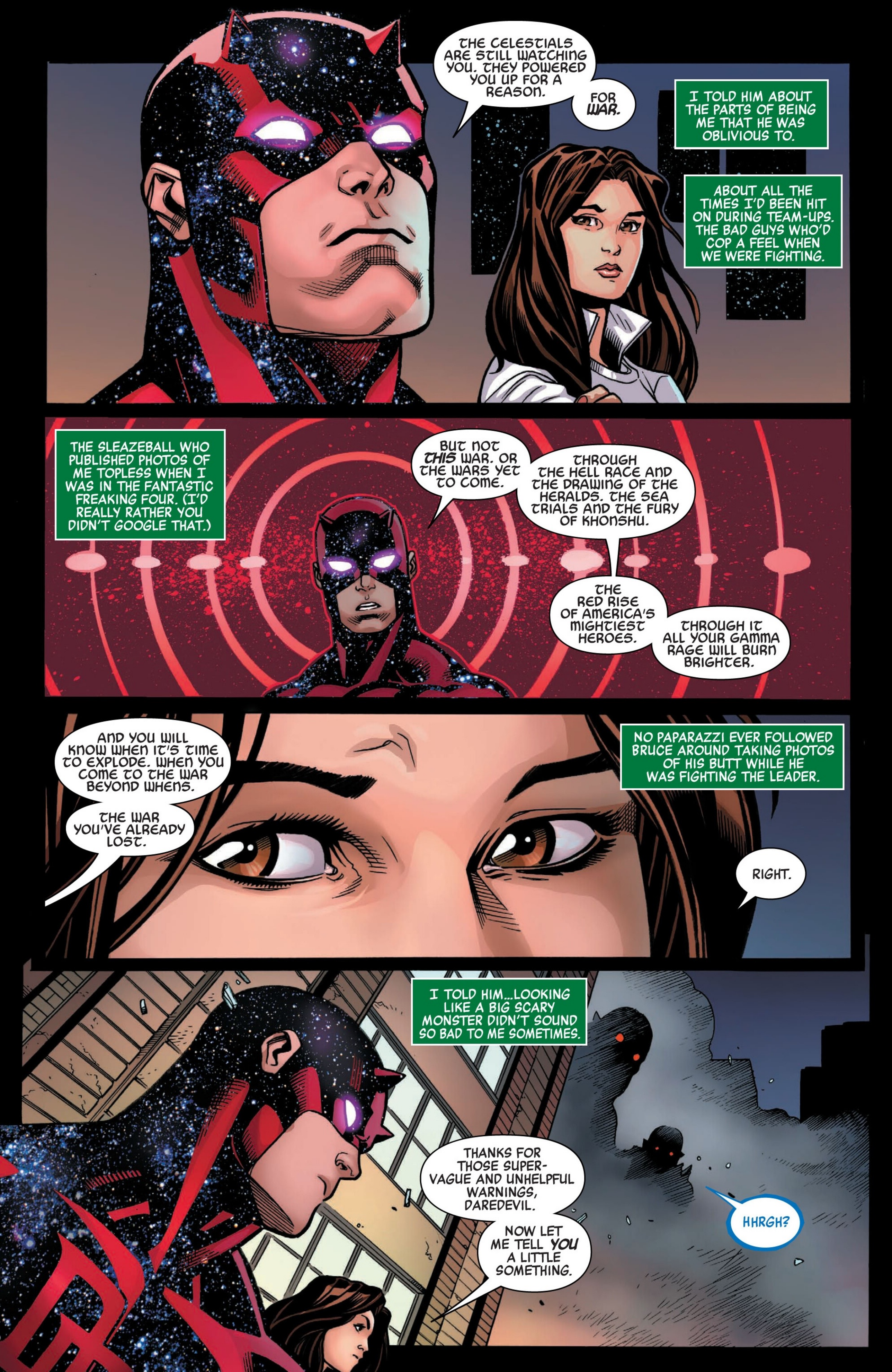
RRRGGGH!!!
THE DEFENSE RESTS, LADIES OF THE JURY.
HHRGH?
HEY.
DEADPOOL. BIG FAN.
BUT I GOTTA ASK... EVEN AT THE RISK OF BODILY INJURY...
WHY'D YOU STOP BEING FUNNY?
I MEAN, YOU WERE REALLY GOOD AT IT. YOU WERE LIKE...ME BEFORE ME.
RRGH. RATHER BE FREE.
HOW'S THAT?
FREE TO BE UGLY.
UM, WAIT, CAN'T YOU BE BOTH?
ASKING FOR A FRIEND!

I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE THINKING, GORILLA-MAN. YOU'RE THINKING WE'RE ABOUT TO DIE.
YOU MUST BE A MIND READER, KA-ZAR! YES, WE'RE ABOUT TO DIE! A LOT!
HEY, THE DINOSAURS ONCE THOUGHT THE SAME THING, BUDDY. AND I RODE A PTERODACTYL TO GET HERE TODAY.
THE DINOSAURS NEVER FACED ROXXON SUPER-SOLDIERS!
TRUST IN THE BOSS MAN. HE SAID HIS SCIENCE JUICE WOULD SHUT DOWN THEIR POWERS.
YEAH, BUT THEIR SKIN'S AS HARD AS THE DEVIL'S TOENAILS! HOW THE HELL ARE WE SUPPOSED TO GIVE 'EM A SHOT?!
HE'S THE BLACK PANTHER.
ANTARCTICA.
HE THOUGHT OF THAT TOO.
HSSSSSS!

ALL RIGHT, WHO'S THE NEXT TWO-BIT HULK IN NEED OF MEDICINE?
BECAUSE DR. BLADE IS IN!
T'CHALLA TO SOUTH POLE TEAM.
ROXXON'S HACKERS HAVE BEEN SHUT DOWN, WHICH MEANS THE AVENGERS MOUNTAIN CIRCULATOR IS BACK ONLINE.
STAND BY FOR REINFORCEMENTS.
RRRRRRRGGGH!!!

HEH.
SOMETHING FUNNY, LITTLE VAMPIRE?
NOPE.
NOT A DAMN THING.
WHICH IS JUST THE WAY I LIKE IT.
COUSIN BRUCE SAID SOMETHING ONCE, A FEW YEARS BACK...
...ABOUT HOW ENVIOUS HE WAS OF ME.
HOW EASY HE FIGURED I HAD IT.

NEW YORK CITY.
WHEN HE HULKED OUT, HE BECAME A GIANT, DEFORMED MONSTER WHO COULDN'T EVEN WEAR NORMAL CLOTHES.
WHILE THERE I WAS LOOKING LIKE A BODYBUILDER WHO'D JUST BEEN SPRAY-PAINTED GREEN.
ROXXON HAS LOST ANTARCTICA. THE ENCHANTRESS IS IN CUSTODY IN BRAZIL. KING ULIK HAS FALLEN IN AUSTRALIA.
HELL YES, HE HAS.
QUEEN SINDR WILL SOON FALL AS WELL.
AND HERE IN FROST GIANT TOWN?
NO FUN
I COULD WEAR SUITS. WALK DOWN THE STREET WITHOUT PEOPLE RUNNING AND SCREAMING. TEENAGE BOYS HUNG POSTERS OF ME ON THEIR WALLS.
MUST BE NICE, BRUCE SAID, TO BE THAT KINDA HULK.
JUST TELL ME WHICH WAY'S THE TROUBLE, HORNHEAD.
ALL AROUND US, LADY JENNIFER.
ESPECIALLY FOR YOU.
WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?
I'D NEVER WANTED TO PUNCH MY COUSIN SO BAD. AND THAT'S SAYING SOMETHING.
NO FUN


THE CELESTIALS ARE STILL WATCHING YOU. THEY POWERED YOU UP FOR A REASON.
FOR WAR.
I TOLD HIM ABOUT THE PARTS OF BEING ME THAT HE WAS OBLIVIOUS TO.
ABOUT ALL THE TIMES I'D BEEN HIT ON DURING TEAM-UPS. THE BAD GUYS WHO'D COP A FEEL WHEN WE WERE FIGHTING.
THE SLEAZEBALL WHO PUBLISHED PHOTOS OF ME TOPLESS WHEN I WAS IN THE FANTASTIC FREAKING FOUR. (I'D REALLY RATHER YOU DIDN'T GOOGLE THAT.)
BUT NOT THIS WAR. OR THE WARS YET TO COME.
THROUGH THE HELL RACE AND THE DRAWING OF THE HERALDS. THE SEA TRIALS AND THE FURY OF KHONSHU.
THE RED RISE OF AMERICA'S MIGHTIEST HEROES.
THROUGH IT ALL YOUR GAMMA RAGE WILL BURN BRIGHTER.
AND YOU WILL KNOW WHEN IT'S TIME TO EXPLODE. WHEN YOU COME TO THE WAR BEYOND WHENS.
THE WAR YOU'VE ALREADY LOST.
NO PAPARAZZI EVER FOLLOWED BRUCE AROUND TAKING PHOTOS OF HIS BUTT WHILE HE WAS FIGHTING THE LEADER.
RIGHT.
I TOLD HIM...LOOKING LIKE A BIG SCARY MONSTER DIDN'T SOUND SO BAD TO ME SOMETIMES.
THANKS FOR THOSE SUPER-VAGUE AND UNHELPFUL WARNINGS, DAREDEVIL.
NOW LET ME TELL YOU A LITTLE SOMETHING.
HHRGH?

BRUCE GOT ANGRY AND WENT TO HULK-OFF SOME STEAM.
NEXT TIME I SAW HIM, I MADE SOME JOKE AND HE LAUGHED AND WE NEVER TALKED AGAIN ABOUT HIM BEING ENVIOUS.
YOU'RE IN THE WRONG REALM, MORTALS. THIS ONE'S OURS.
WE'LL SEND YOU WHERE YOU BELONG. IT'S CALLED HEL.
NOW BRUCE IS...AN IMMORTAL HORROR-SHOW. AND I'M AN AVENGER. I'M OUT HERE SAVING THE WORLD.
BUT IF YOU SEE ME COMING DOWN THE STREET, I'M ALL RIGHT IF YOU WANNA SCREAM AND RUN AWAY.
YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT WAR?
WELL, I'M A *HULK*.
LITTLE SECRET ABOUT HULKS.
YOU SHOULD. BECAUSE CHANCES ARE, IF I'M IN YOUR TOWN...
WE'RE *ALWAYS* AT WAR.

...THINGS ARE ABOUT TO GET UGLY.
WHICH SURE SOUNDS BEAUTIFUL TO ME.

WAR OF THE REALMS#1 VAN VARIANT BY Greg Horn

WAR OF THE REALMS #3 VAN VARIANT BY Greg Horn

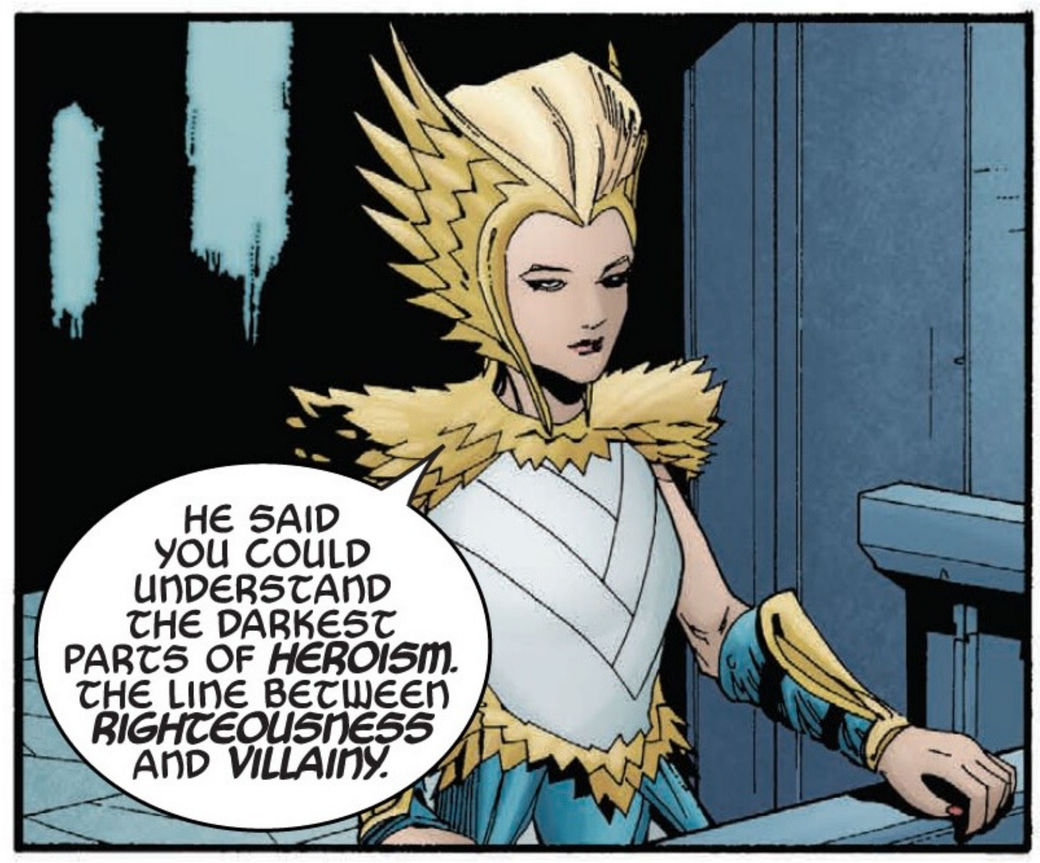
WAR OF THE REALMS STRIKEFORCE:

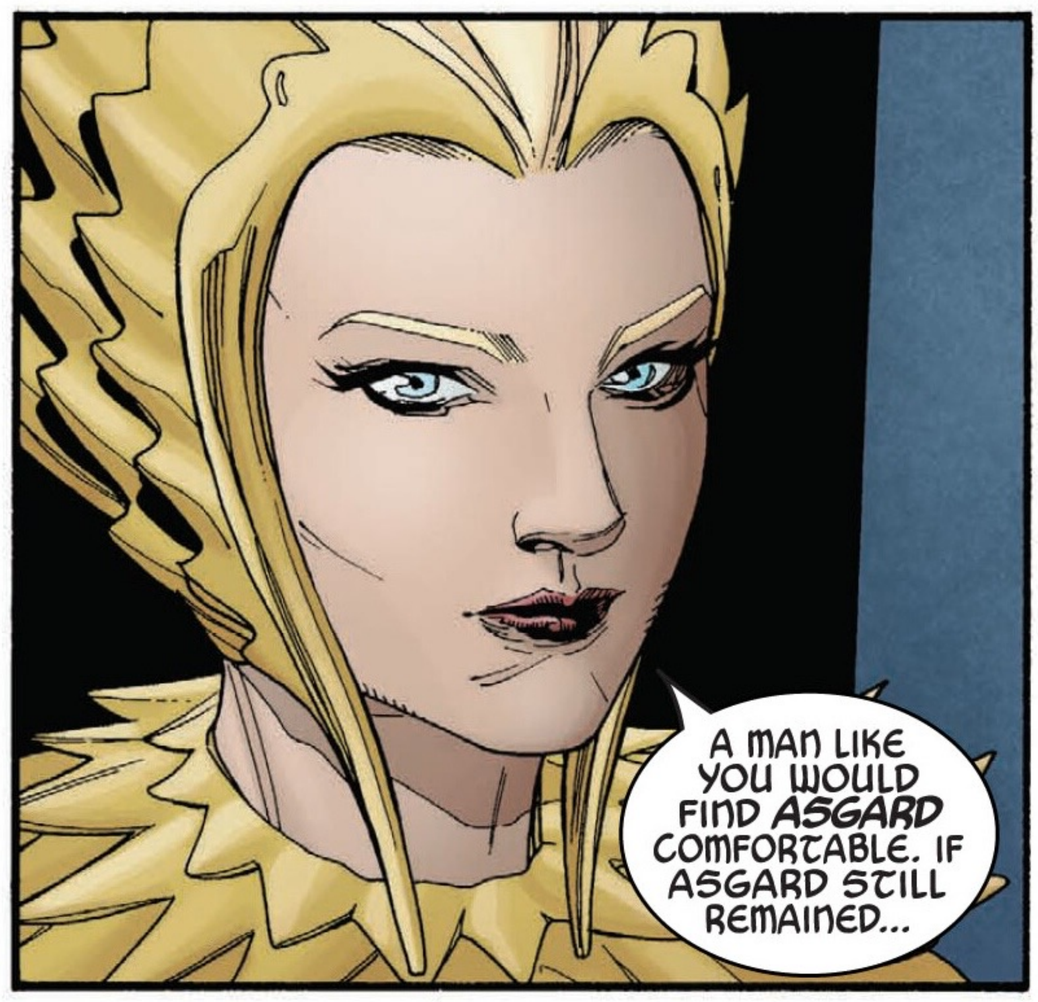
The Dark Elf Realm

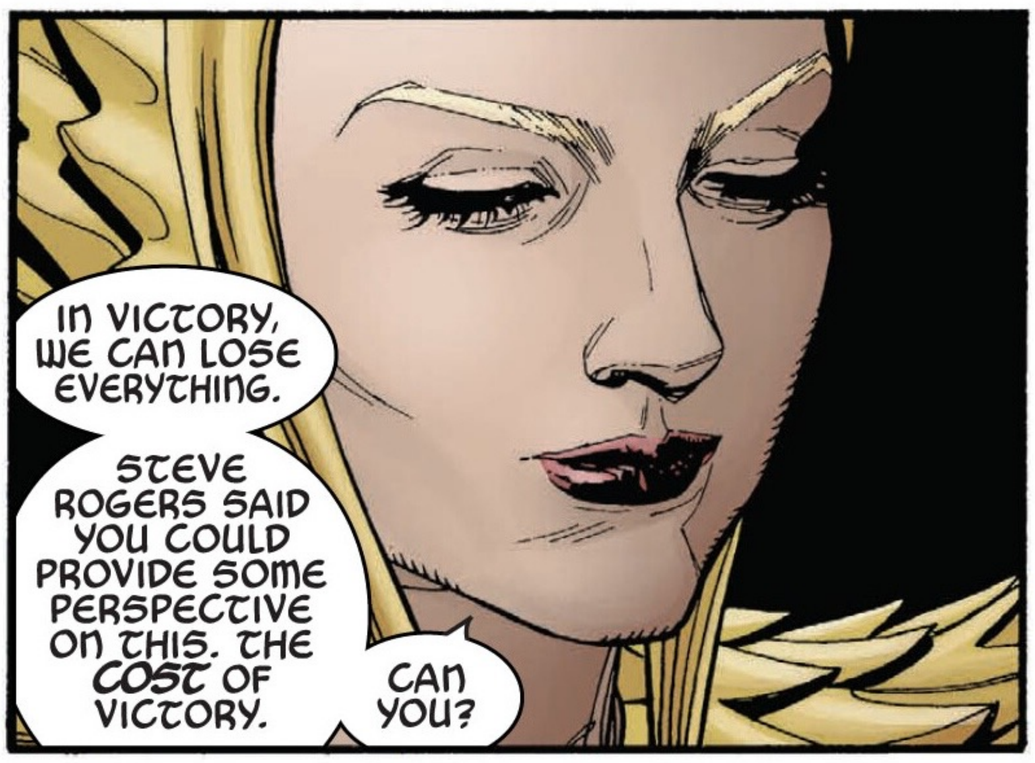
AVENGERS MOUNTAIN.
AFTER THE BATTLE OF NEW YORK.

CAPTAIN AMERICA SUGGESTED I SPEAK WITH YOU.

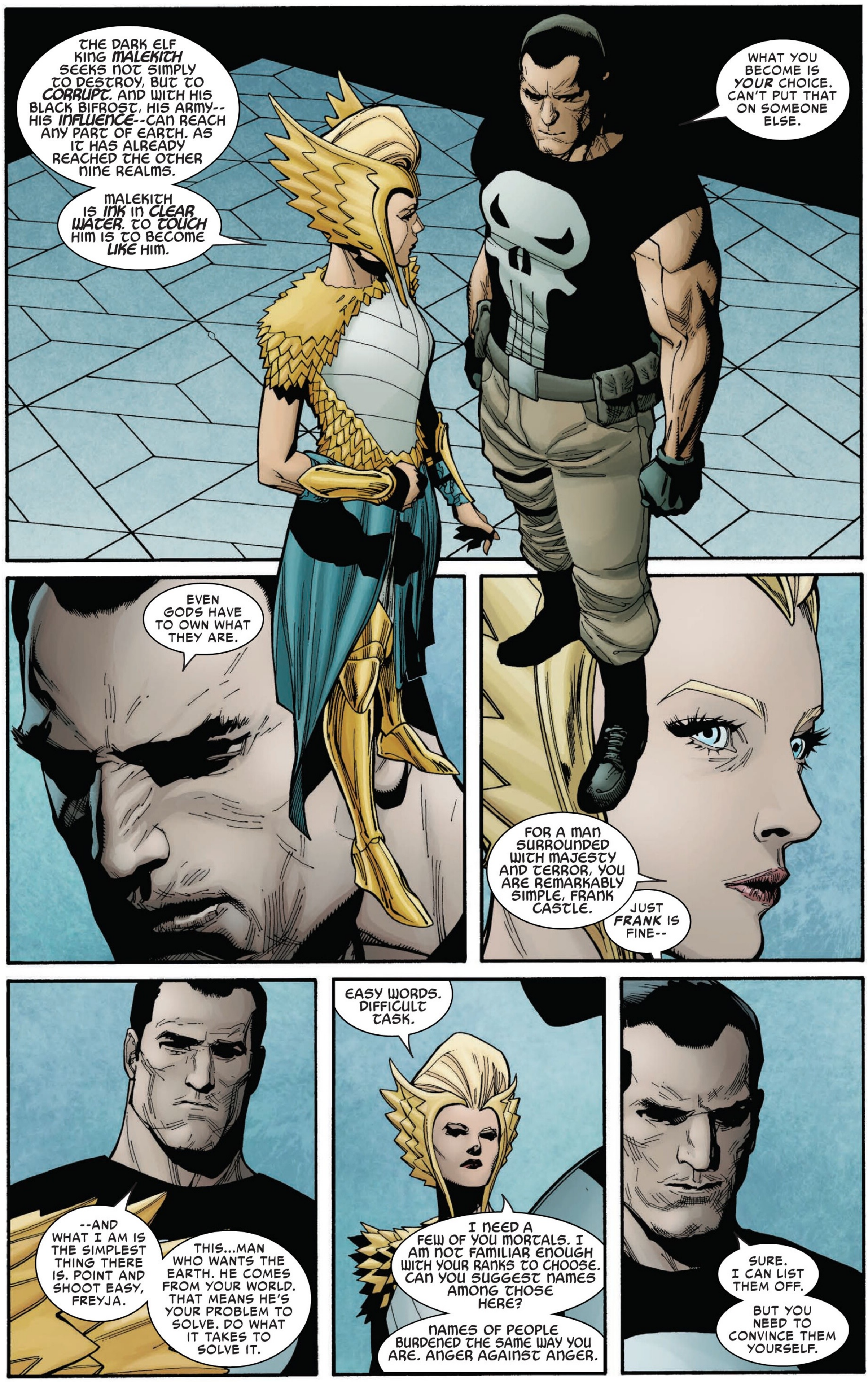
HE DOESN'T LIKE YOU. BUT HE RESPECTS YOU.







STEVE ROGERS SHOULD LEARN TO KEEP MY NAME OUT OF HIS MOUTH.
BUT SURE, LADY FREYJA. IF YOU'RE TALKING HARD CHOICES...
I'VE MADE A FEW.


THE DARK ELF KING MALEKITH SEEKS NOT SIMPLY TO DESTROY, BUT TO CORRUPT. AND WITH HIS BLACK BIFROST, HIS ARMY--HIS INFLUENCE--CAN REACH ANY PART OF EARTH. AS IT HAS ALREADY REACHED THE OTHER NINE REALMS.
MALEKITH IS INK IN CLEAR WATER. TO TOUCH HIM IS TO BECOME LIKE HIM.
WHAT YOU BECOME IS YOUR CHOICE. CAN'T PUT THAT ON SOMEONE ELSE.
EVEN GODS HAVE TO OWN WHAT THEY ARE.
FOR A MAN SURROUNDED WITH MAJESTY AND TERROR, YOU ARE REMARKABLY SIMPLE, FRANK CASTLE.
JUST FRANK IS FINE--
--AND WHAT I AM IS THE SIMPLEST THING THERE IS. POINT AND SHOOT EASY, FREYJA.
THIS...MAN WHO WANTS THE EARTH. HE COMES FROM YOUR WORLD. THAT MEANS HE'S YOUR PROBLEM TO SOLVE. DO WHAT IT TAKES TO SOLVE IT.
EASY WORDS. DIFFICULT TASK.
I NEED A FEW OF YOU MORTALS. I AM NOT FAMILIAR ENOUGH WITH YOUR RANKS TO CHOOSE. CAN YOU SUGGEST NAMES AMONG THOSE HERE?
NAMES OF PEOPLE BURDENED THE SAME WAY YOU ARE. ANGER AGAINST ANGER.
SURE. I CAN LIST THEM OFF.
BUT YOU NEED TO CONVINCE THEM YOURSELF.

"I AM TO ASSUME YOU ARE PUNISHMENT?"

"NO, MA'AM.

"PUNISHMENT IS A RESULT OF WHAT I AM. THE PHYSICS OF MAKING THINGS RIGHT.

"IT'S NOT MY FUNCTION.

"MY FUNCTION IS TRUTH. THE KIND OF TRUTH THAT ONLY HAPPENS WHEN LOVE TURNS INTO HATE.

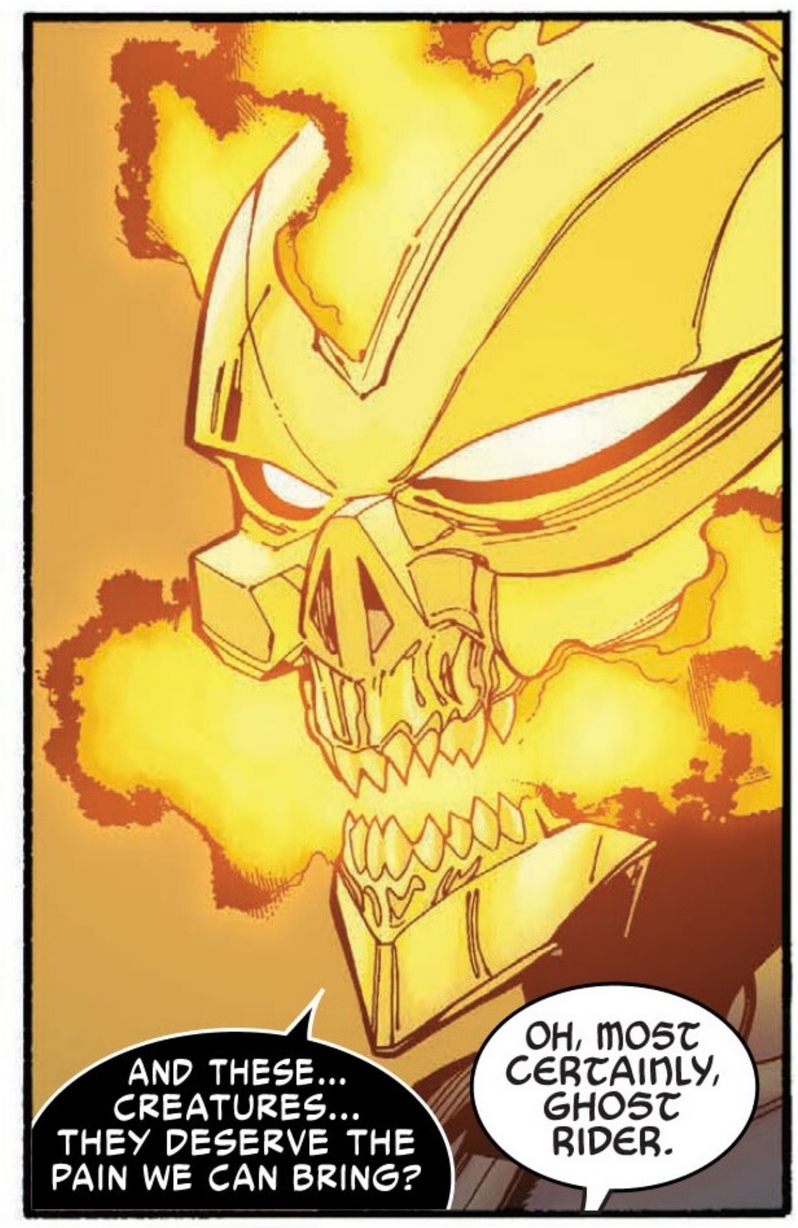
"AND HATE TURNS INTO ACTION.

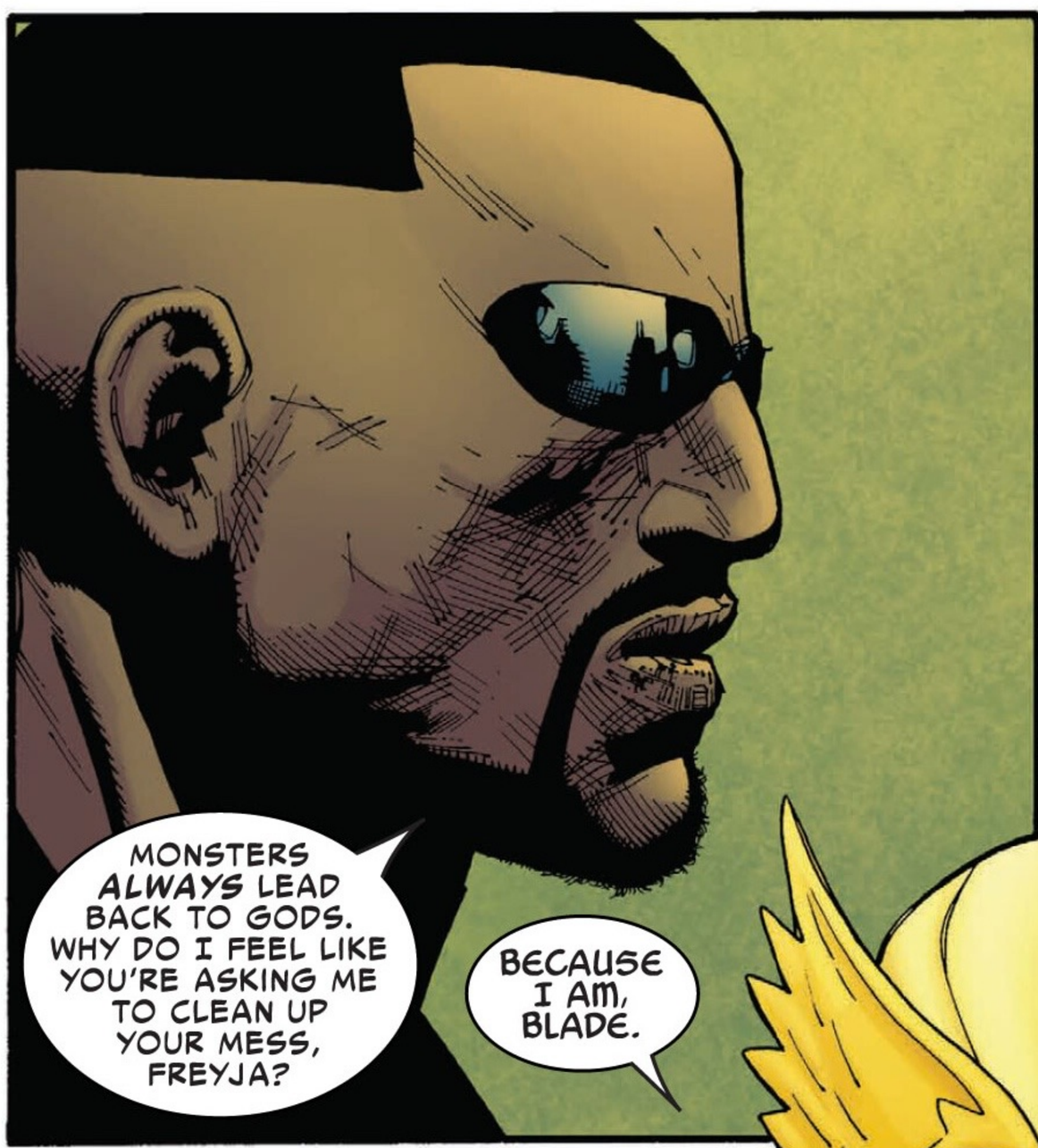
"I'LL EXPLAIN IT LATER. TIME TO GET US ALL IN A ROOM.

"EVEN A GODDESS NEEDS TO MAKE A SALES PITCH."
...AND WE SHALL JOURNEY INTO A REALM OF LOW CRAFT--SVARTALFHEIM. THE DARK ELF HORDES WILL COME.
BUT WE MUST REMAIN STRONG AND FAST.
THE BLACK BIFROST MUST BE DESTROYED. THERE IS NO OTHER WAY.
I AM ASKING YOU TO RISK YOUR LIVES. YOUR SOULS.
THIS IS OUR PART TO PLAY IN PROTECTING THE TEN REALMS.
SO WHAT SAY YOU?

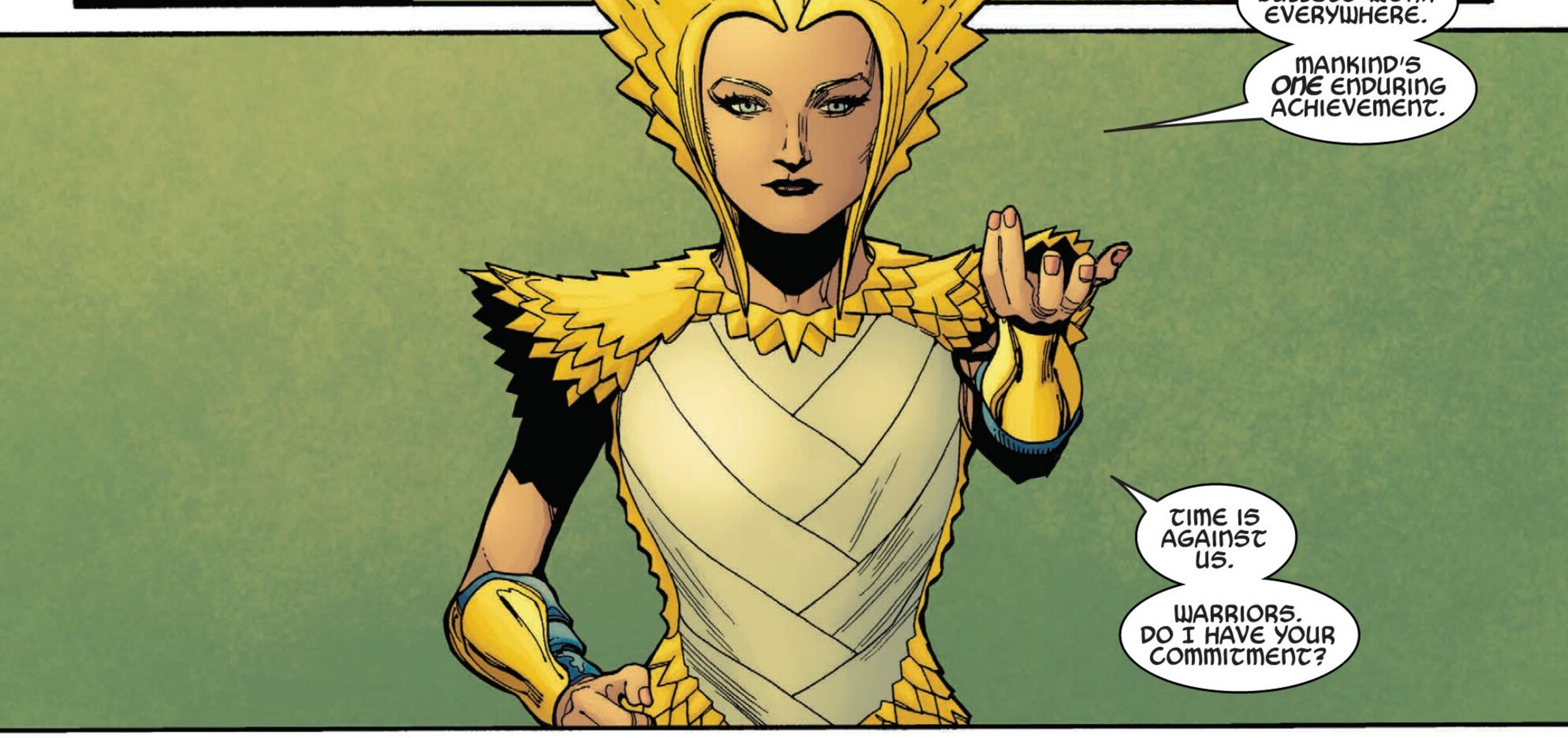
DON'T LIE TO ME. WHAT YOU'RE ASKING--IT'S *POSSIBLE?* LONGSHOT OR NOT, WE *CAN* SUCCEED?

THERE IS A WARRIOR'S CHANCE, MS. WALTERS.


AND THESE... CREATURES... THEY DESERVE THE PAIN WE CAN BRING?
OH, MOST CERTAINLY, GHOST RIDER.


MONSTERS *ALWAYS* LEAD BACK TO GODS. WHY DO I FEEL LIKE YOU'RE ASKING ME TO CLEAN UP YOUR MESS, FREYJA?
BECAUSE I AM, BLADE.

BLAH BLAH MAGIC MAGIC.
BULLETS STILL WORK ON THESE #$&%@#?
BULLETS WORK EVERYWHERE.
MANKIND'S *ONE* ENDURING ACHIEVEMENT.


TIME IS AGAINST US.
WARRIORS. DO I HAVE YOUR COMMITMENT?

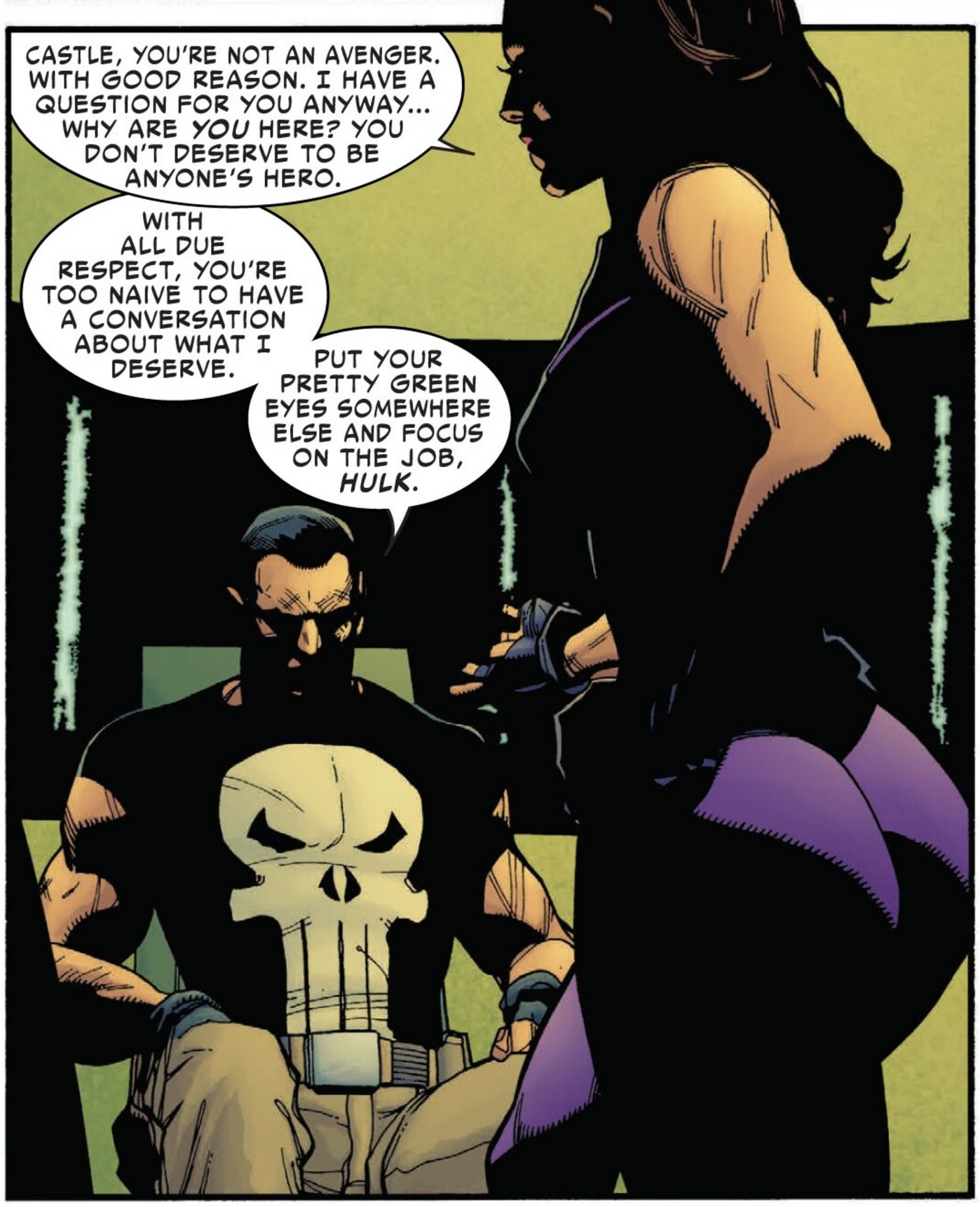
I NEED A SIDEBAR WITH THE GROUP. JUST A MINUTE.

GHOST RIDER, EVER SINCE WE BECAME TEAMMATES ON THE AVENGERS, I'VE BEEN MEANING TO ASK YOU: DOES IT *HURT* TO BE ON FIRE LIKE THAT?
A *LOT*. MAYBE IT DIDN'T BOTHER THE *OTHER* GHOST RIDERS.
I'M STILL GETTING THE HANG OF IT.

AND BLADE, EVEN THOUGH YOU'RE AN AVENGER NOW TOO, I STILL DON'T KNOW YOU OR YOUR WORLD.
CAN I TRUST YOU?
YOU A VAMPIRE?

UH...NO.

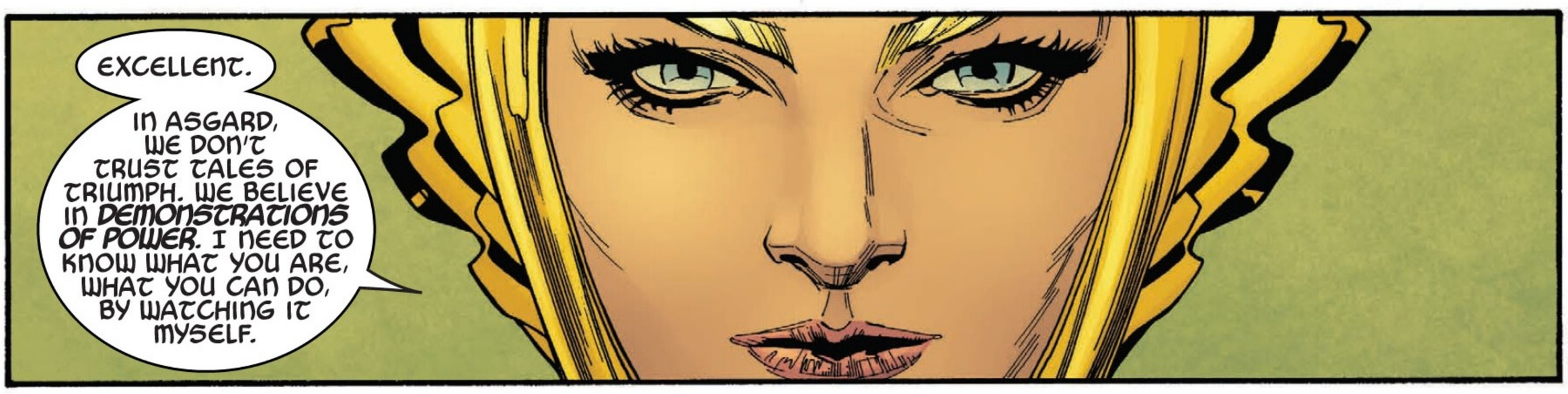
THEN WE'RE FINE, JENNY.


CASTLE, YOU'RE NOT AN AVENGER. WITH GOOD REASON. I HAVE A QUESTION FOR YOU ANYWAY... WHY ARE *YOU* HERE? YOU DON'T DESERVE TO BE ANYONE'S HERO.
WITH ALL DUE RESPECT, YOU'RE TOO NAIVE TO HAVE A CONVERSATION ABOUT WHAT I DESERVE.
PUT YOUR PRETTY GREEN EYES SOMEWHERE ELSE AND FOCUS ON THE JOB, *HULK*.

SO FREYJA WANTS ME ON A TEAM OF MADMEN HEADED TO A SUICIDE MISSION...

$%&# IT.
I'M IN IF YOU ALL ARE. HANDS UP IF YOU'RE ON BOARD.

WHATEVER WE ARE, LOOKS LIKE WE'RE YOURS, FREYJA.

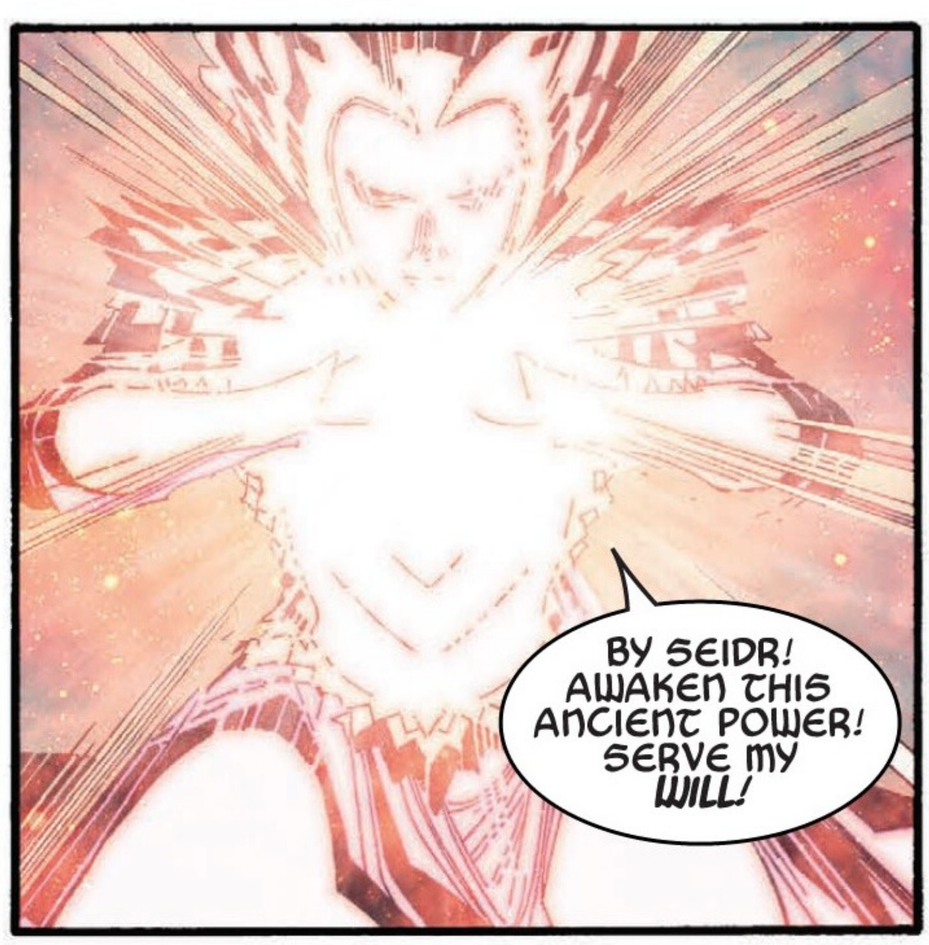

EXCELLENT.
IN ASGARD, WE DON'T TRUST TALES OF TRIUMPH. WE BELIEVE IN *DEMONSTRATIONS OF POWER*. I NEED TO KNOW WHAT YOU ARE, WHAT YOU CAN DO, BY WATCHING IT MYSELF.

WHAT DOES *THAT* MEAN? DOES ANYONE KNOW WHAT THE HELL THAT MEANS?

IT MEANS I NEED TO SEE YOU *FIGHT*.

OBJECTION. WE'RE NOT FIGHTING EACH OTHER, FREYJA. YOU CAN TAKE THAT DEAL OFF THE TABLE.

I DON'T NEED TO SEE YOU FIGHT EACH OTHER.
I NEED YOU ALL TO FIGHT *ME*.


BY SEIDR! AWAKEN THIS ANCIENT POWER! SERVE MY *WILL*!

ANCIENT POWER, I CALL UPON YOU.
CREATE THE VOID. TEST THEM WITH THEIR FEARS.

SHOW ME THEIR DARKNESS.

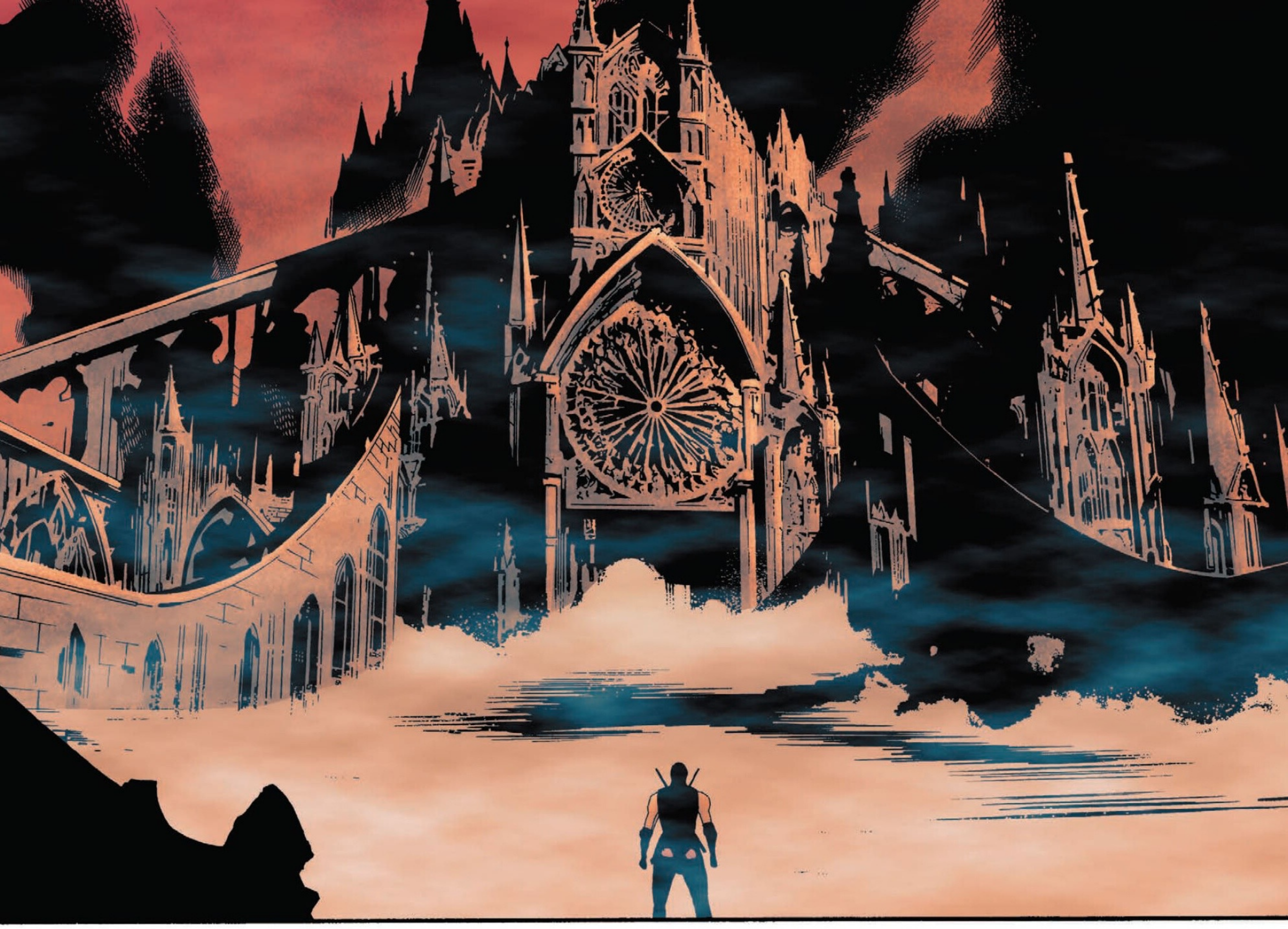
YOU JUDGE ME, JEN.
YOU'VE ALWAYS JUDGED ME.
BRUCE?
YOU THINK I'M WEAKER THAN YOU. I ALWAYS LET THE MONSTER WIN.
AM I... GUILTY?
BRUCE. NO...
WHAT IS YOUR VERDICT?!

YOU KNOW NOTHING OF ZARATHOS, BOY. YOU ARE AN IMPOSTER.

THE WILL OF VENGEANCE MOCKS YOU.
FOR YOU ARE NO RIDER.

NO!
THE FATE OF IMPOSTERS HAS COME FOR YOU, ROBBIE REYES.
YOUR FEAR IS FIRE. TIME TO BURN.

PAY YOUR PENANCE!!!
ARGH!



YOU CAN'T KILL ME. I AM WHAT IS BORN WHEN YOU ACCEPT YOUR POWER, DAYWALKER.

YOU WILL STOP PROTECTING MANKIND. YOU WILL STOP HUNTING OUR BLOOD.

AND THEN YOU WILL ACCEPT YOUR DESTINY.
AND YOUR THRONE.
I AM YOUR FUTURE.

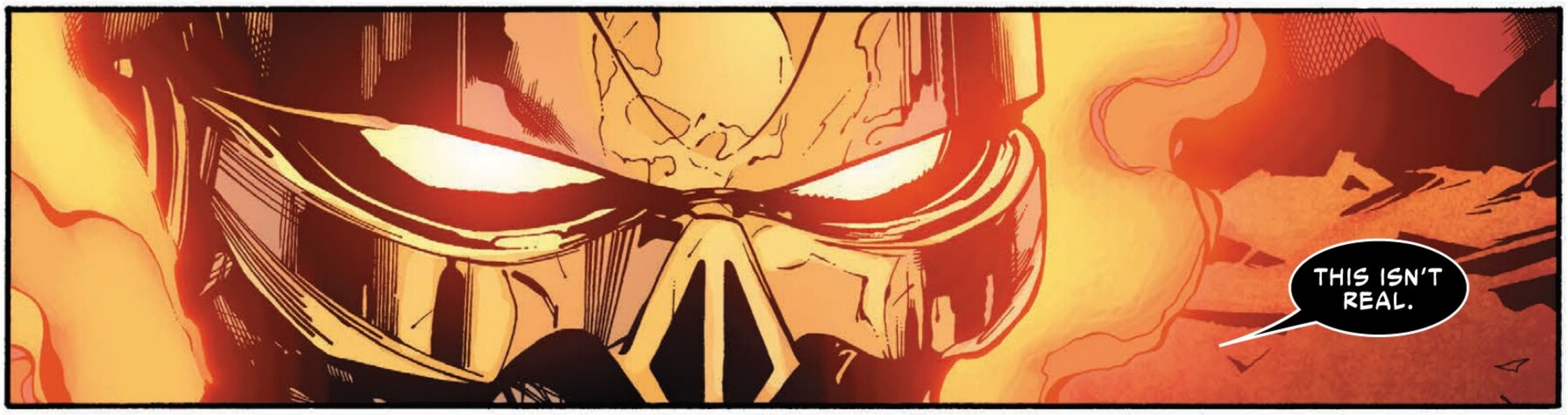
NOOOO!

TYRANNY BECOMES THE FUTURE OF WARRIORS WHO SERVE ONLY THEIR ANGER.
THE SEDUCTION OF POWER BECOMES COMPLETE.
AND YOU JUSTIFY IT WITH RIGHTEOUSNESS.
YOU BEGIN TO FEEL THE NEED TO DESTROY. TO SEE YOUR OWN POWER.
BLADE'S GREATEST ENEMY WILL ALWAYS BE HIMSELF.

You can only hide your primal nature for so long.
Until you follow the call of its song.
Until fear invites it into our thrones.
BOOM
The black bifrost is a bridge to that fear.
The path from our light to our darkness.
The union of natures.
Jennifer Walters is not as civilized as she wants to be.
And the black bifrost will know it.

It has a will.
It requires penance.
But not the sort the Ghost Rider is used to dealing.
CRACK
In Asgard, we master what lives inside us. The rage. The scorn. The fear.
We master them before we are made slaves to them.
That is the test. The trial of trials.
And the trials will last your whole life.

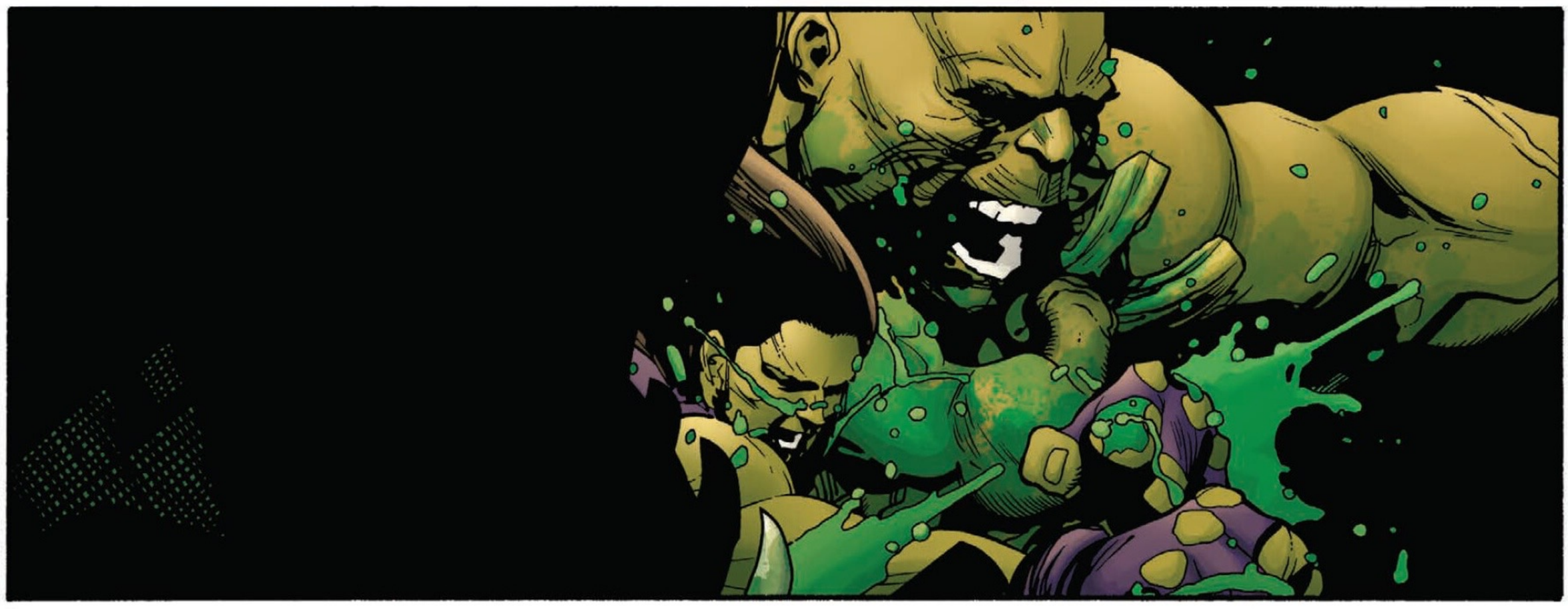
NOT. BRUCE.


THIS ISN'T REAL.

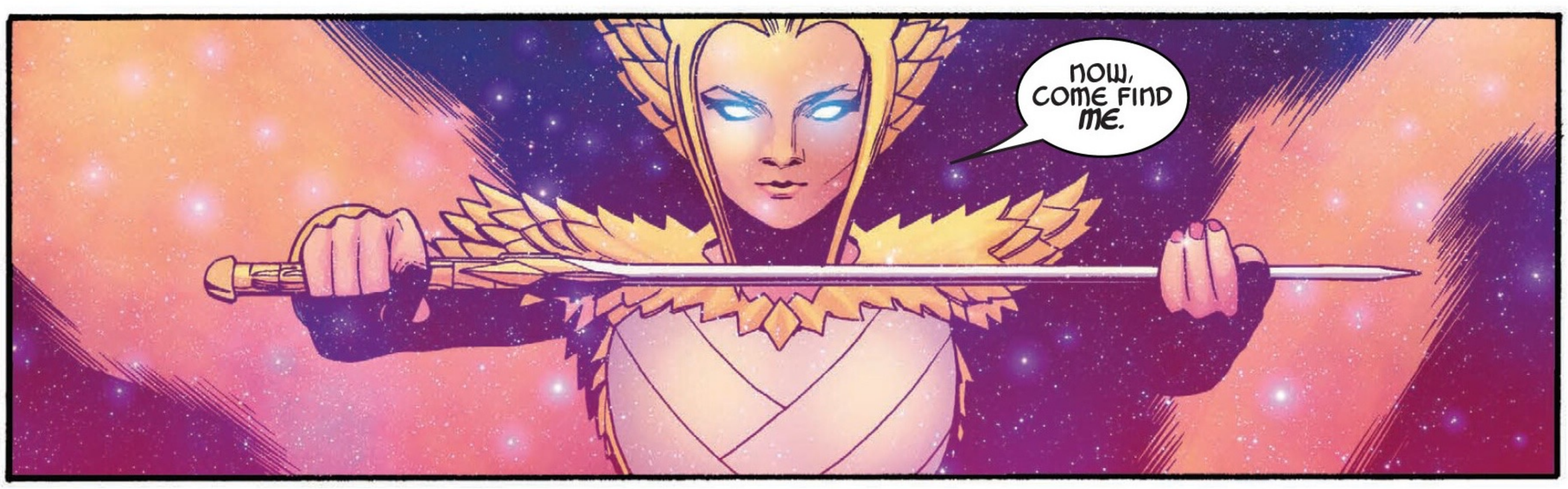
MAGIC TRICKS.
I *HATE* MAGIC TRICKS.

SSSH. LADY FREYJA. YOU HEAR THAT?

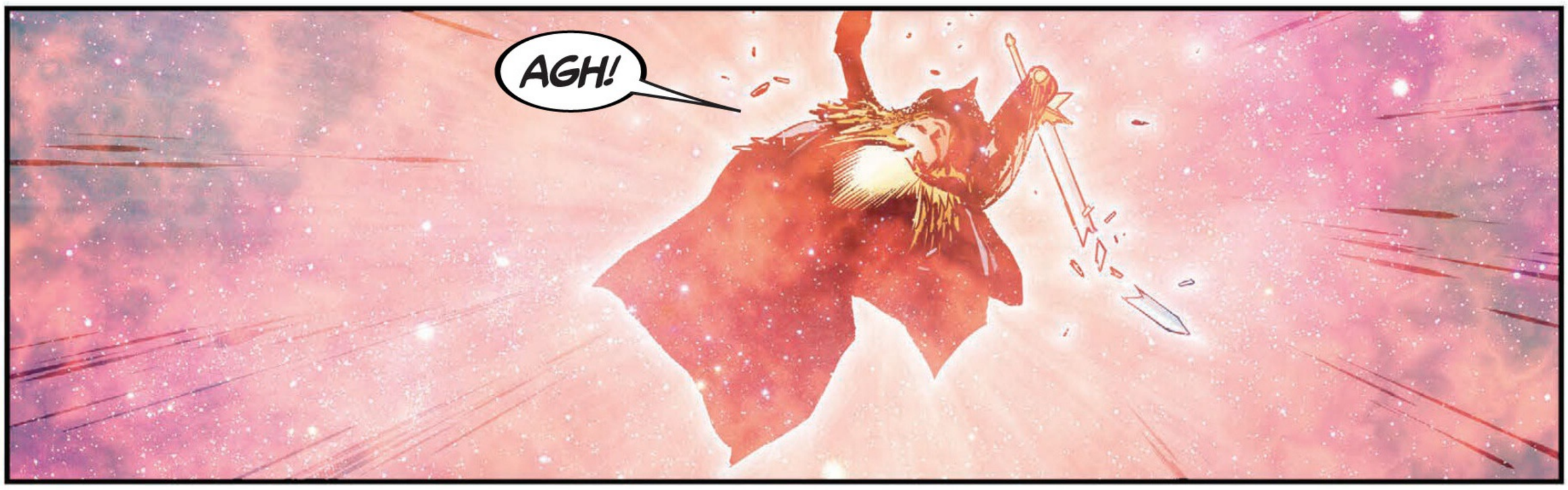
THE OTHERS ARE FIGURING IT ALL OUT.
I THINK THEY PASSED YOUR TEST.

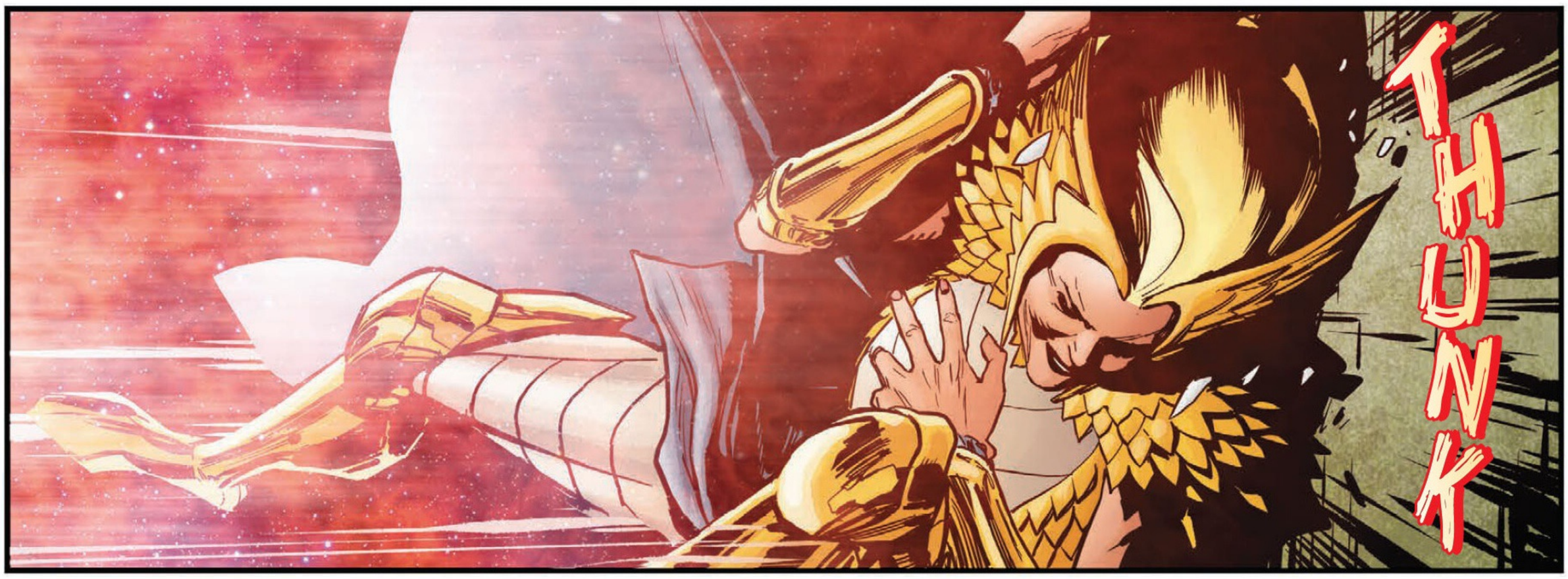


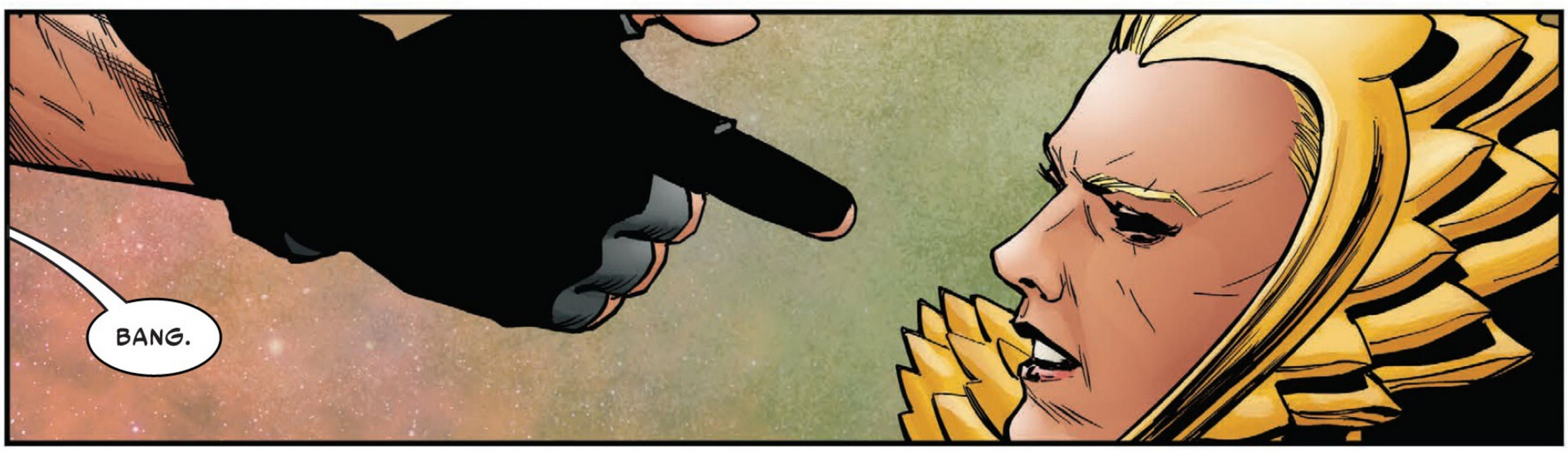
WELL DONE, WARRIORS. YOU HAVE FOUND YOUR SHADOWS.


NOW, COME FIND ME.

They are worthy of my great hall in Folkvangr.
They act without hesitation.
Powered by fury.
They believe they are ready. Because they know not what is to come.
I know. Clear as the ways of the Aesir. I know what we face.
But I will hide my fear.
So they can destroy theirs.


AGH!


THUNK


BANG.

SO WHAT'D WE WIN?

A CONFRONTATION WITH NEAR-IMMORTAL EVIL.

IF YOU CONSIDER THAT A *GIFT*, THAT WILL MAKE THIS EASIER.

WHAT RIDER SEE? IN DREAM?

ZARATHOS JUDGED ME AS UNWORTHY, SO I RIPPED HIM APART WITH CHAINS.

YOU?

FAKE COUSIN TRY KILL. HULK *SMASH* FAKE COUSIN.

NOTHING LIKE FIGHTING FAMILY.

DRACULA?

BEEN THERE. KILLED THAT.

RUN-OF-THE-MILL-EVIL-VAMPIRE-LORD VERSION OF MYSELF. I HAD A CASTLE. NEVER THOUGHT ABOUT HAVING MY OWN CASTLE.

YOURS?

KITTENS.

A THOUSAND FLUFFY KITTENS CAUGHT UP IN TREES, ALL OF THEM MEOWING AT THE SAME TIME.

REALLY?

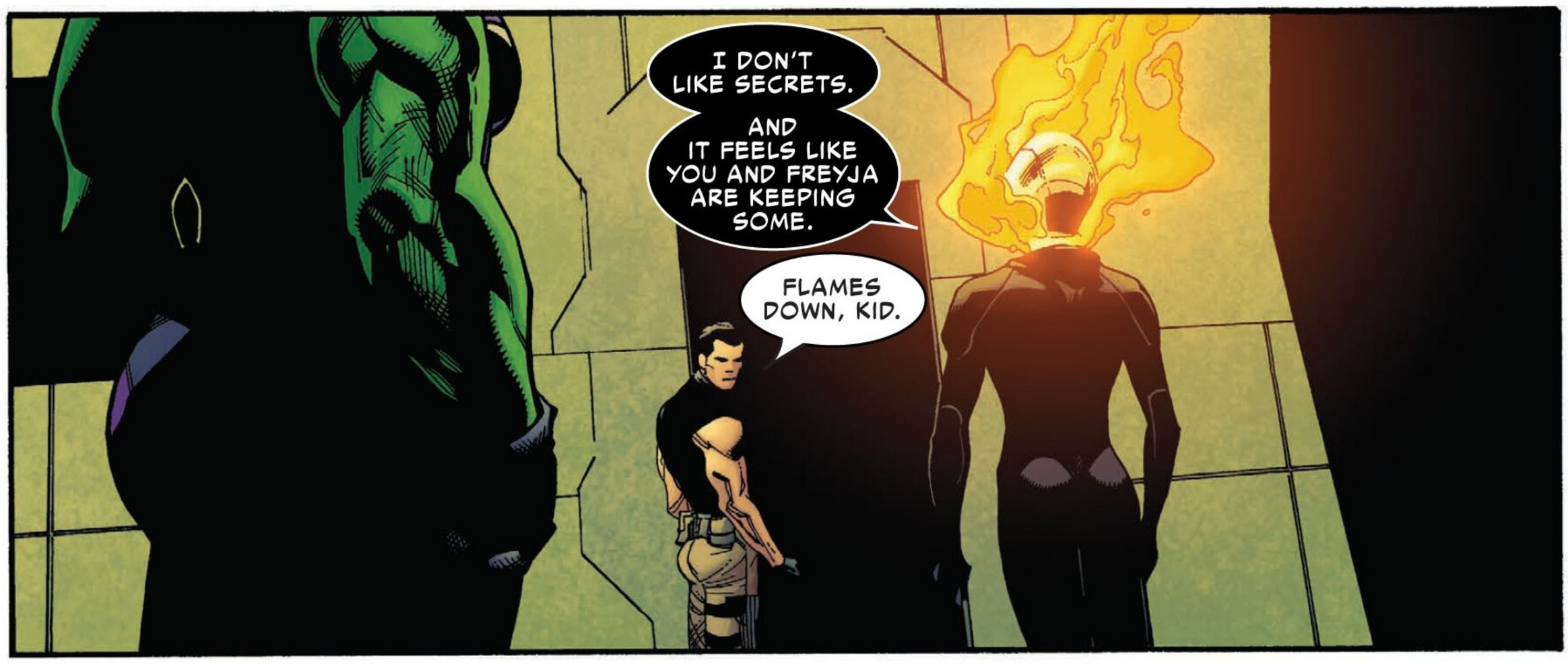
NAH. I JUST KILLED ALL OF YOU.

BUT I FELT BAD ABOUT IT.

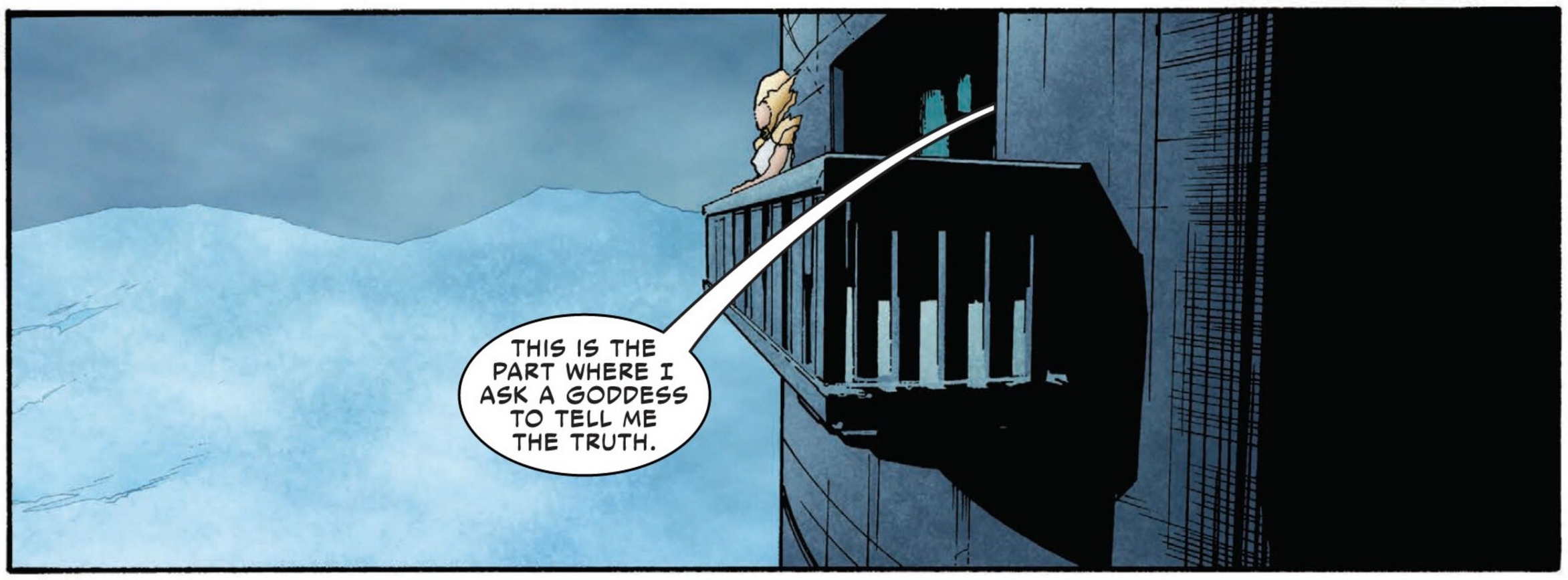
FRANK CASTLE--

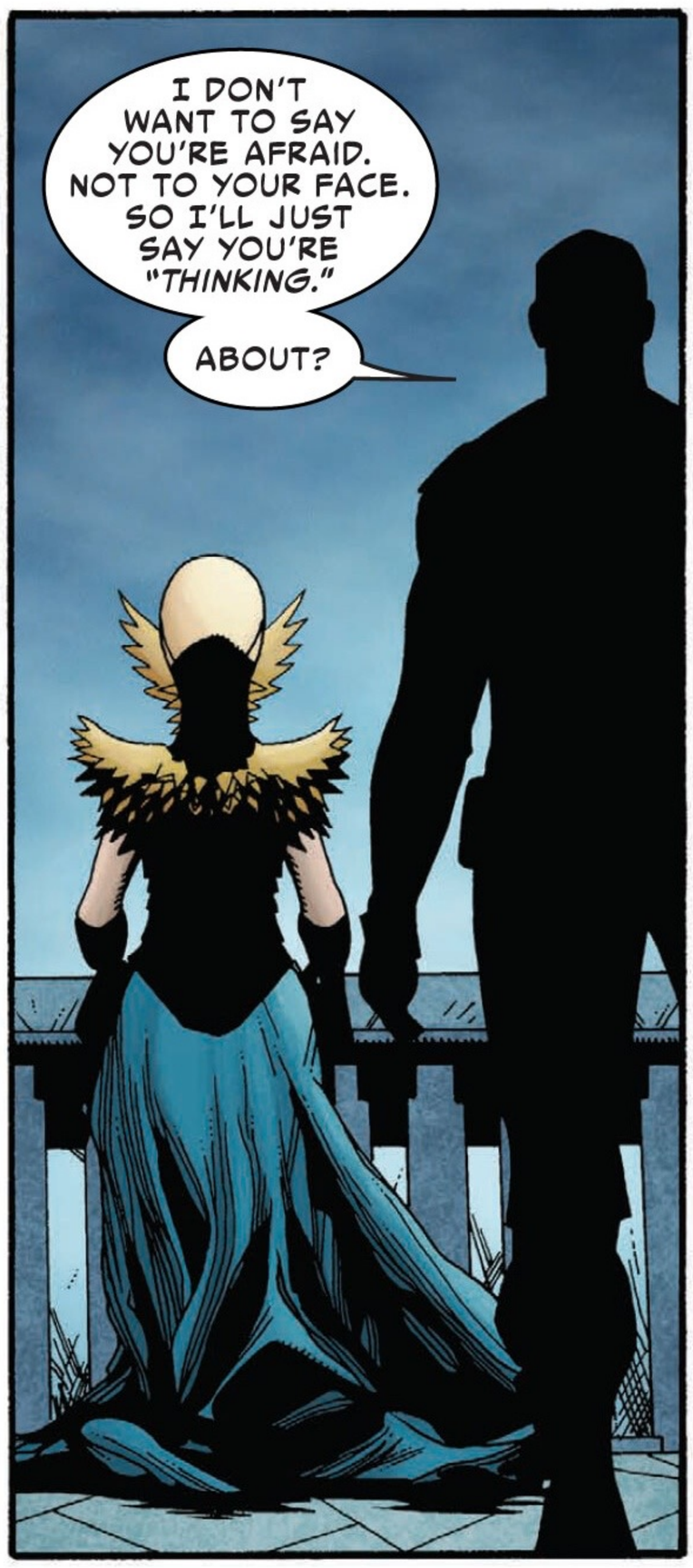
--I WOULD LIKE TO SPEAK WITH YOU IN PRIVATE.
JENNIFER WALTERS, PREPARE THE OTHERS. WE JOURNEY SOON.

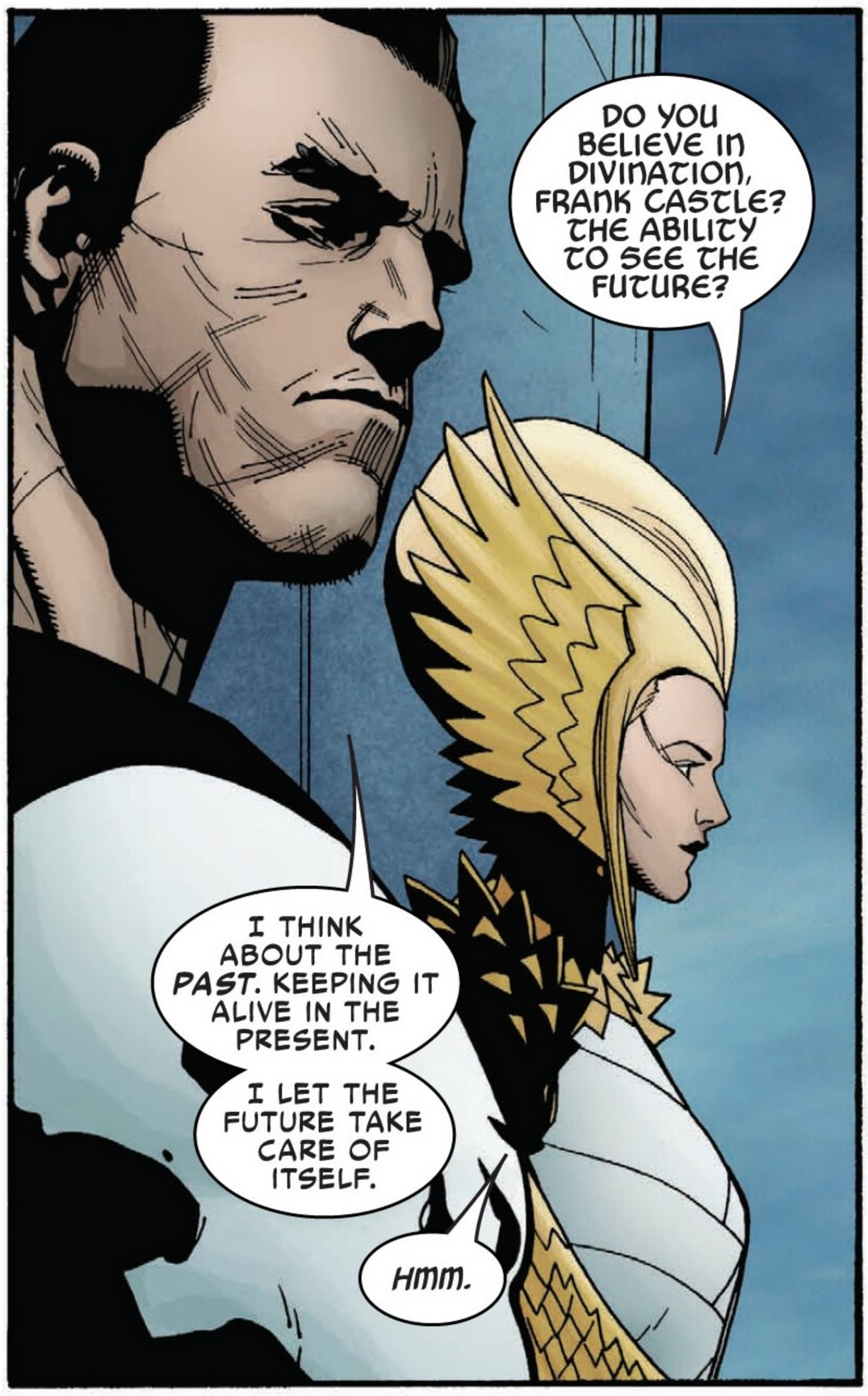
YOU KNOW YOU'RE NOT ACTUALLY IN CHARGE, RIGHT, HULK?
HULK CAN ARM WRESTLE. WANT ARM WRESTLE?
HULK WIN. HULK LEAD.
...YOU GOT A POINT THERE.


I DON'T LIKE SECRETS.
AND IT FEELS LIKE YOU AND FREYJA ARE KEEPING SOME.
FLAMES DOWN, KID.

THE GODDESS IS JUST SCARED.
HAVEN'T YOU BEEN SCARED BEFORE?


THIS IS THE PART WHERE I ASK A GODDESS TO TELL ME THE TRUTH.


I DON'T WANT TO SAY YOU'RE AFRAID. NOT TO YOUR FACE. SO I'LL JUST SAY YOU'RE "THINKING."
ABOUT?


DO YOU BELIEVE IN DIVINATION, FRANK CASTLE? THE ABILITY TO SEE THE FUTURE?
I THINK ABOUT THE *PAST*. KEEPING IT ALIVE IN THE PRESENT.
I LET THE FUTURE TAKE CARE OF ITSELF.
HMM.

DIVINATION IS NO MORE MAGIC TO ME THAN SMELLING THE SCENT OF A FLOWER IS MAGIC TO YOU.
IT'S JUST A SENSE. ONE AMONG ALL THE OTHERS.

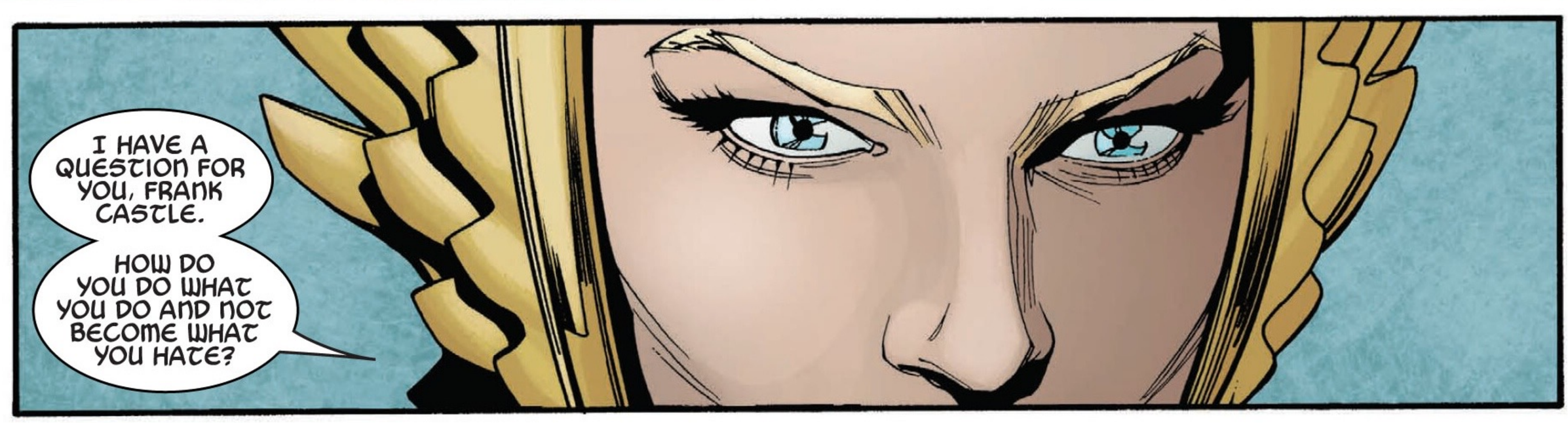
SO WHAT DOES THE FUTURE SMELL LIKE TO YOU?
IF YOU DON'T SEE A WAY WE *CAN* DESTROY THIS BIFROST, I'D SUGGEST KEEPING THAT TO YOURSELF. IT'D BE BAD FOR MORALE.

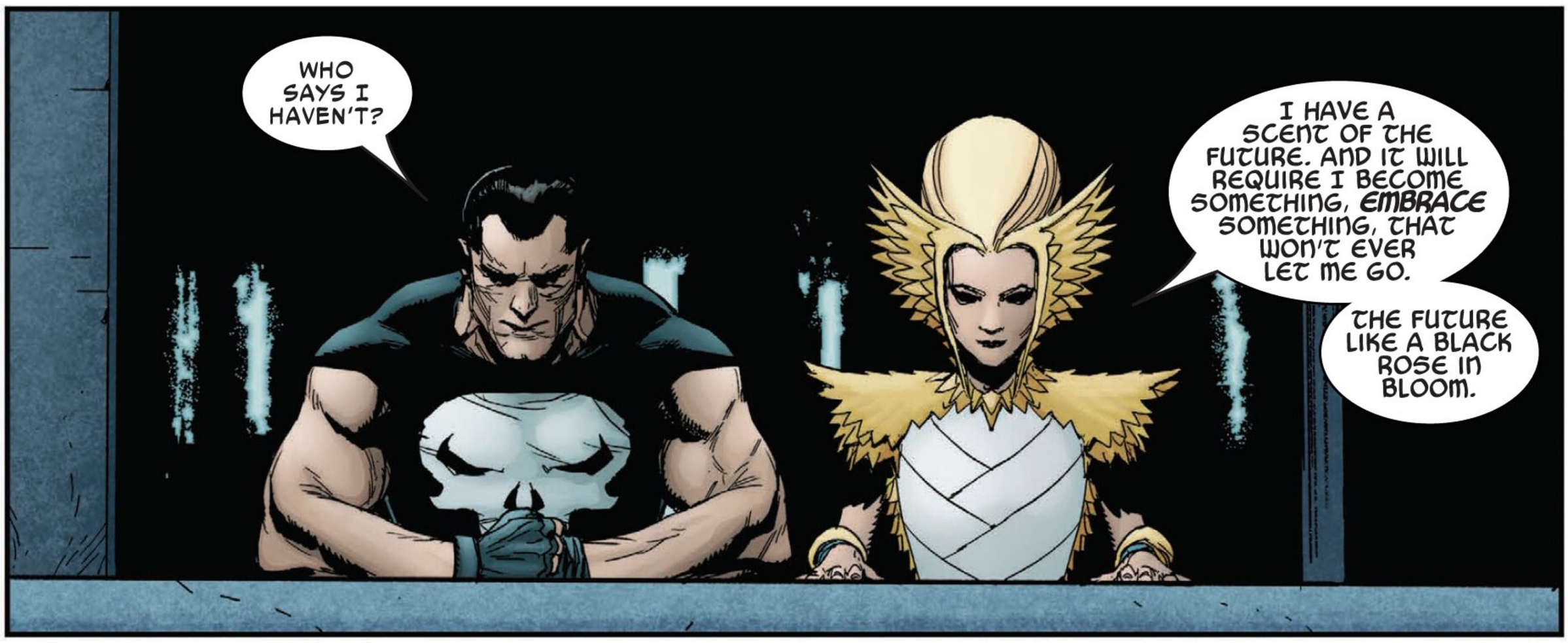
IT CAN BE DONE. IT *MUST* BE DONE.
BUT IT WILL HAVE ITS *COST*.

WAR ALWAYS COSTS SOMETHING.
I DON'T WANT TO GET SPLIT BY A LIGHTNING BOLT--

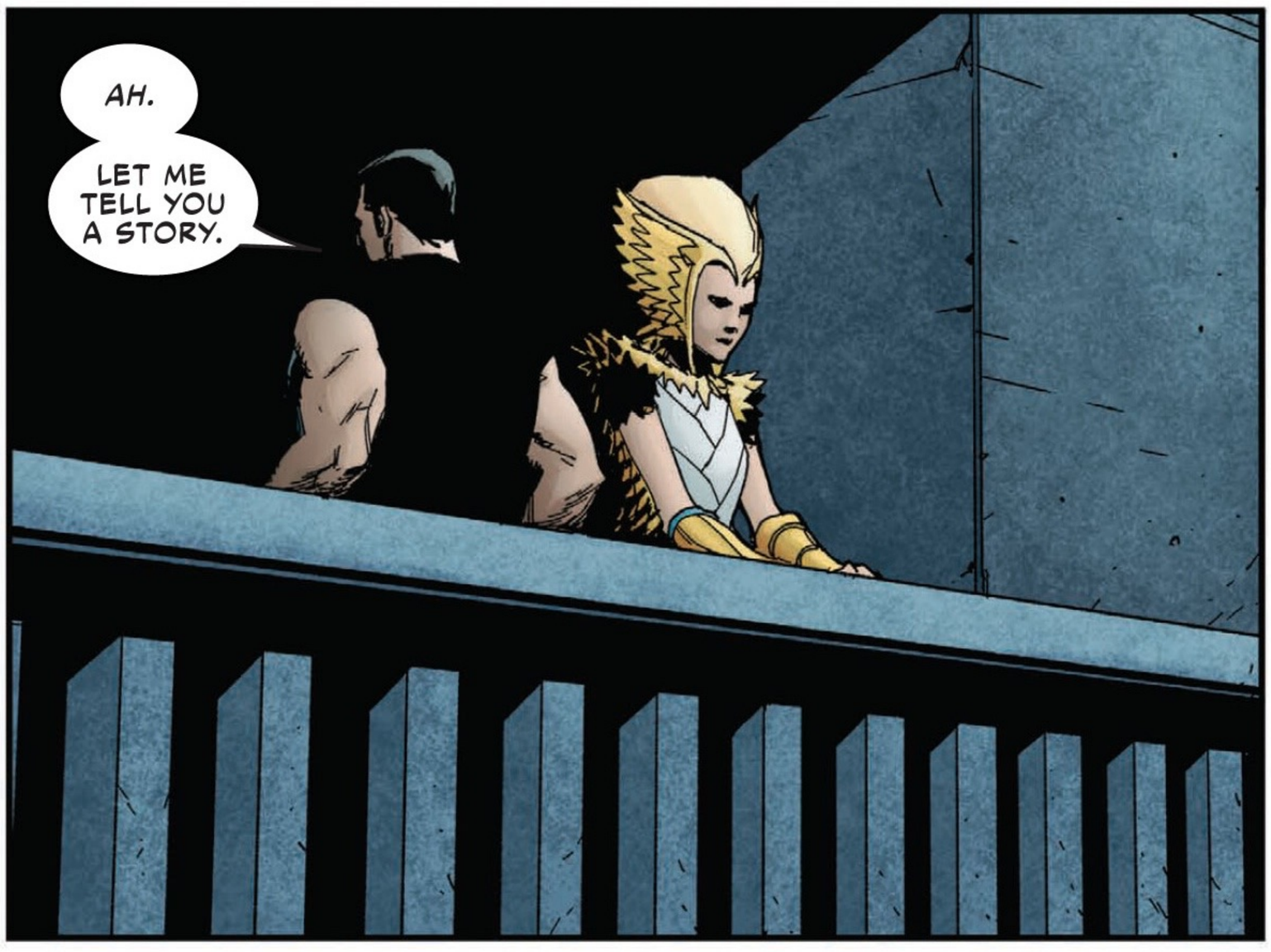
--BUT YOU'RE *AVOIDING SOMETHING*, AND WHATEVER THAT IS, I HAVE A FEELING IT'S NOT GOING TO GO AWAY.

ROGERS DIDN'T SEND YOU TO ME BECAUSE I CAN FIGHT. *EVERYONE* HERE CAN FIGHT.
HE SENT YOU HERE BECAUSE EVEN THE BOY SCOUT KNOWS I CAN HANDLE THE WORST TRUTHS OUT THERE. SO TELL ME YOURS.


I HAVE A QUESTION FOR YOU, FRANK CASTLE.
HOW DO YOU DO WHAT YOU DO AND NOT BECOME WHAT YOU HATE?


WHO SAYS I HAVEN'T?
I HAVE A SCENT OF THE FUTURE. AND IT WILL REQUIRE I BECOME SOMETHING, EMBRACE SOMETHING, THAT WON'T EVER LET ME GO.
THE FUTURE LIKE A BLACK ROSE IN BLOOM.

"DESTINY WILL CHANGE ME, FRANK CASTLE.
"AND I FEAR WHAT I HAVE TO BECOME."


AH.
LET ME TELL YOU A STORY.

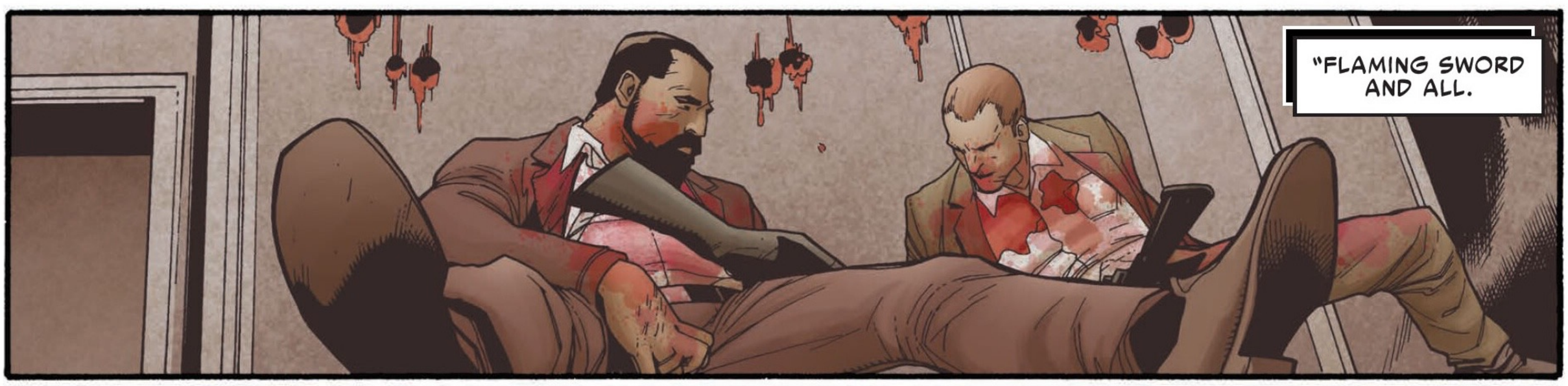
COLOMBIA. A WHILE BACK.
I WAS TRYING TO SAVE A KID FROM HELL.

"DETAILS DON'T MATTER. I WAS STORMING THE DARK CASTLE TO GET A KID OUT OF A DUNGEON.
"THINK ABOUT IT LIKE THAT.

"I WAS FULL OF RIGHTEOUSNESS THAT NIGHT. SOMETIMES, MY WORK IS COMPLICATED.
"THIS JOB WASN'T.

"I WAS SAVING A KID.
"I WAS DOING THE RIGHT THING.

"MOMENTS LIKE THAT ARE AS CLOSE AS I COME TO FEELING LIKE AN ANGEL.


"FLAMING SWORD AND ALL.

"YOU EXPECT PEOPLE TO SEE YOUR INTENTION. YOU'RE THERE TO *HELP*. THEY SHOULD SEE THAT."

THEY DON'T ALWAYS SEE IT, LADY FREYJA.

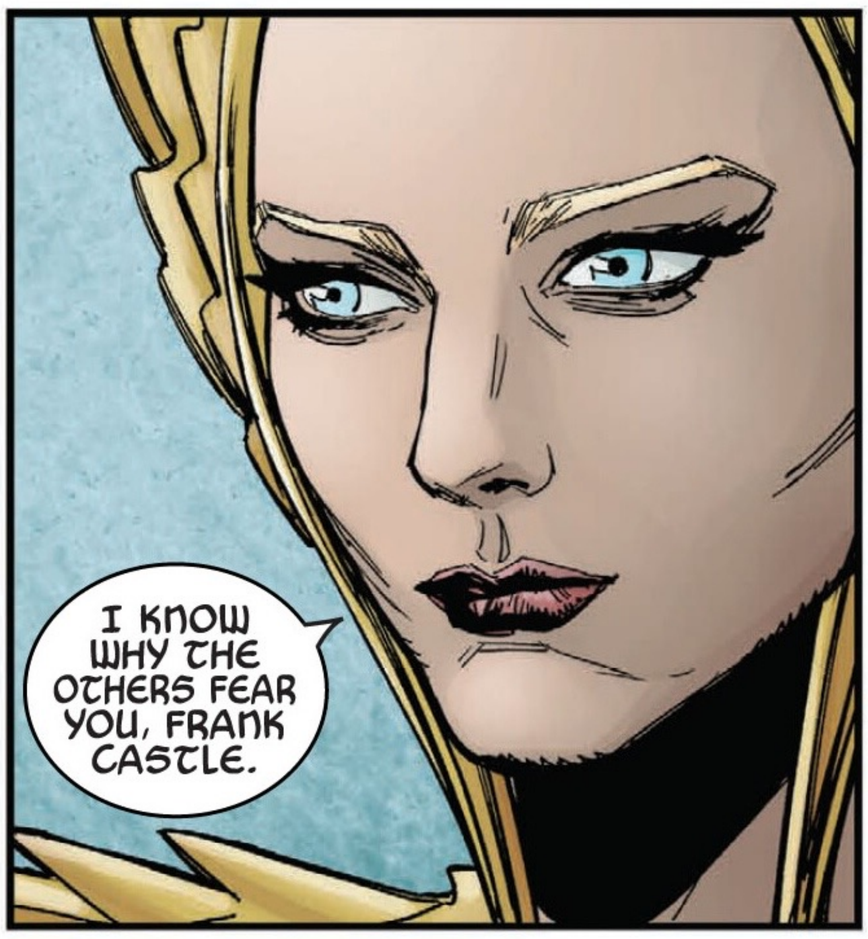
"I CAUGHT MY REFLECTION IN A MIRROR.
"I SAW WHAT I HAD BECOME.
"IT DIDN'T LOOK LIKE AN ANGEL.
"I DON'T KNOW WHAT HELL MAY BE LIKE. BUT I BET IT DOESN'T HAVE MANY MIRRORS.

"A MONSTER HUNTING MONSTERS.
"THAT'S WHAT I HAD BECOME.

"SO I SAID TO MYSELF, '*THIS IS FINE.*'
"BECAUSE IT WAS.
"IT DIDN'T MATTER WHAT I BECAME.
"WHAT MATTERED IS THAT THE RIGHT THING GOT DONE."

MAKE SURE THE RIGHT THING GETS DONE, LADY FREYJA.
KILL THE MONSTERS. BE A MONSTER IF YOU HAVE TO.
WIN THE WAR.

IT'S FINE.


I KNOW WHY THE OTHERS FEAR YOU, FRANK CASTLE.

BUT YOU HAVE THE RESPECT OF ASGARD.

TELL THE OTHERS WE'RE HEADED TO THE BIFROST.
IF THEY PRAY, THEY SHOULD PRAY NOW.

"THE RESPECT OF ASGARD."
WELL, HOW 'BOUT THAT?

THE BLACK BIFROST. HOURS LATER.

YOU'VE ALL DONE YOUR PART. BUT THE GAME HAS CHANGED.

THE ASGARDIAN BIFROST HAS JUST BEEN DESTROYED. *THIS* BIFROST IS NOW THE ONLY MEANS OF TRAVEL BETWEEN THE REALMS.

SO NEW PLAN. *I* WILL HOLD THE BRIDGE. THE REST OF YOU, TAKE THE BIFROST AND GET BACK TO THE *FRONT LINES.*

THIS IS WAR.
IT'S FINE.

WAR OF THE REALMS #4 VARIANT BY
Greg Hildebrandt

WAR OF THE REALMS #5 VARIANT BY
Mark Texeira
& Rachelle Rosenberg

WAR OF THE REALMS #6 SPOILER VARIANT BY
Terry Dodson
& Rachel Dodson

WAR OF THE REALMS #6 VARIANT BY
Irina Nordsol

WAR OF THE REALMS STRIKEFORCE:

The Land of Giants

AVENGERS MOUNTAIN.
THE NORTH POLE.
I WAS JUST TAKING A MOMENT, MJ.
THE WORLD WAS ENDING.
I MEAN...IT WASN'T THE FIRST TIME, BUT THIS ONE FELT LIKE IT WAS GOING TO STICK, YOU KNOW?
MONSTERS. GIANTS. AND ACTUAL TROLLS. TEARING CITIES APART.
I'D...I'D SEEN A LOT OF PEOPLE DIE.
AND I WAS FINDING IT HARDER TO JOKE ABOUT.
SO, I WAS JUST TAKING A MOMENT.
A MOMENT TO BE ALONE.
SPIDER-MAN.
GAH!

CAP?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
WE NEED TO SAVE THE WORLD.
YEAH. I WAS JUST THINKING THAT.
WHAT'S WITH THE AX?
THIS WAS THOR'S AX WHEN HE WAS YOUNG. IT IS CALLED JARNBJORN.
AH. I HAD A STUFFED BEAR WHEN I WAS YOUNG. IT WAS CALLED FLUFFLES McGEE... PROBABLY NOT AS SIGNIFICANT.
WHEN I ASKED WHAT YOU WERE DOING HERE, I ACTUALLY MORE MEANT HOW ARE YOU HERE?
UP HERE. ON THE TOP OF A MOUNTAIN.
FOLLOW ME.
SURE.
OH.

WOW.
THE VALKYRIES HAVE PERISHED IN NEW YORK, BUT SOME OF THEIR STEEDS SURVIVED, AND THEY STILL WISH TO SERVE.
I'LL MEET YOU INSIDE AVENGERS MOUNTAIN.
SURE. I MEAN I COULD JUST SWING DOWN AND MEET YOU, BUUUT...
WHAT IS IT?
I DON'T SUPPOSE I COULD...?

WOOOF!

OUR MISSION IS TO TRAVEL VIA THE RAINBOW BRIDGE TO THE FROZEN REALM OF JOTUNHEIM AND RESCUE THOR FROM THE CLUTCHES OF THE FROST GIANTS.

THAT'S NOT A MISSION. SOMETHING THAT EPIC REALLY SHOULD BE CALLED A *QUEST*.

IT'S... A BIT OF A SAUSAGE FEST.

OTHER HEROES ARE BATTLING ACROSS THIS WORLD AND BEYOND IT. THIS IS WHO WE HAVE. AND WHO WE *NEED*.

LOGAN. WOLVERINE.

A HUNTER.

LUKE CAGE. POWER MAN.

ONE WHO CAN WITHSTAND THE FULL FURY OF THE INHABITANTS OF JOTUNHEIM.

DANNY RAND. IRON FIST.

AND A MAN WHO CAN FELL A FROST GIANT WITH A SINGLE BLOW.

THOR MAY BE THE KEY TO SAVING NOT ONLY OUR WORLD, BUT ALL TEN REALMS.

PLUS, HE'S OUR FRIEND AND HE NEEDS OUR HELP.

ARE YOU WITH ME?

HERE'S THE THING ABOUT CAPTAIN AMERICA.

IF HE ASKS YOU TO JUMP, YOU DON'T ASK HOW HIGH. YOU JUST JUMP HARDER THAN YOU'VE EVER JUMPED BEFORE.

OF COURSE WE ARE.

GOOD. COME WITH ME.

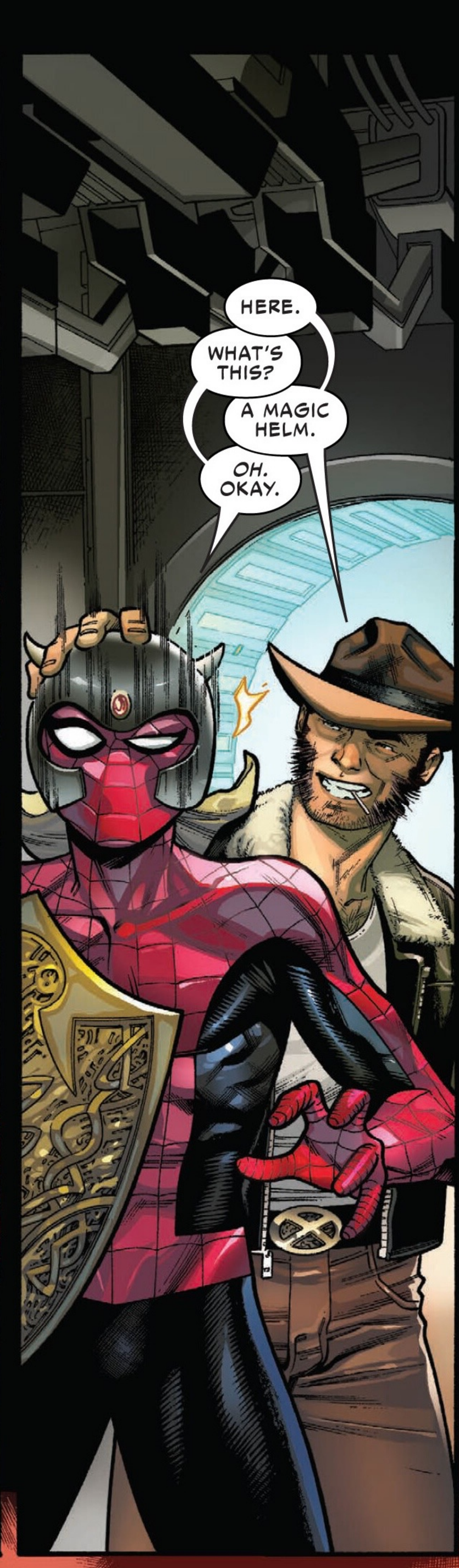
ARMORY
FEEL FREE TO CHOOSE AN ASGARDIAN WEAPON FROM THE ARMORY.
THEY'RE SURPRISINGLY WELL LABELED.

"THE TWIN SWORDS OF SPRAGUE. ALL IN JOTUNHEIM FEAR THEIR EDGES."
"THE HAMMER OF ROK. GIANTS CRACK LIKE EGGS BENEATH ITS BLOWS."

LOGAN?

SNIKT
I'M GOOD.

I DON'T REALLY WANT A WEAPON, CAP. I'M NOT REALLY INTO SMITING ENEMIES.
TAKE THIS.
A SHIELD?

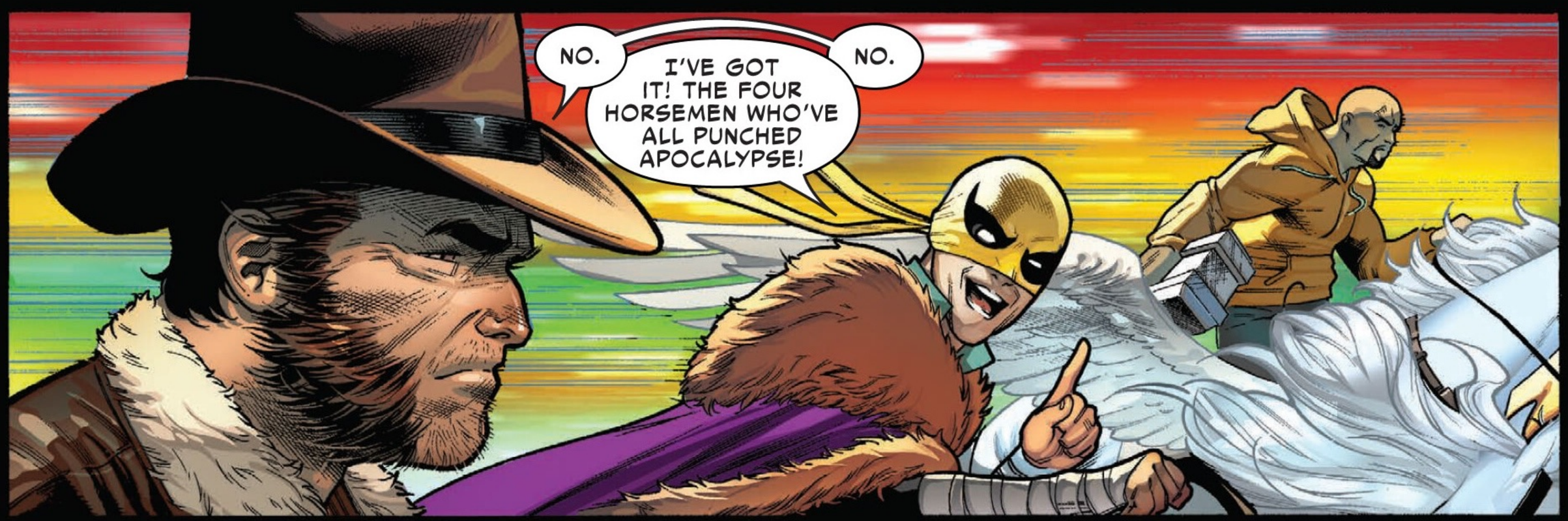
THEY CAN BE USEFUL.

HERE.
WHAT'S THIS?
A MAGIC HELM.
OH. OKAY.

DAREDEVIL.
DAREDEVIL?
CAN YOU HEAR ME?

ASGARD.
I HEAR YOU, STEVE.
I'M THE GOD WITHOUT FEAR NOW--I HEAR EVERYTHING.
IT'S...
HOW DO YOU DO THIS WITHOUT GOING MAD, HEIMDALL?
OH. YOU GET USED TO IT AFTER A MILLENNIUM OR TWO.
...A LITTLE OVERWHELMING.
WELL, WE'RE READY.
OPEN THE BIFROST TO JOTUNHEIM!
EVERYONE. GET READY TO RIDE.
RIDE?
YES...

WE RIDE!
I AM SO INTO THIS!

WE NEED A NAME.
NO. WE DON'T.
HOW ABOUT THE FOUR HORSEMEN OF PEACE?


NO.
I'VE GOT IT! THE FOUR HORSEMEN WHO'VE ALL PUNCHED APOCALYPSE!
NO.

WHY NOT?
WELL, FOR A START, THERE ARE *FIVE* OF US.
OH.
YOU FORGOT TO COUNT YOURSELF?

I FORGOT TO COUNT MYSELF.

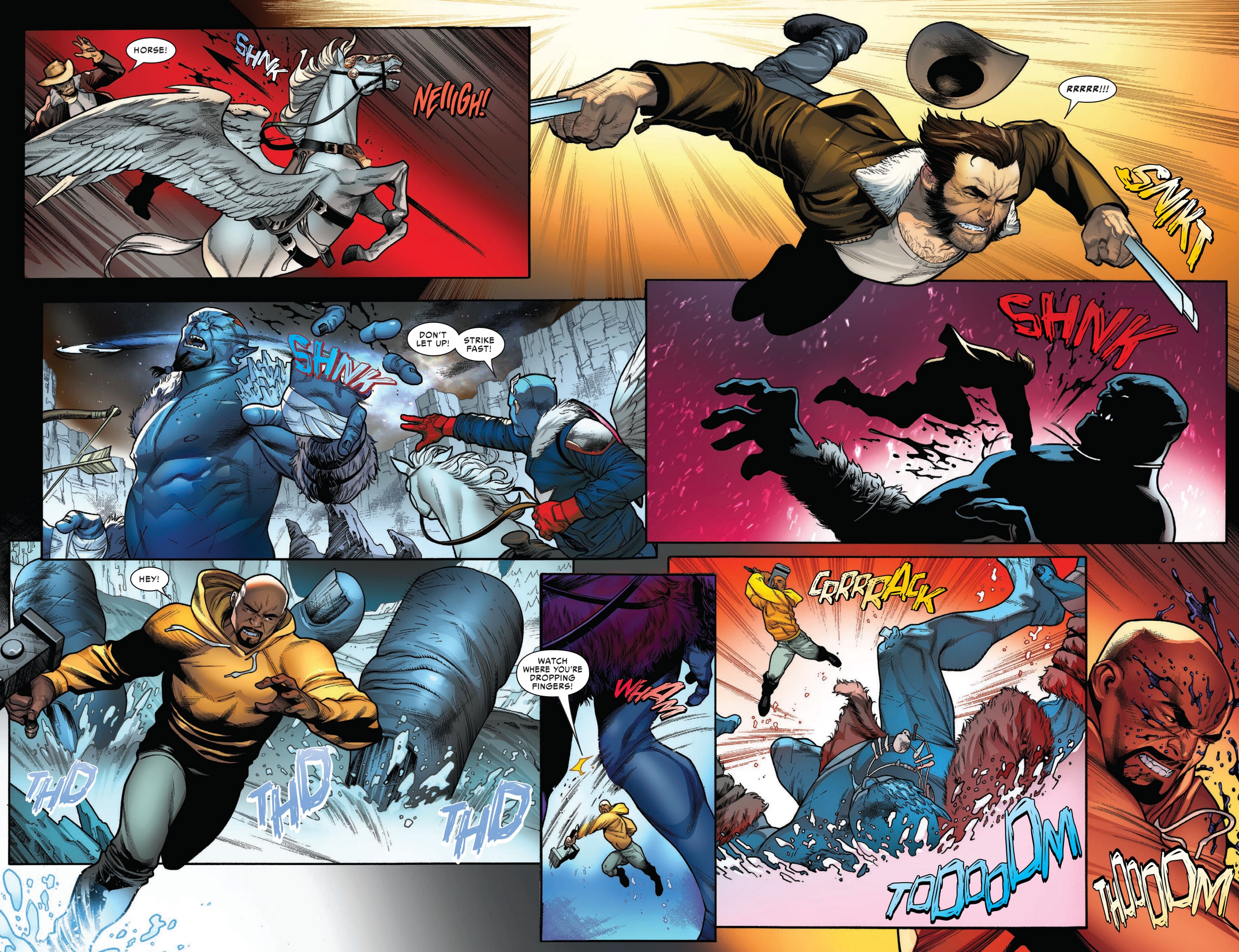
GUYS...
I'VE SEEN A LOT OF STRANGE THINGS AS A FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD SPIDER-MAN.
THIS...

...THIS WAS DEFINITELY NOT MY NEIGHBORHOOD.
JOTUNHEIM. THE LAND OF GIANTS.
THINK YOU CAN TRACK DOWN OUR MISSING THOR?
AIN'T GONNA BE ALL THAT HARD, CAP.
I'D SAY WE JUST FOLLOW THE RIVER OF FROST GIANT BLOOD.

SHHH.
EASY, BUTTERCUP.
YOU NAMED YOUR HORSE?
YOU DIDN'T?
MY HORSE IS CALLED HORSE.
HOW IMAGINATIVE.
WAIT.
SNF.
I SMELL SOMETHING.
SPIDEY-SENSE!

INCOMING!
SCRNTCH
GAGGGH!
NEIGH!
THWIP
GAH!

"FROST GIANT ARCHERS!"
HORSE...
SNKT
GIDDYUP!


HORSE!
SHNK
NEIIIGH!
RRRRR!!!
SNKT
SHNK
DON'T LET UP!
STRIKE FAST!
SHNK
HEY!
THD
THD
THD
WATCH WHERE YOU'RE DROPPING FINGERS!
WHKM
CRRRRACK
TOOOOOM
THOOOOM

OH NO YOU DON'T!
CNK
YOU--
THWIP
--ARE NOT--
--HURTING BUTTERCUP!
CRUNCH

THE TWIN SWORDS OF SPRAGUE!
THAT'S RIGHT! AND YOU FEAR THESE. THE LABEL SAID SO!
SHNNG
SHNNG

THE HAMMER OF ROK? HOW?!
IT WAS CONVENIENTLY HANGING ON A WALL.

LOGAN!
KINDA BUSY.
SHLK

WHAT DOES THE HELMET DO?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
EVERYONE ELSE IS USING THEIR SPECIAL THINGS. YOU SAID THIS WAS MAGIC.
HOW WOULD I KNOW IF IT WAS MAGIC?
SHLK

WHAT? THEN WHY DID YOU TELL ME TO WEAR IT?
IT WAS THE MOST RIDICULOUS HELMET I SAW IN THERE.

I MEAN, IT HAS A LITTLE SHADE COVER FOR YOUR NECK, AND WE'RE ON A DARK ICE PLANET.
I PREFERRED YOU WHEN YOU WERE DEAD.

EVENTUALLY, THE GIANTS FELL. ALL OF THEM.
WE NEED TO KEEP MOVING.
BUT THERE WERE CASUALTIES.
THEY CARRIED US HERE. WE SHOULD SAY SOME WORDS...OR SOMETHING.
WHAT'S IT...?
SHE'S BOWING.
WE SHOULD JOIN HER.
YOU WANT US TO BOW TO THE HORSES?
BOW.
ARE WE JUST GOING TO LEAVE THEM HERE?
NO...
YOU WON'T BELIEVE WHAT HAPPENED NEXT, MJ.

...THEY WILL NOT BE LEFT HERE.
WHOA. ARE YOU A TALKING HORSE?
ALL HORSES ARE TALKING HORSES.
OH. WOW.
BUT I BELIEVE YOUR HELMET IS ALLOWING US TO COMMUNICATE.
I'M GUESSING YOUR NAME ISN'T ACTUALLY BUTTERCUP.
I AM THE QUEEN ARCTORIUS. IN YOUR LANGUAGE, IT MEANS "ONE WHO GALLOPS THROUGH CLOUDS."
OH. THAT'S A NICE NAME.
BUTTERCUP WAS...ALSO NICE.
I'M SORRY. IF WE HADN'T BROUGHT YOUR FRIENDS WITH US...
YOU DID NOT BRING THEM. THEY CAME WILLINGLY. THEY WERE WARRIORS. THEY DIED FIGHTING.

NEIGH. NEEEEIGHHH. NEIGH. NEIGH. NEEEEIIIIGH!
NEIGH. NEEEIGHH. WHINNY. NEEEEIGH.
NEIGH. WHINNY. NEEEEIGH!
SERIOUSLY. WHAT THE @#$%?

AND THEN LOGAN HEARD SOMETHING.
JUST LISTEN.
MY EARS ARE TOO COLD TO HEAR ANYTHING.
SCREAMING. I HEAR SOMEONE SCREAMING.
NOT JUST SOMEONE. THAT'S THOR.
RUN. THE GOD OF THUNDER NEEDS YOU. I WILL STAY WITH MY KIN.
I WILL SAY THE WORDS TO USHER THEIR SOULS TO THE SKIES, WHERE THEY BELONG. THEY ARE NOT WORDS FOR HUMAN EARS.
SO WE RAN. THROUGH A BLIZZARD. FOLLOWING A RIVER OF BLOOD. TOWARD THE SCREAMS OF A GOD.
IT WAS JUST AS MELODRAMATIC AS IT SOUNDS.
WE RAN UNTIL THE RIVER ENDED AND THE GROUND TURNED TO MOUNTAINOUS BODIES.
AND THAT'S WHERE WE FOUND HIM...

...RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE.
MORE GIANTS!
SEND ME MORE ODIN-DAMNED GIANTS!
SEND THEM ALL!!!
RRRRRRRGGH!!
IT'S A BERSERKER RAGE.
I'VE BEEN THERE. TOO MANY TIMES.
IT HAPPENED TO ME. JUST THE ONCE. IN HARLEM.
FOR ME, IT WAS A GROUP OF NINJAS.
I HAD A PARTICULARLY BAD DAY WITH HITLER.
SPIDER-MAN?
AH...YEAH. MAYBE, THIS ONE TIME.
THERE WERE THESE BLACK FRIDAY SALES?
IT WAS ALL A BIT OF A BLUR. AND THEN, THE NEXT THING I KNEW, I'D BOUGHT A MICROWAVE.

THE RAGE WON'T END UNTIL HIS ENEMIES ARE ALL DEFEATED.
SO WE JOIN HIM.
QUEEN ARCTORIUS, YOU FOLLOWED US!
THIS DOESN'T NEED TO BE YOUR FIGHT, YOUR MAJESTY.
WE ARE OF THE TEN REALMS. IF THE REALMS FALL, STALLIONS, MARES, AND FOALS WILL BE ENSLAVED.
YOU FIGHT FOR YOUR KIN. I FIGHT FOR MINE.
LET US FIGHT TOGETHER, NOBLE JESTER WARRIOR.

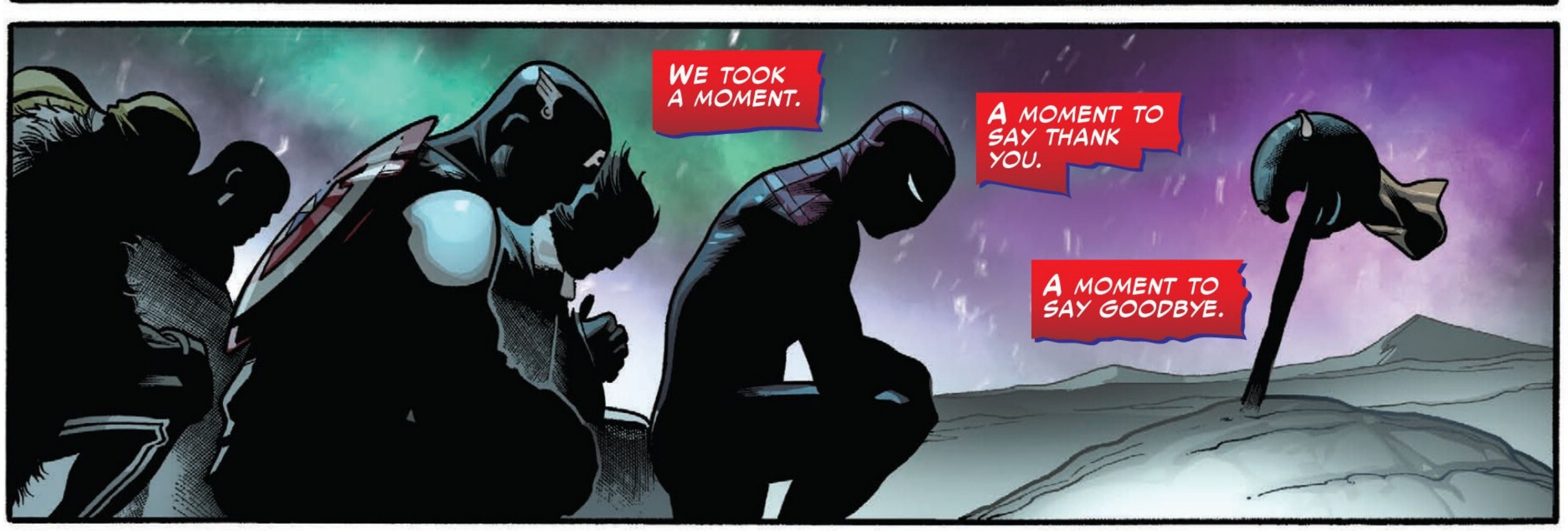
And fight we did.
There was smiting.
So much smiting.
Iron Fist punched a giant so hard it exploded.
KBOOOOM
It was... messy.
And Logan...
HRAAARGH!!!

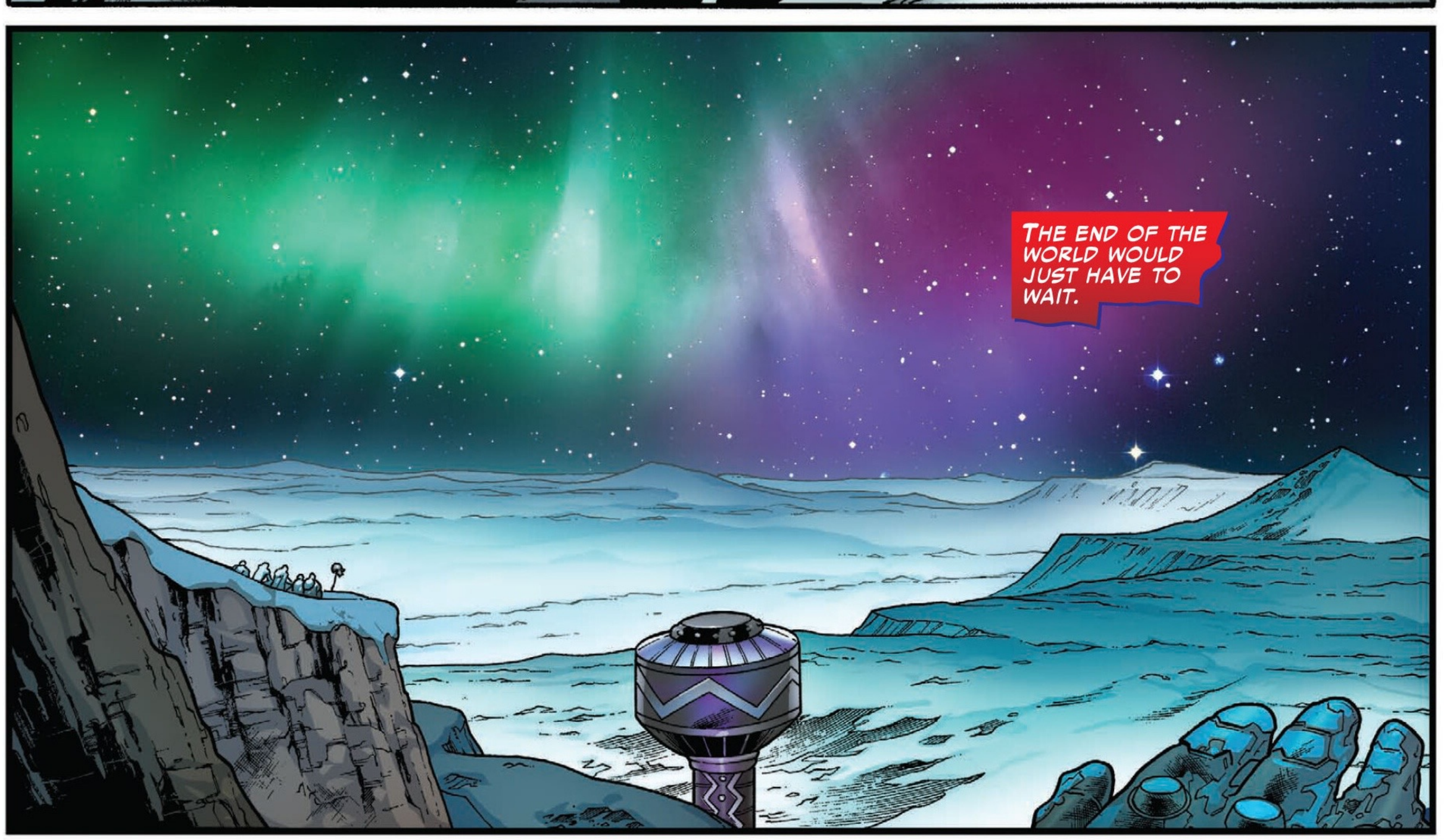
...DEATH HASN'T CHANGED HIM.
IT'S LIKE THE OLD SAYIN' GOES.
THE BIGGER THEY ARE, THE EASIER IT IS TO GET INTO THEIR SKULLS AND GO TO WORK ON THEIR BRAINS.
YOU AN' I HAVE HEARD VERY DIFFERENT OLD SAYINGS...
WE FOUGHT FOR HOURS. MAYBE DAYS.
WE WERE HIT.
HNF!
CRNC.
AND WE HIT BACK.
COME ON!!!

There were times...
...I honestly didn't think I'd make it back to you, MJ.
It was too much.
I saw too much.
AARGHHHHH!!
LOGAN!
I saw the unthinkable...
...I saw Captain America fall and not get back up again.
But, eventually, there was no fight left.
And Thor was free. Free from Jotunheim. And free from his viking tantrum.
On your feet, Captain.
And Arctorius...

...WELL, SHE WAS A GOOD HORSE.
THE HELMET! FIND THE DAMN HELMET!!!
NEIIGH...
HERE, KID.
YOU DON'T KNOW...THE WORDS. DON'T BURY ME HERE. DON'T LET ME FREEZE... IN THE COLD GROUND. WE BELONG IN THE AIR.
TAKE ME... TAKE ME HOME WITH YOU, NOBLE JESTER WARRIOR...
SHE FOUGHT SO WELL.
I'M SORRY, SON.

AVENGERS MOUNTAIN.
SHE ASKED TO BE BURIED IN EARTH'S SKY.
SO HER SOUL COULD SOAR IN MIDGARD'S CLOUDS.


WE TOOK A MOMENT.
A MOMENT TO SAY THANK YOU.
A MOMENT TO SAY GOODBYE.


THE END OF THE WORLD WOULD JUST HAVE TO WAIT.

WAR OF THE REALMS STRIKEFORCE:

The War Avengers

BANG
I SWEAR TO GOD--
BANG
--IF YOU MONSTERS--
BANG
--RUIN SHARK WEEK--
BANG
--FOR ME...
RARGH!
LOOK, YOU DO YOU.
BUT NOBODY LIKES SOMETHING THAT CAN TAKE SIX BULLETS STRAIGHT TO THE SKULL--
--AND NOT DIE.
THAT'S SPEAKING FROM PERSONAL EXPERIENCE.

ALL RIGHT ALREADY!
I LOSE! YOU WIN!
JUST STOP CHASING MEEEEE!
OH, WOULD YOU LOOK AT THAT...IT'S THE PACIFIC OCEAN!
ALSO KNOWN AS A BIG BUNCH OF FIRE-SNUFFING WATER.
THE SCREAMING AND CRYING I DID BEFORE? THAT WAS ACTING.
IT'S A LITTLE HOBBY OF MINE.

SPLOOOSH
GOOD OLD-FASHIONED HZ--
AND THAT, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, IS HOW YOU DISPENSE WITH A SCHOOL OF LAVA-FUELED NIGHTMARE FISH.
FZZZ

IT'S SURPRISINGLY DARK INSIDE A FIRE SHARK.
SLICE
EXPLAIN YOURSELF.
WELL, I'M DEADPOOL-- I'M SORT OF LIKE SPIDER-MAN WITH GUNS.
CROSSED WITH THE MORAL AMBIGUITY OF EARLY WOLVERINE.
AND I HAVE KIND OF A FREDDY KRUEGER THING GOING ON UNDER THE MASK.
WHAT WERE YOU DOING IN THE GULLET OF THIS UNGODLY BEAST?!
OH, THAT.
ONE OF THOR'S ELF VILLAINS DESTROYED ASGARD AND CONQUERED THAT BIG WEIRD WORLD TREE...YOU KNOW, WITH ALL THE REALMS?
AND SO NOW A BUNCH OF D&D WEIRDOS HAVE TURNED THE EARTH INTO AN EPISODE OF GAME OF THRONES.
ONE OF THE LATE-SEASON MIND-BLOWERS, LOTS OF CGI.
AND YOU SAW FIT TO BRING THOR'S ASININE WAR TO ATLANTIS? TO MY HOME?
I MEAN, THAT'S NOT WHAT I WAS TRYING TO DO. WATER IS USUALLY A MUCH MORE EFFECTIVE FIREFIGHTING TOOL.
HEY, LOOK...

"IT'S CAPTAIN MARVEL!

"AND, UH...

"...ASGARD LADY?"

SOOO...THIS FISHTANK IS DEFINITELY *FIRE-RESISTANT,* RIGHT?

YES.

PERMISSION TO ENTER, YOUR HIGHNESS.

PERMISSION *DENIED.*

THAT WAS A *COURTESY,* NOT A QUESTION.

SPARE ME.

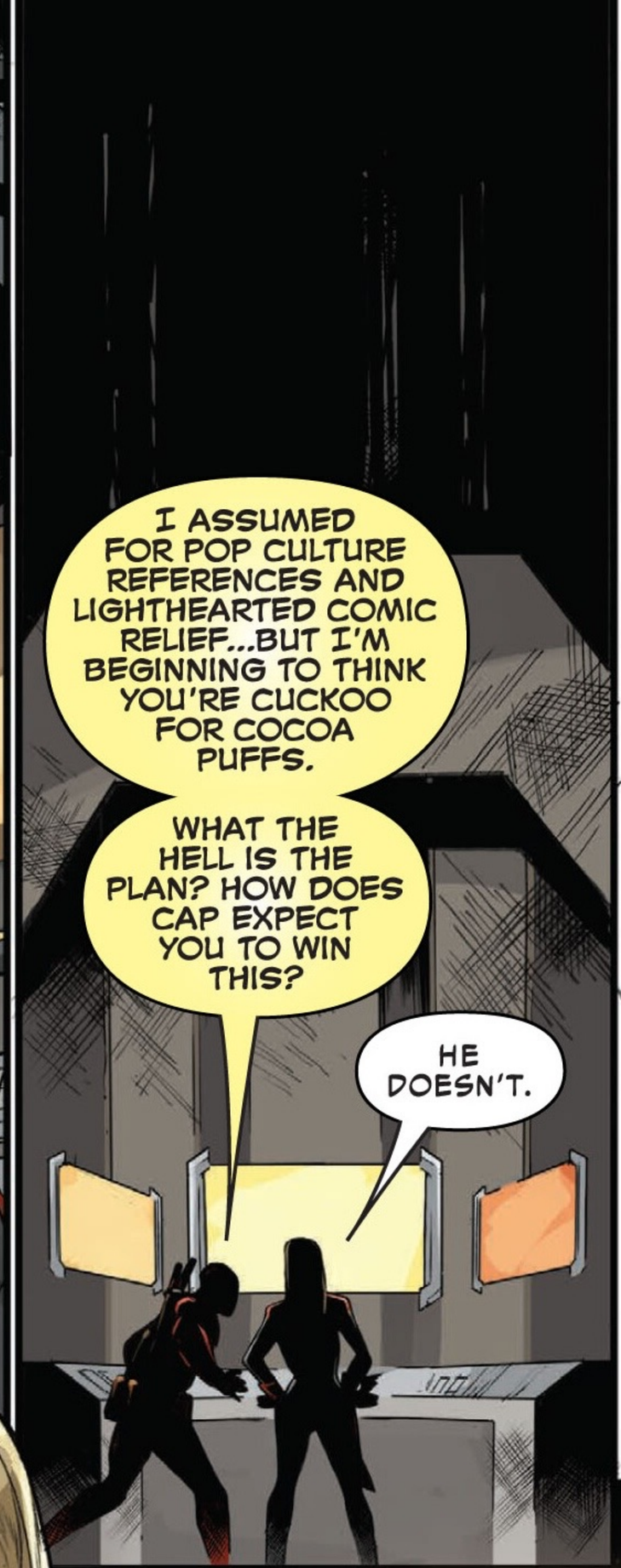
HAPPILY. I CAME TO PROPOSE A TEMPORARY TRUCE, *NAMOR.* AS YOU CAN SEE, WE SHARE A COMMON ENEMY.

THAT JABBERING MORON DRAGS YOUR PROBLEM DOWN TO MY DOORSTEP AND YOU THINK YOU CAN LEVERAGE THAT INTO AN ALLIANCE?
IT IS, BUT I'VE GOTTEN RATHER USED TO IT.
I THINK MEGALOMANIACAL FAIRY-TALE CREATURES RULING THE SURFACE WORLD WOULD BE... INCONVENIENT FOR YOU.
IT WAS YOU WHO BROUGHT THE FIRE-BREATHING SHARKS OF MUSPELHEIM UNDERSEA?
SEEMED LIKE A GOOD IDEA AT THE TIME, ASGARD LADY.
IT'S SIF. AND GOOD WORK. LOWERING THE BODY TEMPERATURE MAKES THEM MUCH EASIER TO KILL.
YOU HEAR THAT, SWIMFAN? ASGARD LADY SAYS IT WAS A GREAT IDEA!
YOUR ARROGANCE IS REALLY SOMETHING.
LIKEWISE.
FINE. FEND FOR YOURSELF.
I ALWAYS DO.
HEY, ARE YOU GUYS PUTTING TOGETHER ANOTHER TEAM? CUZ I'M TOTES DOWN TO HELP SAVE THE WORLD.
AYE.
YOU'RE IN.
COOL. COOL. COOL. CAN ONE OF YOU SORT OF DRAG ME BACK TO THE SURFACE?
I'VE BEEN TOLD I'M NOT A STRONG SWIMMER.

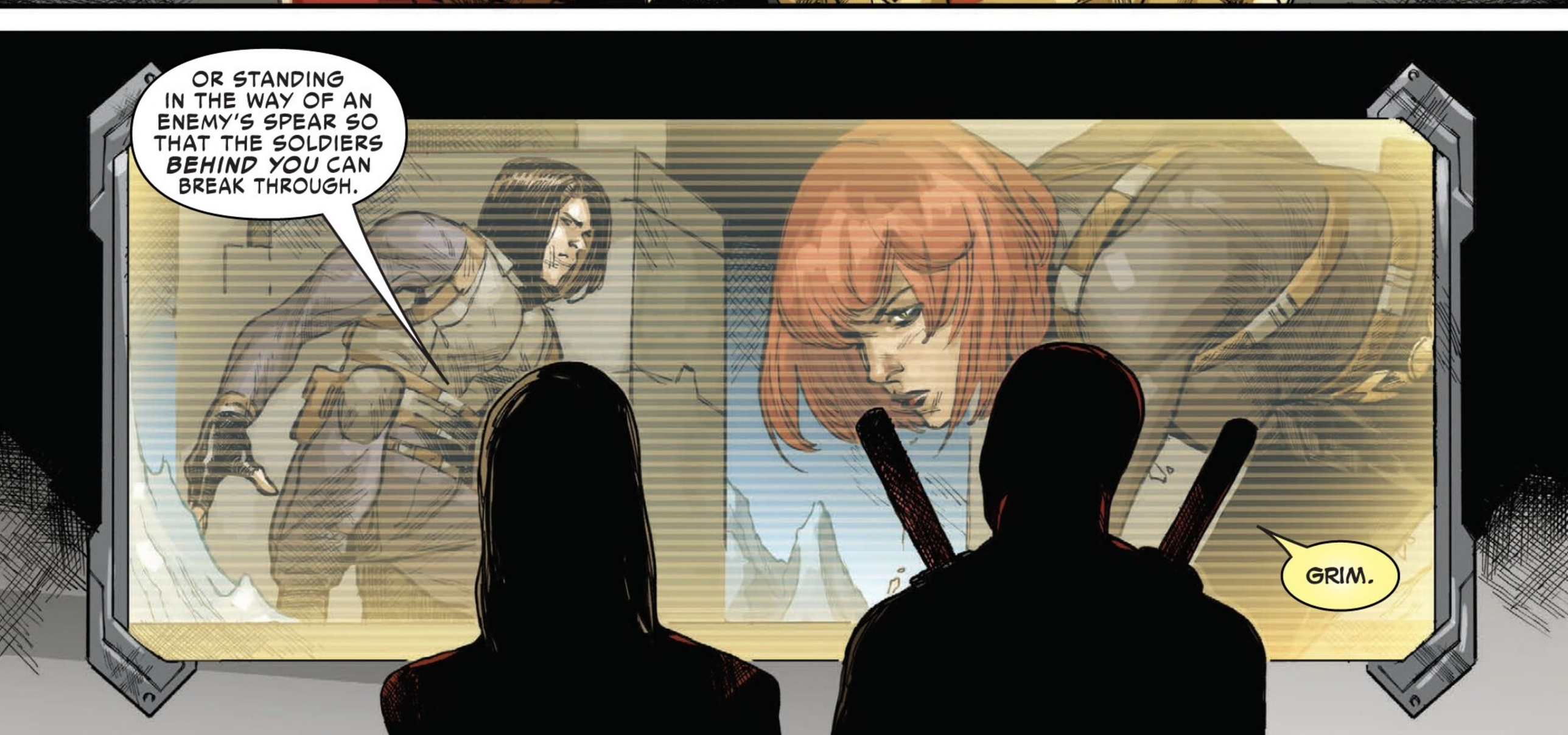
AVENGERS MOUNTAIN.
WHILE TWO OTHER STRIKE TEAMS ARE ON MISSIONS IN OTHER REALMS, CAPTAIN AMERICA LEFT ME IN CHARGE OF PROTECTING THE PEOPLE OF EARTH.
HOW'S THAT GOING?
WELL, NOBODY'S DEAD YET...
...SO A LITTLE BETTER THAN EXPECTED.
YOUR OPTIMISM IS POSITIVELY CONTAGIOUS.
LEAVE CAROL BE, DEADPOOL.
OOH! IS THIS YOUR WAR TABLE? I LOVE THESE!
WHO ARE THE LITTLE HORSEYS SUPPOSED TO BE?
IT'S JUST A BOARD GAME.
CALMS THE NERVES BETWEEN BATTLES.
WAIT...
...WHAT KIND OF HULK IS *THIS?* HOW DID Y'ALL GET YOUR OWN HULK?!
NAME'S *WEAPON H.* I'M A SOLDIER. WHEN CAPTAIN AMERICA ASKS, I ANSWER.
GEEZ. DOESN'T THAT GUY GET TIRED OF TELLING PEOPLE HOW HIGH?

I KINDA DOUBT IT.
O-KAY.

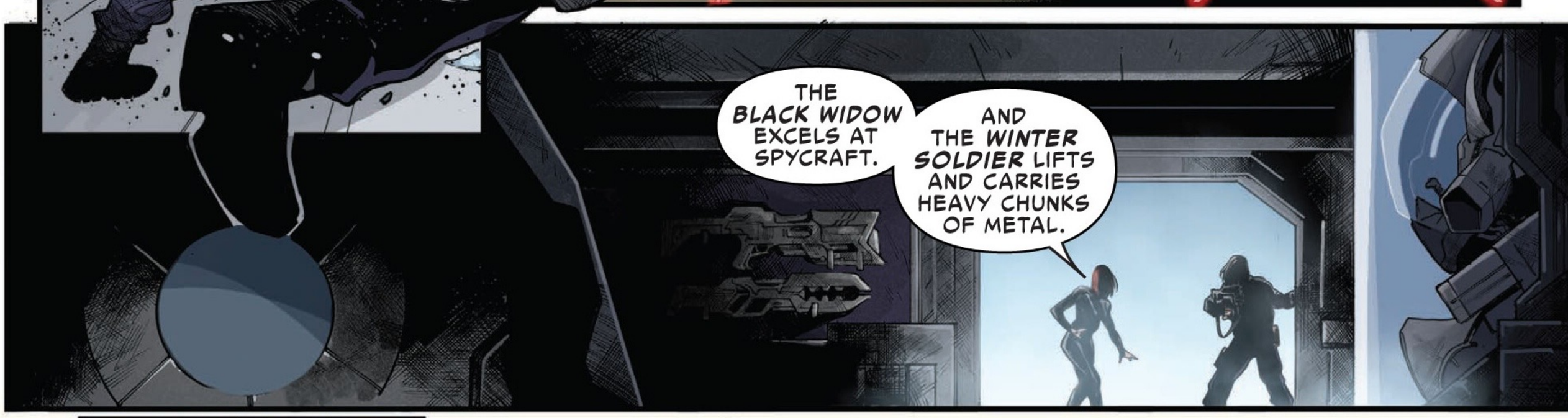
I'M GETTING THE WHOLE "MILITARY THEME" GOING ON HERE, BUT THAT'S NOT THE SOLDIER VENOM.
IT'S THE CREEPY TENTACLE TONGUE '90s ONE!
ALL HANDS ON DECK, WADE. WHY DO YOU THINK I BROUGHT YOU HERE?

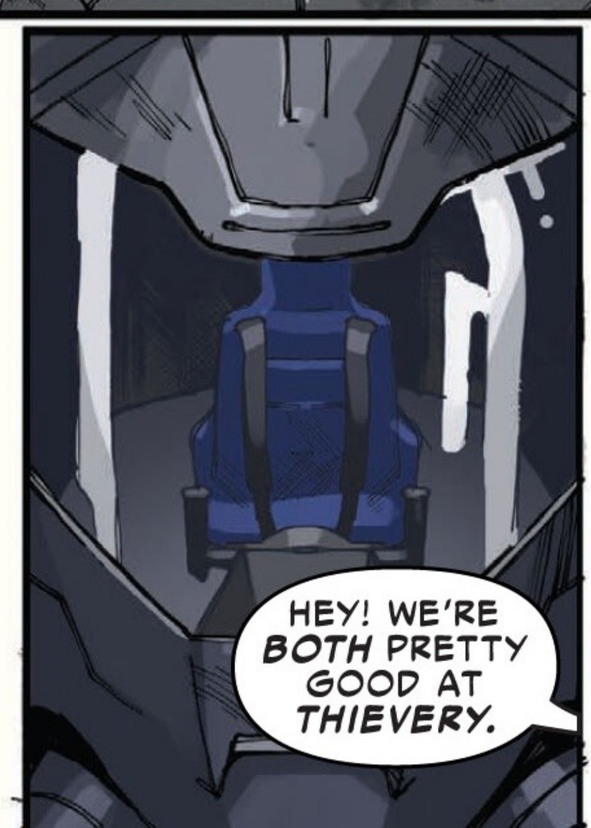

I ASSUMED FOR POP CULTURE REFERENCES AND LIGHTHEARTED COMIC RELIEF...BUT I'M BEGINNING TO THINK YOU'RE CUCKOO FOR COCOA PUFFS.
WHAT THE HELL IS THE PLAN? HOW DOES CAP EXPECT YOU TO WIN THIS?
HE DOESN'T.

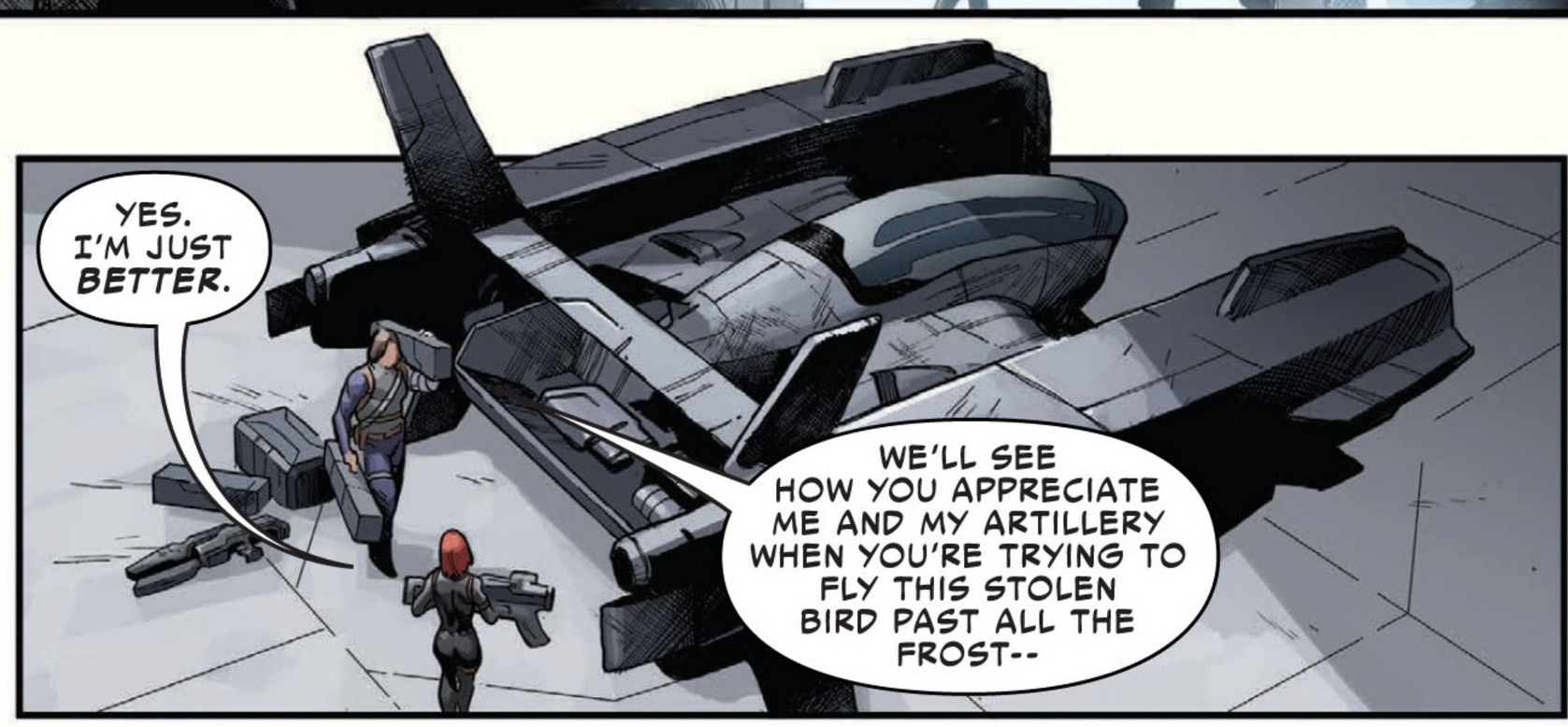
COME AGAIN?
THIS IS WAR, WADE. NOT SOME SUPER HERO BATTLE. OURS ISN'T THE TEAM THAT'S GOING TO WIN THIS. NOT FROM HERE.
BUT A SOLDIER'S JOB ISN'T ALWAYS ABOUT WINNING.
SOMETIMES IT'S ABOUT LOSING SLOWLY. HOLDING THE LINE.


OR STANDING IN THE WAY OF AN ENEMY'S SPEAR SO THAT THE SOLDIERS BEHIND YOU CAN BREAK THROUGH.
GRIM.

STANE INTERNATIONAL WEAPONS FACILITY.
SONORAN DESERT, ARIZONA.







KRGOSH
--GIANTS!
I'M TELLING YA, I GOT THE EARS OF A HOARFROST HOUND!
AND SOMETHING'S SKITTERING AROUND DOWN THERE!
WHAT'D I SAY? LOOK!
COUPLE OF HUMANS!
C'MERE, YOU!
NO.
WHAM
NATASHA! FIRE IN THE HOLE!
BOOP BOOP BOOP

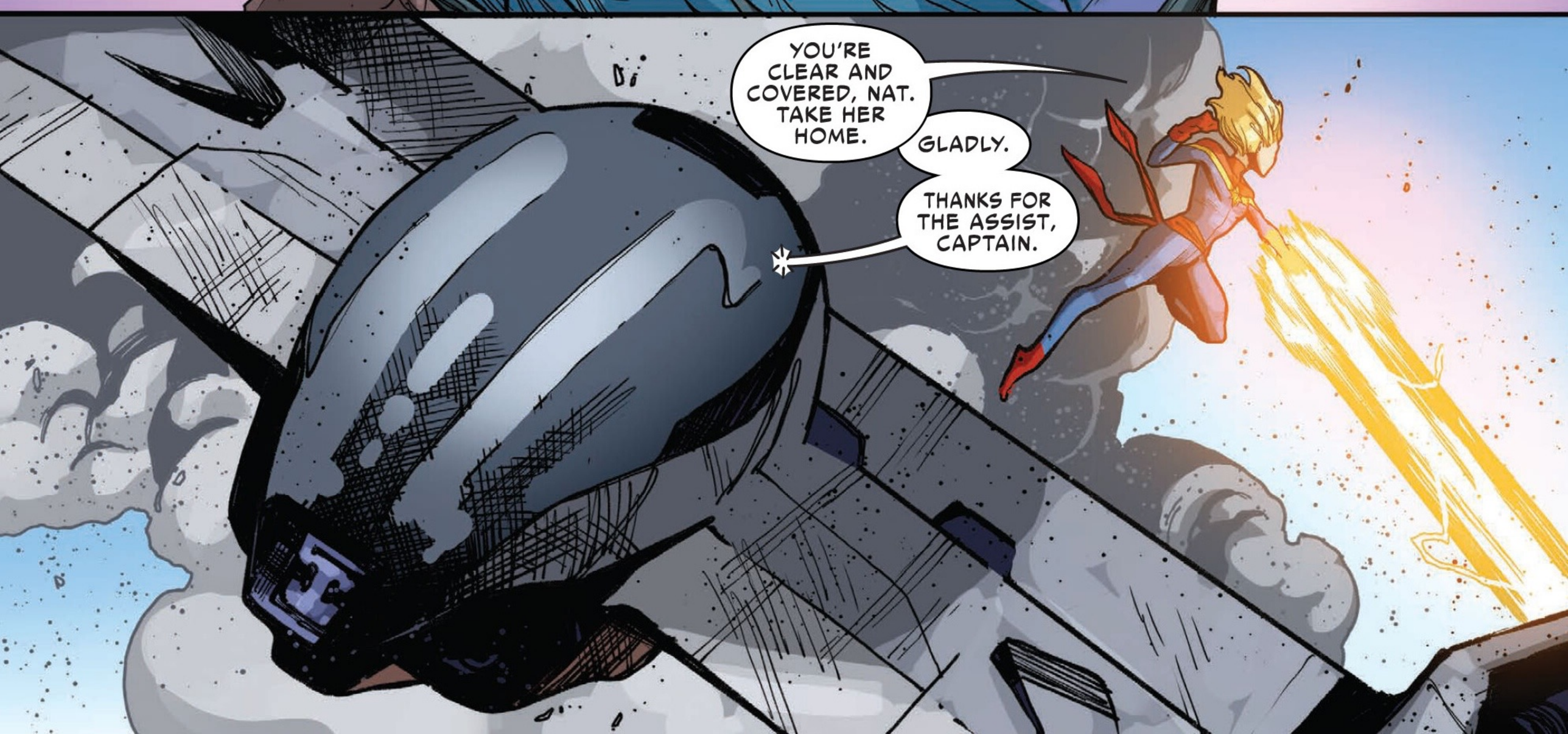
OUCH!
FILTHY LITTLE RATS BLEW OFF MY HAND!
FOOOM
SO MUCH FOR SPYCRAFT.
YOU GOT THIS, NATASHA.
BANK LEFT! BANK LEFT! BANK LEFT!
HEY!
I'M TRYING! I'M TRYING! I'M TRYING!
GOTCHA.
CRAP.

BACK OFF, FROSTY!
YOW! STUPID HUMANS!
QUIT POKING ME!
STILL WEIRDS ME OUT THAT YOU KNOW HOW TO FLY A QUINJET, SIF.
I HAVE FLOWN A RANDY PEGASUS INTO BATTLE AGAINST AN ARMY OF CENTAURS.
THIS IRON BOX IS CHILD'S PLAY.
MORE FROST GIANTS INCOMING.
WHAT SHOULD WE HIT THEM WITH?
JUST OPEN THE DOOR--
--WE'LL DO THE HITTING.

WE'RE UNDER ATTACK!
SNIKT
DAMN RIGHT.
AGH!
KRNNK
SHANG
SQUASH YOU!
LIKE A BUG!
HRRK!
SMOOSH
THERE.
SPLATTERED.

NOT QUITE.
WHAT DARK SORCERY IS--

SQUIT
AGH!


YOU'RE CLEAR AND COVERED, NAT. TAKE HER HOME.
GLADLY.
THANKS FOR THE ASSIST, CAPTAIN.

STOCKHOLM, SWEDEN. LATER.
YOU SHOULD UPLOAD A SELFIE OF THIS, NATASHA. THE WORLD NEEDS TO SEE.
THE WORLD STILL THINKS I'M DEAD.
ALL THE BETTER. SHOW 'EM YOU FIGHTING EVIL ELVES IN ONE OF THESE STANE ROBOT SUITS... THEY'LL MAKE THAT BLACK WIDOW MOVIE FOR SURE!
FEEL THE STING OF ASGARDIAN STEEL, VILLAINS!
TOOOOM
WHAT SHE SAID!
STOOOOOOOP!
KLOMP KLOMP KLOMP
NOT A CHANCE.
KILL THE AVENGERS!

DISMEMBER THE MURDER CLOWN!
MURDER CLOWN? I MEAN, I GUESS THAT TRACKS, BUT IT'S NOT VERY--
WAIT, LEAVE MY ROBOT SUIT ALONE!

YOU GUYS WANT IT SO BAD?
THEN TAKE IT!
CLK

THIS RIGHT HERE--THIS COULD BE THE POSTER!
SHUT UP.
BOOOM

GET!
OFF!
NEVER!

BUT I INSIST.
BOOOOSH

IF ROUGH IS WHAT YOU WANT, MAMMOTH...
KGSSH

SLICE
THEN ROUGH!
YOU SHALL HAVE!

WELL, *THIS* WAS AN ABYSMAL FAILURE.

AGREED.

WE WERE NEVER GOING TO DEFEAT THE DARK ELF HORDE. NOT HERE. NOT TODAY. WE CAME TO TAKE A LOOK. TO GET THE *MEASURE* OF THEM.

MISSION ACCOMPLISHED.

OKAY... SO WHAT DID WE FIND?

KATOOOM

WAY MORE ELVES THAN I ANTICIPATED.

KILL THE AVENGERS!

ON THE BRIGHT SIDE, WE'LL HAVE ALL THE COOKIES AND RICE CEREAL WE CAN EAT.

CAPTAIN BRITAIN, WE NEED--

--AN *EXIT*.

YOU RANG?

YES. THANK YOU.

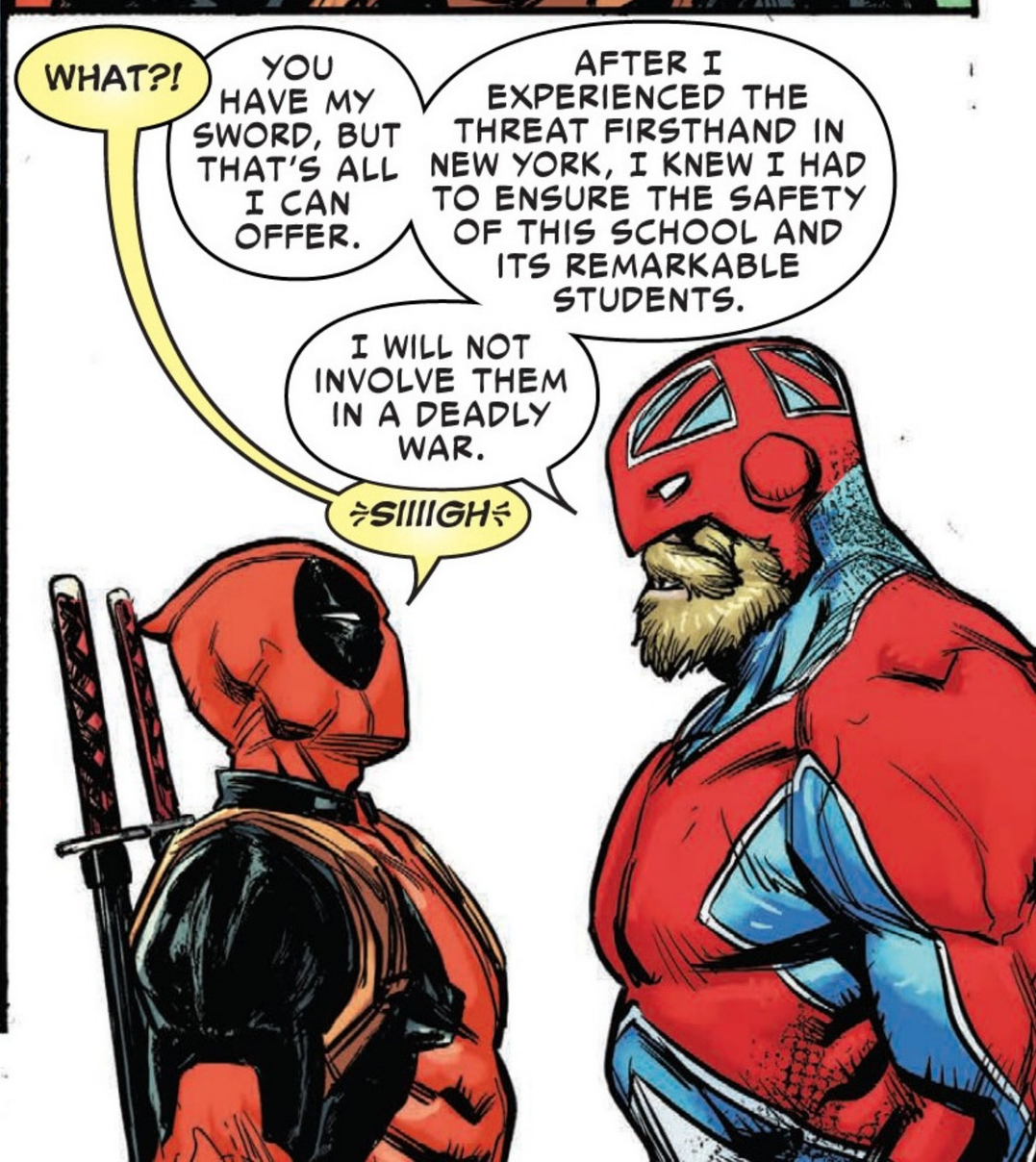
THE PLEASURE IS MINE.

I OFFER YOU SANCTUARY, WAR AVENGERS.
C'MON, HARRY.
JUST RUN STRAIGHT THROUGH THE BRICKS.

IT WON'T HURT. I PROMISE.

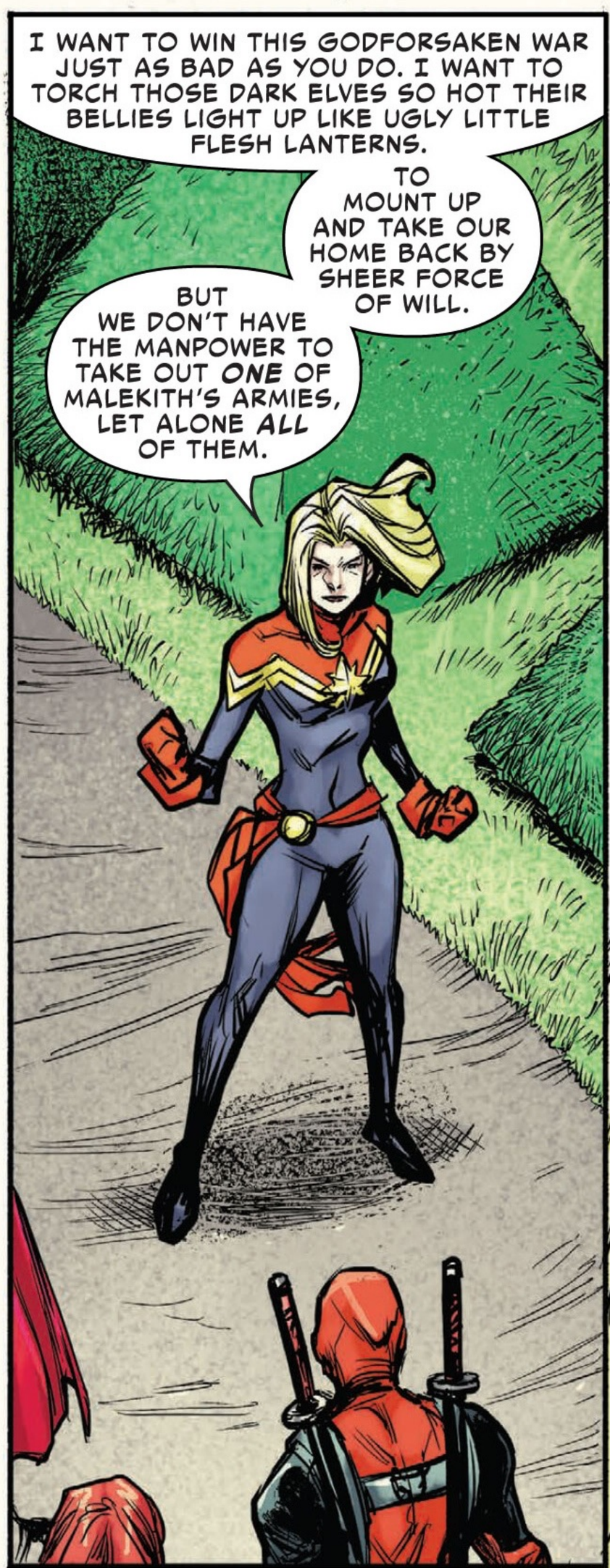
WELCOME TO BRADDOCK ACADEMY.
THE PROVING GROUND OF KINGS AND WIZARDS ALIKE.
WAIT WAIT WAIT WAIT WAIT.

IF YOU HAD "MAGIC PORTAL ONTO BUFF DUMBLEDORE'S DOORSTEP" THIS WHOLE TIME, WHY DID I SPEND HALF OF THE LAST WEEK BUTT-NUMB IN A QUINJET?
BRIAN OWED ME A FAVOR.
THIS IS A ONE-TIME DEAL, DEADPOOL.

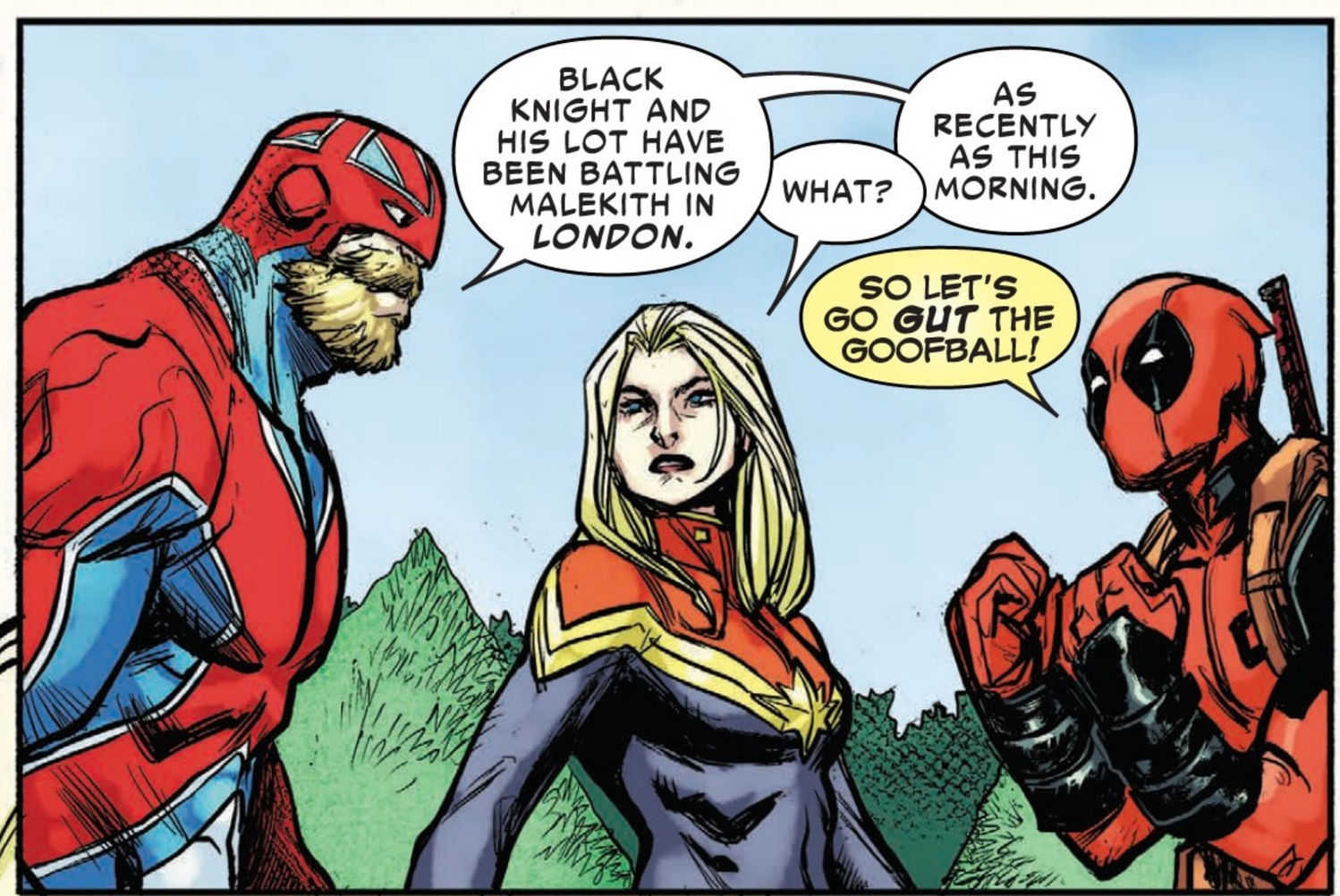

WHAT?!
YOU HAVE MY SWORD, BUT THAT'S ALL I CAN OFFER.
AFTER I EXPERIENCED THE THREAT FIRSTHAND IN NEW YORK, I KNEW I HAD TO ENSURE THE SAFETY OF THIS SCHOOL AND ITS REMARKABLE STUDENTS.
I WILL NOT INVOLVE THEM IN A DEADLY WAR.
SIIIIGH

EVERYBODY SPENDS A LOT OF TIME TELLING OL' MURDER CLOWN ALL THE THINGS THIS SUPER-TEAM CAN'T DO.
MURDER CLOWN?
I'VE DECIDED TO OWN IT.

WHAT WOULD YOU HAVE US DO, WADE?
I DUNNO, ANYTHING... EVERYTHING?
WIN ONE BATTLE. THEN ANOTHER ONE... AND SO ON.
HOW EXACTLY? WITH WHAT ARMY?


I WANT TO WIN THIS GODFORSAKEN WAR JUST AS BAD AS YOU DO. I WANT TO TORCH THOSE DARK ELVES SO HOT THEIR BELLIES LIGHT UP LIKE UGLY LITTLE FLESH LANTERNS.
TO MOUNT UP AND TAKE OUR HOME BACK BY SHEER FORCE OF WILL.
BUT WE DON'T HAVE THE MANPOWER TO TAKE OUT ONE OF MALEKITH'S ARMIES, LET ALONE ALL OF THEM.

SO UNLESS YOU HAPPEN TO KNOW WHERE MALEKITH HIMSELF HAS BEEN HIDING--
ACTUALLY...


BLACK KNIGHT AND HIS LOT HAVE BEEN BATTLING MALEKITH IN LONDON.
WHAT?
AS RECENTLY AS THIS MORNING.
SO LET'S GO GUT THE GOOFBALL!

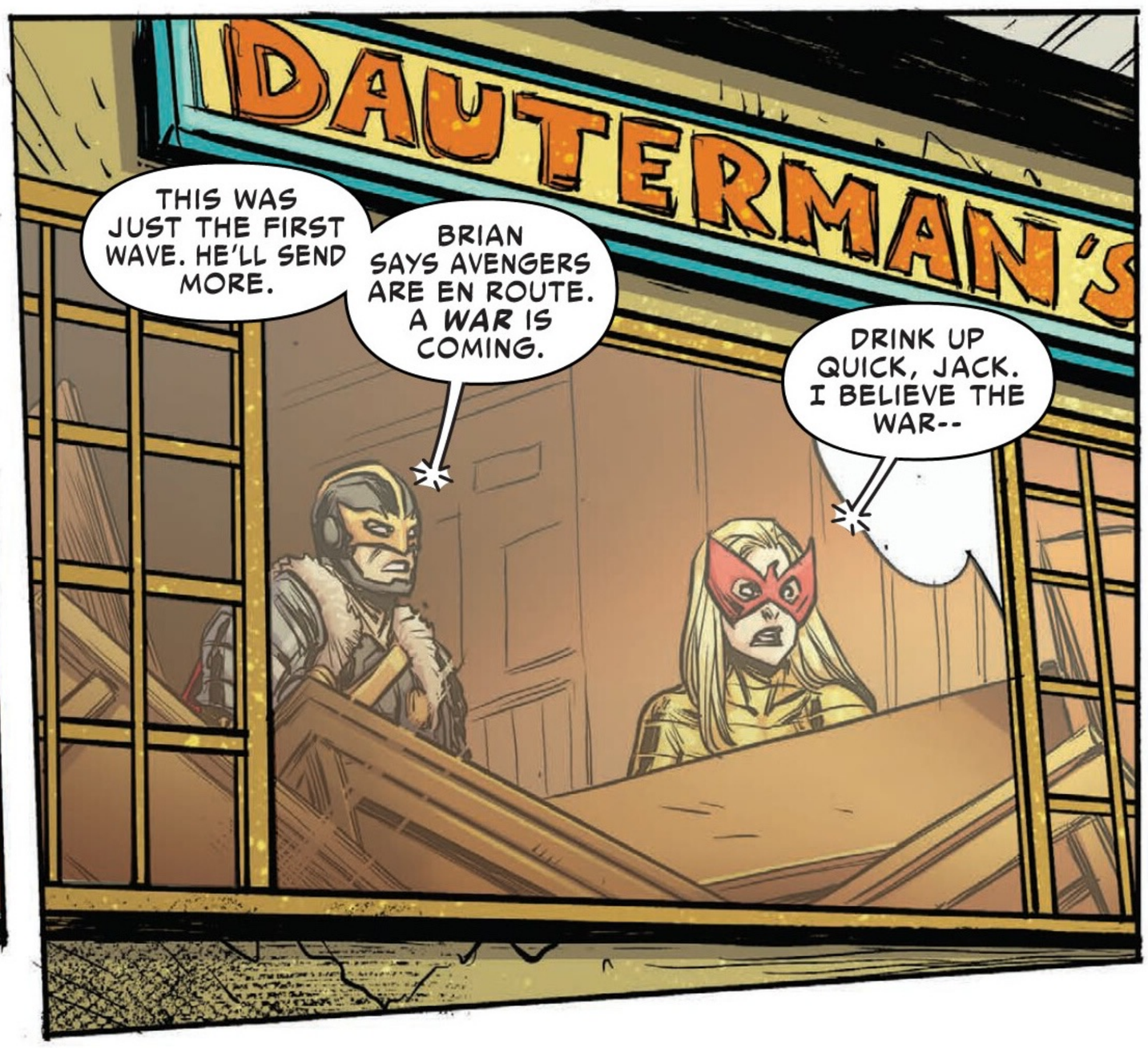
A SURGICAL STRIKE. CUT OFF THE HEAD OF THE KING AND...
GOOD GOD.
MAYBE WE CAN END THIS.

LONDON.

NAARRGGGLL!
THESE THINGS TASTE TERRIBLE.
TMI, SPITFIRE.
TMI.
UNION JACK, DO YOU THINK THAT WAS THE LAST OF THEM?
THNNK
DRINK

BANG
BANG
BELIEVE SO, BLACK KNIGHT.

CATCH A BREATH WHILE YOU CAN.
CATCH A PINT, MORE LIKE.
MALEKITH WON'T LEAVE US BE FOR LONG.


DAUTERMAN'S
THIS WAS JUST THE FIRST WAVE. HE'LL SEND MORE.
BRIAN SAYS AVENGERS ARE EN ROUTE. A WAR IS COMING.
DRINK UP QUICK, JACK. I BELIEVE THE WAR--

KA-BOOOOSH

--IS HERE!

WELL WHO DO WE HAVE HERE, ALL COZIED UP IN THE ALE HOUSE?

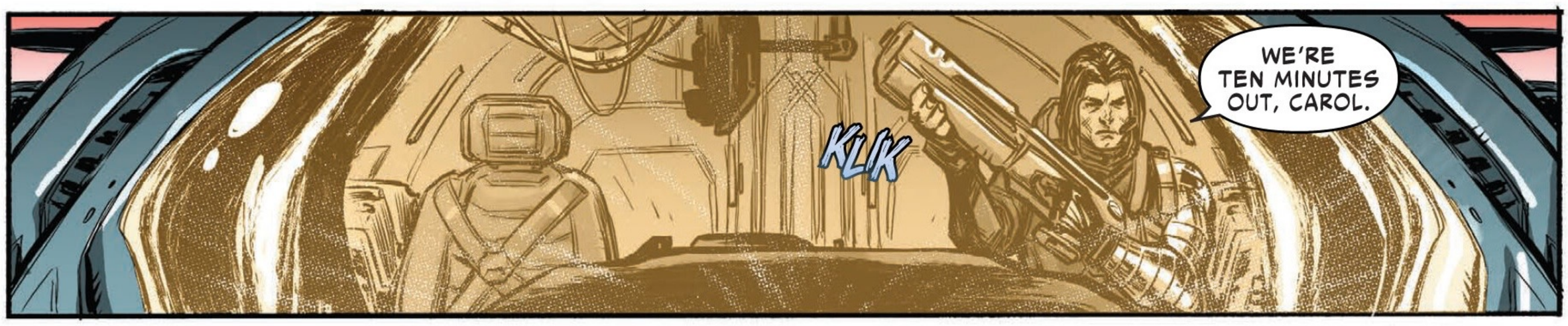
HARD TO BLAME YOU, I SUPPOSE. ONE LAST DRINK...

...BEFORE *THE END.*

BRITAIN WON'T FALL AS EASY AS YOU THINK, MALEKITH.

AND NEITHER WILL WE.

OPEN



MALEKITH CONQUERED NINE REALMS ON HIS WAY TO US.

THEN HE ACCOMPLISHED WHAT SKRULLS AND GODS AND MONSTERS HAVE ALWAYS FAILED TO DO.

HE DROPPED OUR WORLD TO ITS KNEES WITH THE MOST POWERFUL INVADING ARMY ANY OF US HAVE EVER SEEN.

BUT THERE'S A REASON HE CAME TO EARTH LAST.

THAT REASON IS *US*.

IT WON'T BE EASY. IT WON'T BE CLEAN.

I MUST SAY... THIS IS QUITE THE EXTRAORDINARY SWORD.
SO LOVINGLY CURSED. SO BEAUTIFULLY BLOOD-THIRSTING. I THANK YOU FOR BRINGING YOUR EBONY BLADE TO ME, SIR BLACK KNIGHT.
IT'S ONLY FITTING THAT I SHOULD WIELD SUCH A TIME-HONORED WEAPON, SEEING AS I'M NOW THE NEW RULER OF THIS LAND.
WOOOOSH
CAN SOMEONE PLEASE DEAL WITH THAT.
MALEKITH!
-SIGH-
I'M RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF A CONVERSATION.

GET READY TO EAT THAT SWORD, YOU BASTARD.
OH MY. WHAT HAVE WE HERE?

THIS REALM IS JUST FILLED WITH TREASURES.

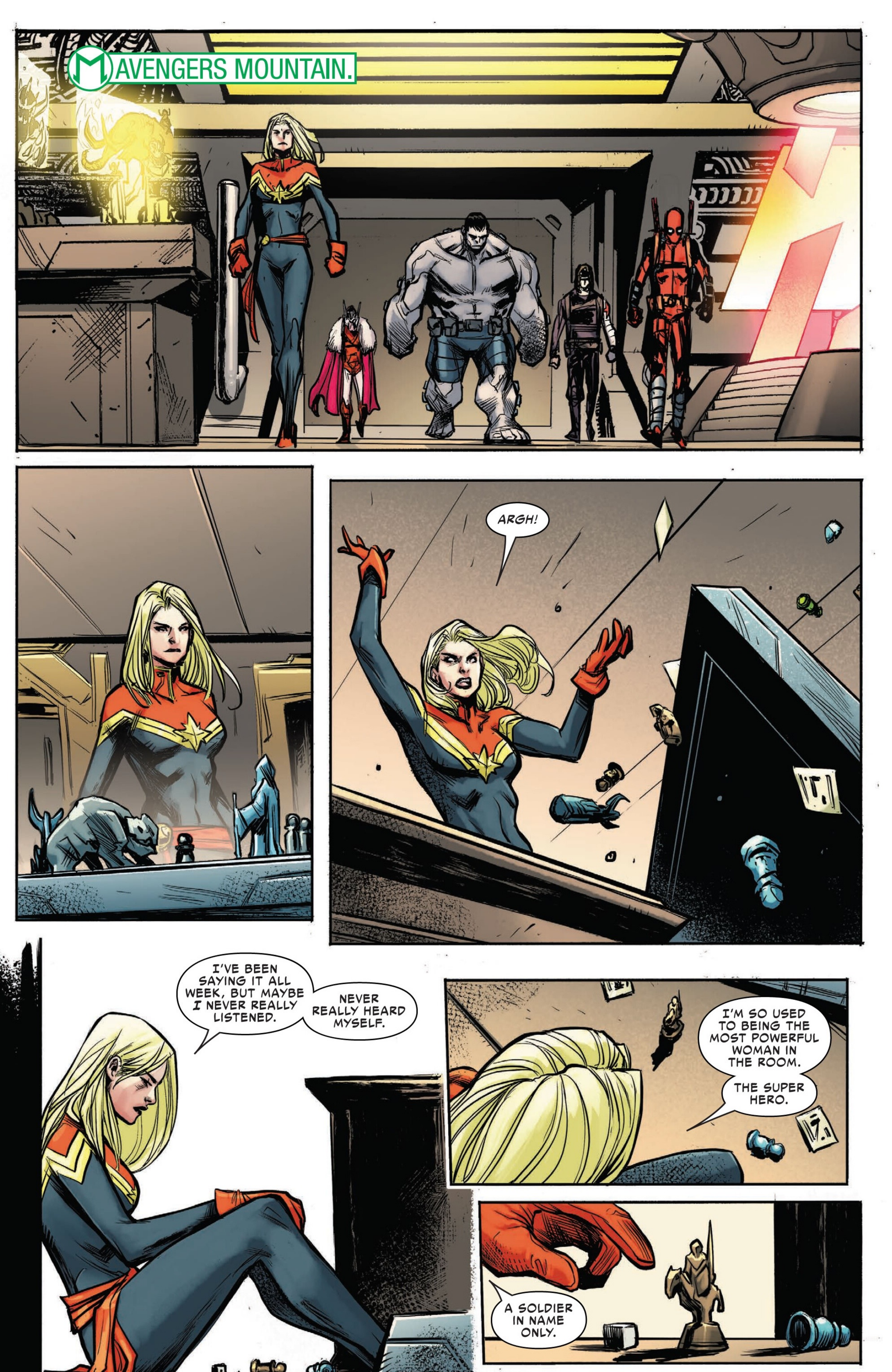
DIE, CREEP!
I'D REALLY RATHER NOT.

BANG BANG BANG
I SUPPOSE YOU'RE INTENTIONALLY MISSING?
HE'S TOO QUICK!

A TENACIOUS BUNCH...IF NOTHING ELSE.

LOOKS LIKE IT'S MY TURN, REN FAIRE.
AREN'T YOU ANOTHER PRETTY SIGHT?
WAIT'LL YA SEE WHAT WE LOOK LIKE ON THE INSIDE!
INDEED.
A FASCINATING STORY YOUR SYMBIOTE TELLS ME. ABOUT YOUR GOD KNULL AND HIS NECROSWORD.
VENOM! NO!
ONE CAN NEVER HAVE TOO MANY WEAPONS.

GHARRRGHH!!
ZOOM
NO...
NO. NO. NO. NO. NO.
WHERE THE HELL DID THEY GO?*
*FIND OUT IN WAR OF THE REALMS #4. --WIL


AVENGERS MOUNTAIN.
ARGH!
I'VE BEEN SAYING IT ALL WEEK, BUT MAYBE I NEVER REALLY LISTENED.
NEVER REALLY HEARD MYSELF.
I'M SO USED TO BEING THE MOST POWERFUL WOMAN IN THE ROOM.
THE SUPER HERO.
A SOLDIER IN NAME ONLY.

"WHETHER WE LIKE IT OR NOT, WAR IS A BIG DUMB GAME.

"PULLED OUT OF ITS BOX EVERY ONCE IN A WHILE.

DUSTED AND OFF AND PLAYED.

FOR LAND.

FOR HONOR.

FOR SPITE.

"FOR THE FATE OF THE WHOLE DAMN *WORLD.*

"SOMETIMES WE GET TO BE THE PLAYERS.

"THE MIGHTY GENERALS ROLLING THOSE DICE.

OTHER TIMES, THOUGH?

WE'RE JUST LITTLE PLASTIC GAME *PIECES.*

"SOLDIERS.

"SPREAD ACROSS THE BOARD JUST LIKE ALL THE REST.

"IT WAS PURE HUBRIS TO BELIEVE WE COULD WIN THIS WAR ALL BY OURSELVES.

"BUT WE CAN DAMN SURE PLAY OUR PART.

UNTIL THE NEXT ROLL OF THE DICE.

"OR AT LEAST UNTIL A HAND DROPS DOWN...

"...AND PLUCKS US FROM THE BOARD.

WE CAN STAND. WE CAN *FIGHT*.

WAR AVENGERS ASSEMBLE!

TONY STARK, IRON MAN #12

Thou Covetous Wyrm

Jotunheim.
LAND OF THE FROST GIANTS. A REALM WITHOUT PITY.
A MIST APPEARS.
PAST THE RAVINE OF DEAD MOTHERS AND BLOOD ICICLE CANYON, THE MIST WOULD HAVE BEEN WITNESS TO VISTAS NO CREATURE OF ITS SPECIES HAD EVER BEHELD.
HAD IT BUT LOOKED.
BUT ANOTHER PURPOSE DID IT CARRY IN THE COLD VAPOR THAT PASSED FOR ITS HEART.
AND IT CAME NOT AS A TOURIST--
--BUT AS THE NEW LANDLORD.
OH, ILLUMINATED APOCALYPSE, THINE INCANDESCENT THUNDER--
I SMELL ELF.
NOW WHY, AFTER CENTURIES OF SLUMBER, DO I SMELL--
NFF NFF
--DARK ELF?
IT IS MALEKITH, SADURANG. CONQUEROR OF NINE REALMS.
HMM.
IF I REMEMBER MORTAL MANNERS, SHOULD YOU NOT BE KNEELING?
...
PERHAPS LATER.
I'VE COME TO BEG OF YOU A BOON. LOW RISK, HIGH REWARD.

THAT'S WHAT A COUSIN OF MINE THOUGHT.
KILLED BY A LUCKY SHOT FROM A JANITOR.
ONLY ONE REALM REMAINS IN OUR PATH. EARTH.
AND ONE DANGEROUS... LET'S CALL HIM AN IMPEDIMENT.
IF THIS BOIL IS SO AGGRESSIVELY INSIGNIFICANT, WHY DON'T YOU LANCE IT, ELF?
AH, WELL, YOU SEE, THAT'S THE CRUX OF IT, ISN'T IT?
HE'S CLAD IN IRON.
AND IRON IS YOUR WEAKNESS, LITTLE THING, IS IT NOT?
CAREFUL, WYRM. I RECALL WHEN YOU WERE MERELY AN APPRENTICE.
APPRENTICE?
I WAS THE FAVORED STUDENT OF DORMAMMU THE ETERNAL!
HE HAS GOLD. MOUNTAINS OF IT.
WHAT?
GOLD, YOU SAY?
THEY EVEN CALL HIM THE "GOLDEN AVENGER."
SO HE'S A KNIGHT AND A KING. AND A COVETOUS ONE.
VERY WELL. I'LL SEE HIM CRISPED. BUT, MALEKITH--
YES, MY NEW COMRADE?

SHOULD YOU DECIDE TO BETRAY ME...?
ALWAYS REMEMBER...
...THAT AGAMOTTO USED TO HAVE TWO EYES.
DO YOU KNOW, I BELIEVE I'M SALIVATING FOR THE FIRST TIME IN A CENTURY.
YES, THERE'S A DISTINCT CRAVING FOR THE FLESH OF A KING.
DARK ELF, IT TURNS OUT I AM PECKISH AFTER ALL.
WHERE IS THIS GOLDEN KNIGHT YOU SPEAK OF?

STARK UNLIMITED, GREENWICH VILLAGE.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT I'M LOOKING AT, TONY.
WHAT IS THIS THING?
THE FORGE.
OH. YEAH. WELL, THIS IS A...HUH.
LET'S CALL IT A HULKBOT.
GAMMADROID?
I'M TRYING TO THINK OF AN ANSWER THAT WON'T GET ME PUMMELED NEXT TIME I SEE THE REAL THING.
NO, NO, NO.
I MEAN, WHAT'S ITS PURPOSE? WHAT'S ITS REASON TO EXIST?
ASKING THE BIG QUESTIONS TODAY, AREN'T WE, PAL?
FORGET THE GREEN GUY. LOOK AT ITS CROWN.
PRIMARY TESTING COMMENCING, MR. STARK.
YOU AND YOUR COMPANION ARE WITHIN THE DANGER PROXIMITY, AND IT IS HIGHLY SUGGESTED THAT YOU--
I HAVE FAITH IN YOU, SMITH-1.

YOUR NEW BOTS ARE CALLED SMITHS? CLEVER.

AFTER A *BLACKSMITH*, RIGHT?

AFTER THE *BAND*, ACTUALLY.

HATE TO SAY IT, BUT THEY WERE A LITTLE *GRIM* COMING OUT OF R&D.

WE SWITCHED FROM *GLOOM* TO *GLAM* AS BEST WE COULD.

TONY, I STILL DON'T--

ALL RIGHT, LOOK. THERE'S THIS GUY, BRUCE BANNER. SMART GUY. *DECENT.*

AND HE'S GOT...THIS *THING* ON HIS BACK THAT MAKES HIM *NOT* SO SMART, AND A HELL OF A LOT *LESS* DECENT.

ON SOME LEVEL HE KNOWS EVERYTHING HE DOES AS THE BIG GUY...

...IT'S HIS FAULT. HIS FRIENDS SAY IT ISN'T, THEY TELL HIM ALL THE TIME.

HE KNOWS IT *IS.*

AND HE BREAKS THINGS. BUILDINGS. ARMIES. *PEOPLE.*

AND THEN...

WHAT, TONY? THEN *WHAT?*

THEN IT'S TOO LATE FOR APOLOGIES.

SO I HAD THIS IDEA.

SEE, BANNER WEARS THIS. THIS IS A PROTOTYPE. THE REAL ONE WILL BE--

NEVER MIND. THE POINT IS, IT'S LIKE A FITBIT FOR EMOTIONS.

WHEN BANNER'S STRESSED, THIS THING FOLLOWS *PROTOCOLS* TO *HELP.*

ENVIRONMENTAL, PHARMACOLOGICAL, NEUROLOGICAL.

SO BANNER WEARS THIS...

AND WE PUT HIS *DEMON* IN A *BOTTLE.*

GO ON. *TRY* IT.

YOU KNOW I CAN'T.
ARE YOU SURE YOU BUILT THIS THING FOR BRUCE, TONY?
...
DOES IT MATTER?
AND WHEN, WITH ALL THAT'S HAPPENED RECENTLY, DID YOU HAVE TIME TO SOLVE A PROBLEM THE ARMY COULDN'T, WITH ALL ITS MENTAL FIREPOWER?
MMM?
OH, I DIDN'T. I LET THE SMITHS DO IT.
THEY LOVE THIS STUFF.
SOME DELICIOUS BEVERAGES FOR YOU AND YOUR LOVELY COMPANION, MR. STARK?
THANK YOU.
I THINK IT THINKS WE'RE A COUPLE.
TONY. AS OFFICIAL D.O.D. LIAISON TO STARK INDUSTRIES, I HAVE TO PROTEST.
SMILE FOR THE FILE, HANDSOME SIRS!
DO YOU NOT SEE THE ISSUE HERE? YOU HAVE TECH BUILDING TECH.
YOU'RE MAKING A POTENTIAL LOBOTOMY MACHINE WITH NO HUMAN GUIDANCE.
HEY, I GAVE THEM A DETAILED SCHEMATIC!
LIKES
BEANS
HITTING!
RAGE!
GREEN
PURPLE
DISLIKES
ARMY GUYS
PUNY BANNER!
CANADIANS

LIGHTEN UP, RHODEY.
EVERYTHING'S UNDER CONTROL. HEY, I JUST REALIZED...
...WE SHOULD CALL THE BOT MR. INCREDIBLE!
TONY.
I THINK YOU HAVE OTHER PROBLEMS.
WHAT-AM-I--
I AM WHAT-AM-I--
WHAT-AM-I SMASH--
BA-BOOMMPH
SHUT IT DOWN.
SHUT IT DOWN!
I'M AFRAID THE PROTOTYPE HAS OVERRIDDEN ITS SHUTDOWN PROCEDURE, MR. STARK.
SHALL I BRING MORE REFRESHING CAFFEINATED BEVERAGES?
A GAUNTLET, SMITH.
BRING ME A GAUNTLET.
AT ONCE, SIR.
AND WILL THE LOVELY COMPANION BE IN NEED OF FORMAL ATTIRE?
IT'S NOT... WE'RE NOT DATING!
WHAT-AM-I SMASH!
SMASH-SMA-SH-SH-A--
WHAT-AM-I SHAME.
SHAME. SHAME PUNY BANNER.
ZZCKKRACCK

SOON...
SO.
SO.
TECH BUILDING TECH... NOT A GOOD PLAN.
CANNY OBSERVATION THERE, PROFESSOR.
THE THING IS...IT SHOULD WORK. IT'S THE A.I. THAT'S THE PROBLEM.
STARK UNLIMITED HAS A ROBOTIC BRAIN DRAIN AND IT'S KILLING US.
WE LOST MOTHERBOARD. FRIDAY WAS DESTROYED.
AND JOCASTA WON'T EVEN TALK TO ME.
I DON'T HAVE TIME TO BUILD A NEW SENTIENT PROGRAM FROM SCRATCH. NOT ONE THAT WOULD COVER UNLIMITED.
SO I'M USING WHAT I CAN FIND AND VET.
THE SMITHS ARE PARTIALLY RUN ON THE COMPATIBILITY ALGORITHM FROM A DATING APP.
TONY.
DON'T WORRY, RHODEY. I'LL FIGURE IT OUT.
I'M NOT WORRIED. NOT ABOUT THAT.
I'M WORRIED THAT MY GOOD FRIEND, WHO IS AN ALCOHOLIC IN RECOVERY, IS HOLDING A MAGIC BEHAVIOR MODIFIER IN HIS HANDS AND WON'T SET IT DOWN.
I'M WORRIED THAT MY FRIEND GOT VIRTUALLY DRUNK DURING THAT eSCAPE EPISODE AND IS LOOKING FOR DANGEROUS FIXES.
...
OH. RIGHT.
NO BIG DEAL.
I'M FINE. I'M GOOD.
MAY I JUST SAY THAT IT'S REFRESHING TO SEE A COUPLE WITH SUCH EXCELLENT COMMUNICATION, SIRS?
WE'RE ALL ROOTING FOR YOU.

WELCOME TO STARK UNLIMITED, SIR. WE'RE HAPPY YOU'RE HERE!

AS A CONDITION OF SECURITY, WE ASK THAT YOU PROVIDE YOUR NAME AND THE PURPOSE OF YOUR VISIT.

MY NAME AND PURPOSE?

STARK UNLIMITED

I AM *SADURANG.*

DEVOURER OF *FLOCKS.* LORD OF *CONFLAGRATION.*

LORD OF THE WIND AND SKY.

AND I AM HERE TO SEE YOUR *MASTER,* SPIRIT.

OH, I'M AFRAID MR. STARK HAS LEFT FOR THE DAY, MR. FLOCKS.

COME ON, PAL. BEAT IT.

YOU AIN'T GOING TO SEE NO *"MASTER"* TODAY.

NEVER MIND.

ON WHAT LEVEL OF THIS UNSIGHTLY PALACE DOES HE KEEP HIS *GOLD?*

I ASK AGAIN, MAN OF THE KING'S GARRISON.

WHERE IS HIS *GOLD?*

HE... *CKAK...*

IT'S NOT HERE...HE...I DON'T KNOW. IT'S EVERYWHERE.

WALL STREET, MAYBE?

I DON'T *BELIEVE* YOU, SOLDIER.

MORE'S THE *PITY.*

RHODEY'S RIGHT. I KNOW HE IS.

HE HAS A HABIT OF DOING THAT.

TELLING ME A TRUTH I DON'T WANT TO HEAR.

I KNOW HE MEANT WELL. AND MAYBE I WENT ABOUT THIS WRONG.

A HUNDRED TIMES A DAY I TURN TO ASK JOCASTA'S ADVICE, AND SHE'S NOT THERE.

YOU HAVE REACHED JANET VAN DYNE. SORRY I MISSED YOUR CALL.

YOU KNOW WHAT TO DO!

BUT I DIED. I LITERALLY DIED. AND HAD THIS BODY REGROWN.

AND EVERY DAY I WONDER...

...AM I STILL ME? AM I STILL TONY STARK?

JANET, IT'S ME. PRETTY SURE, ANYWAY.

HAVING... KIND OF A TOUGH DAY.

ANY CHANCE YOU COULD COME, I DON'T KNOW...

...HAVE A PLAYDATE? CALL ME.

RHODEY MEANT WELL.

BUT PEOPLE ARE SUFFERING ALL OVER THE WORLD.

AND IF MEDICINE HELPS THEM, IF A PROSTHETIC HELPS THEM...

...THEN THEY SHOULD BLOODY WELL HAVE IT, JUDGMENT BE DAMNED.

HEAVY IS THE HEAD AND ALL THAT.

I'M RICH AS MIDAS. I GET IT. THAT GIVES ME A FRONT-OF-THE-LINE PASS FOR PRETTY MUCH EVERYTHING.

CHRISTMAS AND BIRTHDAYS ARE AWKWARD BECAUSE I ALREADY *HAVE* TWO OF EVERYTHING.

NONE OF THAT SAVED ME.

I'M AN ALCOHOLIC. IN THIS BODY OR THE OLD ONE.

IT WAS VIRTUAL, BUT I DRANK. I MADE THAT CHOICE.

AND RIGHT NOW, THE THING KEEPING ME FROM CRACKING OPEN A SINGLE MALT SCOTCH...

...IS THIS CROWN.

IT PROBABLY WON'T WORK. THE MALFUNCTION TODAY...

...IT COULD INDICATE A CATASTROPHIC PROGRAM ERROR.

DO YOU SEE, JIM?

THAT'S WHY I HAD TO HAVE IT.

I CAN'T ASK ANYONE ELSE TO TEST-PILOT THIS.

IT HAS TO BE *ME*.

OKAY. SO I'M ORVILLE.

CONTACT.

SIR. YOU ARE TO DROP TO YOUR KNEES AND PUT YOUR HANDS ON YOUR HEAD.
OR WE WILL OPEN FIRE.
MY... "KNEES"?
HOW DARE YOU?
SADURANG BOWS TO NO MAN NOR GOD.
YOU WISH MY FOREBEARANCE?
YOU SHALL HAVE NONE OF IT, NOR MY MERCY.

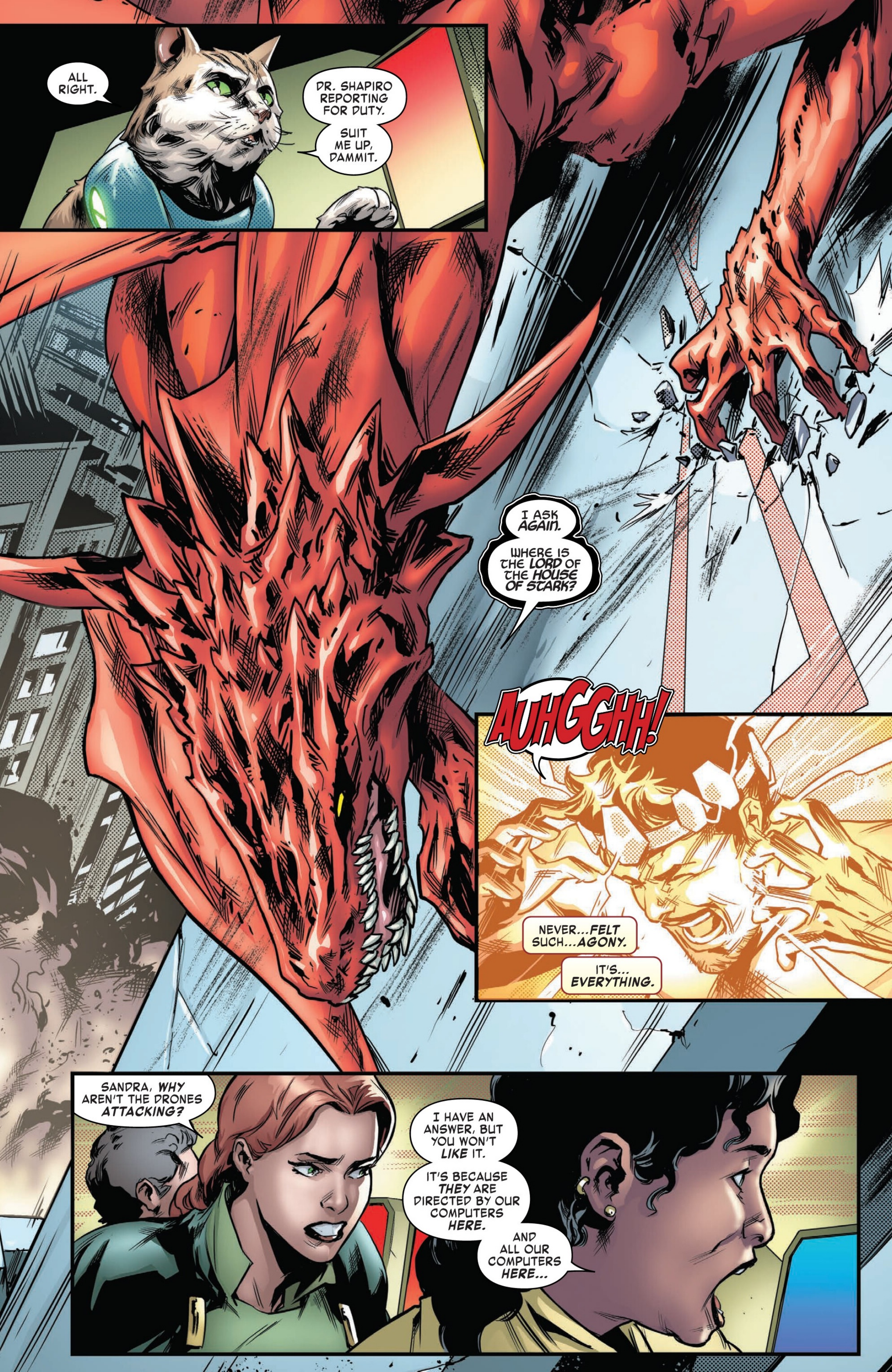
SO BY ALL MEANS...
OPEN FIRE.

STARK UNLIMITED COMMAND CENTER

BETHANY, WHAT THE HELL IS GOING ON?
SOME SORT OF...WELL, YOU CAN *SEE* WHAT IT IS.
THREE CASUALTIES SO FAR. NO JOCASTA, NO *STARK* ON PREMISES.
PERIMETER SECURITY DETAIL, BACK OFF.
REPEAT, *STAND DOWN* AND GET *OUT.*

WELL.
IT'S UP TO *US*, THEN.
THREE GOOD MEN DEAD.
I *SEE* YOU, PETE'S DRAGON.

WHERE ARE *YOU* GOING?
TO FIGHT FIRE WITH FIRE. AND MYTH WITH *MORE* MYTH.
FORGET I ASKED.
IS *ANYONE* HERE GOING TO FREAKING *ARMOR UP*?


ALL RIGHT.
DR. SHAPIRO REPORTING FOR DUTY.
SUIT ME UP, DAMMIT.
I ASK AGAIN.
WHERE IS THE LORD OF THE HOUSE OF STARK?
AUHGGHH!
NEVER...FELT SUCH...AGONY.
IT'S... EVERYTHING.
SANDRA, WHY AREN'T THE DRONES ATTACKING?
I HAVE AN ANSWER, BUT YOU WON'T LIKE IT.
IT'S BECAUSE THEY ARE DIRECTED BY OUR COMPUTERS HERE.
AND ALL OUR COMPUTERS HERE...

Deditionem
...ARE ALL OF A SUDDEN ONLY SPEAKING LATIN FOR SOME REASON!
I'LL BURN YOUR STRONGHOLD, STARK.
FACE ME, YOU COWARD!
CRACK
QUIT YELLING, YOU OLD-SCHOOL KAIJU FREAK.
I'M RIGHT HERE, BRO.
AND I BROUGHT MY MANTICORE WITH ME.
SO WHY DON'T YOU GO BACK TO THE REN FAIRE WITH ALL YOUR LITTLE UNICORN FRIENDS?
FIOOOOM
AAAAARRCH!

I'LL USE YOUR BONES FOR MY BREAD.
I'LL KEEP YOUR SKULL IN MY LATRINE!
MELT, FOOLISH CRUSADER.
MAY YOUR GODS FIND YOU TOO UNRECOGNIZABLE FOR YOUR JOURNEY TO VALHALLA.
ALL RIGHT. DOES ANY ONE OF YOU USELESS NERDS SPEAK LATIN?
I...
UH... I ATTENDED SEMINARY SCHOOL FOR TWO YEARS. DOES THAT HELP?
PLEASE DON'T YELL AT ME.
YOU JUST GOT PROMOTED TO VICE PRESIDENT IN CHARGE OF SAVING US FROM BEING GRILLED AND EATEN.
STARTING SALARY IS YOUR LIFE.
TELL THOSE DRONES TO DO SOMETHING WICKED, ALL RIGHT?
FWOOM
FWOOM
WHO DARES?
WHO DARES ATTACK SADURANG WITH FIRE?

I DO. DR. SHAPIRO. I'M THE CAT.
GOOD KITTY.
I EAT WORMS FOR BREAKFAST.
FOOOOSH
AND ALSO?
I LIKE TO PLAY WITH MY FOOD!
BWOOOM
ZZZSZZZ
POOOOMMMPPP
MRRAHORRWWHSSS!
HSSSSS!
DO YOU KNOW, I NEVER REALLY LIKED CATS.
TOO STRINGY.
HEY. FALKOR.
EH?

HANDS OFF THE PUSSYCAT.
FUUUOOOOMMPH
IN THE END, I DIDN'T CHOOSE THE LADY OR THE TIGER.
THE BOTTLE OR THE CROWN.
BECAUSE IF I HAD...
...I COULDN'T DO THIS.
YOU'RE TRESPASSING, TOOTHLESS.
THERE'S A HEFTY FINE.
AND PEOPLE WOULD DIE WHEN THEY DIDN'T HAVE TO.
NO NEW BODIES FOR THEM.
NO SECOND CHANCES.
ARRRGG!

AND I CAN'T LIVE WITH THAT. IT'S THAT SIMPLE.

OH, THOU SICKLY MONARCH.

I'LL HAVE YOUR CASTLE AND YOUR CORPSE!

GUHHH!

I'M IN. I CAN'T BELIEVE IT. I'M IN!

YOU JUST GOT ANOTHER PROMOTION, KID.

SEND EVERY DAMN THING IN THE BUILDING.

WELCOME TO STARK UNLIMITED, SIR! WE'RE HAPPY YOU'RE HERE!

OH, HELLO, MR. STARK MR. STARK MSTRK MRK

READY TO DIE, MORTAL?

P...PASS. NEVER REPEAT A GOOD TRICK.

AND I PLAN TO KICK YOUR SCALY REAR LIKE I DID FIN FANG FOOM'S A FEW WEEKS AGO, TO BE HONEST.

HOLD. YOU... YOU?

DEFEATED A FOOM? YOU LIE.

I SEE YOUR MIND. I SEE YOU ARE A BESOTTED FOOL.

NOPE.

AND YOU MIGHT WANT TO LOOK BEHIND YOU.

KING TAKES PAWN.

CHECKMATE, DRAGON.

I UNDERESTIMATED YOU, MORTAL.

BUT I'LL RETURN. TONIGHT. WITH THE PROPER SPELLS.

AND I LEAVE YOU WITH THE CURSE OF WISDOM.

AW.

AND I DIDN'T GET YOU ANYTHING.

SEE, THIS? THIS KINDA STUFF?

IT'S WHY ME AND THOR NEVER HANG OUT.

TONY. HE'S KILLED AT LEAST THREE GUARDS. ARE YOU UP TO CHASING THIS THING DOWN?

...

YEAH. LET'S KENNEL THIS LIZARD.

MR. STARK! YOUR ARMOR!

TONY.

THAT THING DID SOMETHING TO YOU.

I THINK... I THINK YOU'RE LEAKING MAGIC!

WAIT. WHAT?

TONY STARK, IRON MAN #13

The Starkronomicon

WALL STREET
OKAY. HAVE A BLESSED DAY, SIR.
AND BEWARE OF HUBRIS.
WHAT DID YOU SAY TO SADURANG THE ALL-CONSUMING?
WELL, YOU'RE A ONE-PERCENTER, RIGHT? YOU'RE GOING IN THERE.
I SEEK KING STARK'S GOLD, SERF.
WHAT DID YOU MEAN "BEWARE"?
I AM SADURANG. I FEAR NOTHING.
SURE. NOW. BUT SEE, I USED TO BE YOU, MY FRIEND.
I WAS AN ACE BROKER. FLEW HIGHER THAN ALLA Y'ALL.
THAT PLACE... IT'S TOO BIG. IT TWISTS YOU.
CAN YOU SPARE ME A DOLLAR, MAN? I'M POWERFUL HUNGRY.
DO NOT HINDER ME, PEASANT.
OR I'LL SHOW YOU HOW POWERFUL HUNGER CAN TRULY BE.
ALMOST 170 BILLION DOLLARS FLOWS THROUGH THAT BUILDING EVERY DAY, MAN.
MARKET CAP OF 30 TRILLION.
THIRTY...
TRILLION?

YOU LIE. NO SUCH NUMBER EXISTS. NOT EVEN AS GRAINS OF SAND ON THE BEACHES OF ALL THE KNOWN REALMS.
NAH, IT'S STRAIGHT UP, MISTER. BUT THE THING IS...
...NO ONE EVER GETS IT ALL.
AND THEY GO MAD TRYING.

SO THEY LOSE THEIR WINGS.
AND THE HIGHER UP THEY ARE, THE FARTHER THEY FALL.
HAPPENS TO EVERYONE, IN THIS LIFE OR THE NEXT.

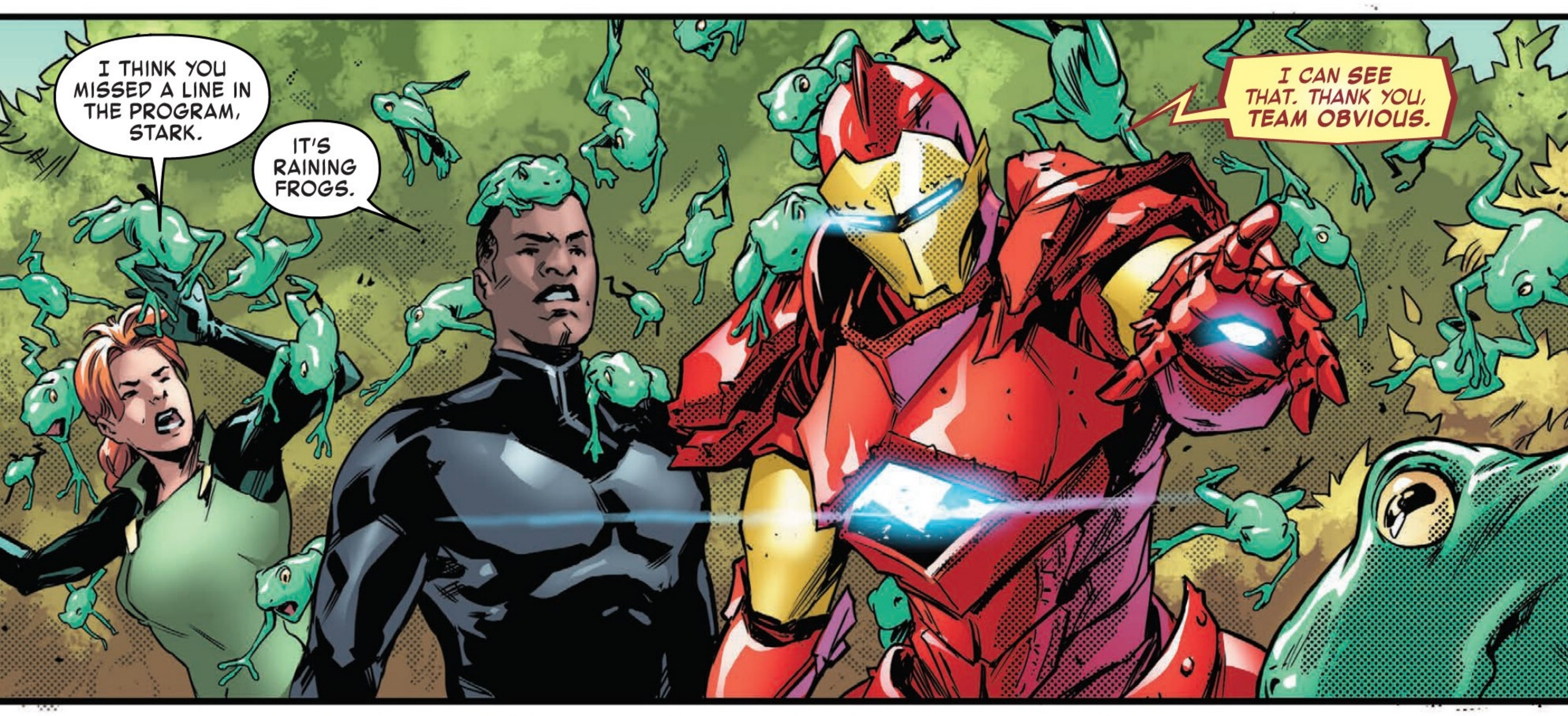
I KNOW NOT IF YOU ARE DEVOID OF REASON, OR A GENUINE SEER OF LOWLY STANDING.
BUT YOUR WORDS ARE NOT WITHOUT VALUE.
DO NOT TROUBLE ME AGAIN, OR I'LL ROAST AND DEVOUR YOU SCALP TO TOENAILS.

WHOA, HOLD ON A MOMENT, SIR.
CAN I HELP YOU?
FOR YOUR SAKE, I HOPE SO.
IT IS SIMPLY THIS, GUARD-OF-THE-GATEWAY...

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE
...I NEED YOU TO GO TELL YOUR MASTERS I AM HERE FOR MY 30 TRILLION DOLLARS.
AND HURRY, MORSEL.
BEFORE I GET HUNGRY!

TONY, I DON'T WANT TO ALARM YOU.
BUT YOU'RE LEAKING MAGIC AND IT'S GETTING WORSE.
YOU THINK?
I'M TONY STARK. I'M SMART. REALLY SMART.
BUT IT'S A FOCUSED, NARROW THING IN A WAY.
STARK UNLIMITED
I SEE A PROBLEM, I BLAST IT OR BUY IT OR GIVE IT ROBOTIC SHOES.
METAPHYSICS? THAT'S MY KRYPTONITE.
WE THINK THAT... THAT DRAGON INFECTED THE RUDIMENTARY A.I. STARK UNLIMITED IS MAKING DO WITH. AND THAT TIES DIRECTLY INTO--
MY ARMOR. GREAT, BETHANY. HELPFUL DIAGNOSTIC THERE.
I CAN'T SEEM TO GET IT OFF.
BELIEVE IT OR NOT, IT'S ACTUALLY WORSE ON THE INSIDE.
AND MAGICIANS? THEY MAKE ME UNCOMFORTABLE.
EVEN THE GOOD ONES.
AND THE BAD ONES, WELL...I AVOID THEM LIKE A VIRUS.
GIVE ME A WOULD-BE ALIEN CONQUEROR ANY DAY.
WAIT. WHAT ARE YOU TWO GAWKING AT?
TONY. YOUR ARMOR.
IT'S...
IT'S CHANGING.

I'M JUST GOING TO COME RIGHT OUT AND SAY IT.
THIS IS NOT MY FAVORITE DAY.
OH, FOR THE LOVE OF DUMBLEDALF.
TONY. WE HAVE TO TRACK THAT THING-- SADURANG.
CAN YOU... CAN YOU STILL FUNCTION?
THAT'S A SLIPPERY QUESTION, ACTUALLY.
BUT MAGIC IS JUST A SYSTEM, RIGHT? IT HAS TO HAVE CODING.
AND I'M GOOD AT CODE.
BOZZARCHLNAN & DRULKHAS


I THINK YOU MISSED A LINE IN THE PROGRAM, STARK.
IT'S RAINING FROGS.
I CAN SEE THAT. THANK YOU, TEAM OBVIOUS.

THAT'S IT. YOU'RE GROUNDED, MISTER.
YOU CAN'T CONTROL YOUR WARDROBE. THAT MAKES YOU A LIABILITY.
...
MAYBE YOU'RE RI--

THREE GUARDS DEAD.
THAT FLYING FLAMETHROWER KILLED THREE GOOD MEN FOR NO REASON BUT GREED.

NO. NO, SIR. NO, MA'AM. NOT TODAY. NOT EVER.
HEX OR TECH, I'M CAGING ANGRY RED BARNEY FOR GOOD.
AND WILL SOMEBODY SWEEP UP THESE DAMN FROGS?

GREED. I WAS LIKE SADURANG ONCE. I *WAS* SADURANG ONCE.

I TURNED MY ADDICTION FOR MONEY INTO AN ADDICTION TO *BOOZE.*

AND A LOT OF PEOPLE GOT *HURT* EITHER WAY.

I'M NOT THAT GUY ANYMORE.

I DIED. LITERALLY DIED. AND WAS REGROWN INTO *THIS* BODY. AND NOW I'M WEARING *THIS* MIX OF TESLA AND LOVECRAFT.

NOTHING FEELS LIKE *ME* ANYMORE. I'M NOT SURE I *AM* ME ANYMORE.

WORST OF ALL... I WANT A *DRINK.*

YOU HAVE REACHED JANET VAN DYNE. SORRY I MISSED YOUR CALL.

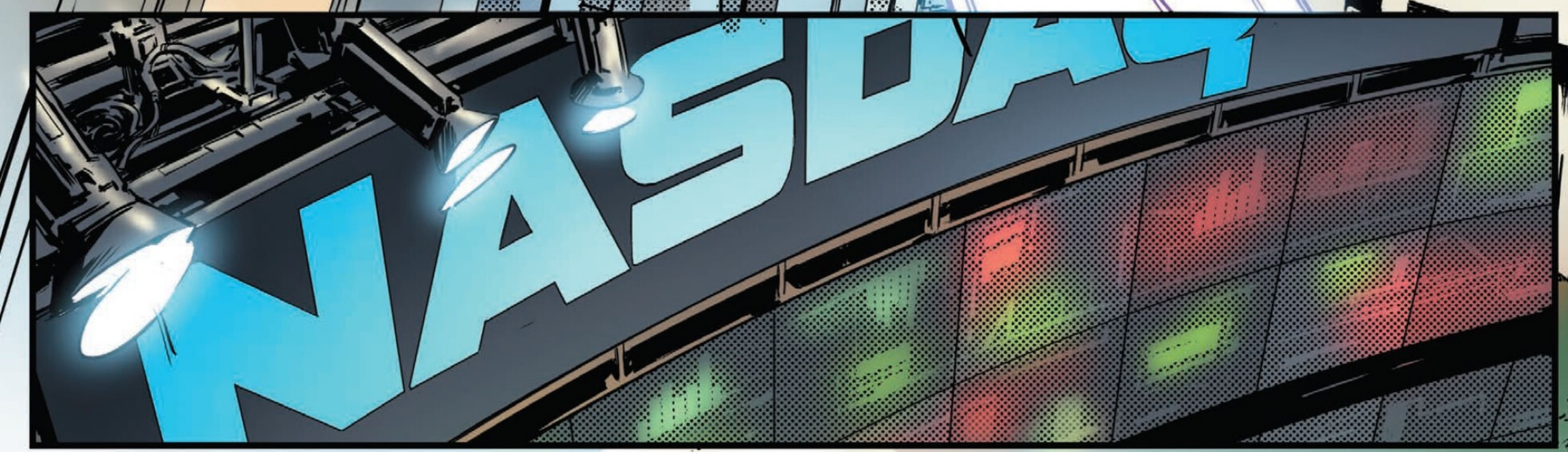
YOU KNOW WHAT TO DO!

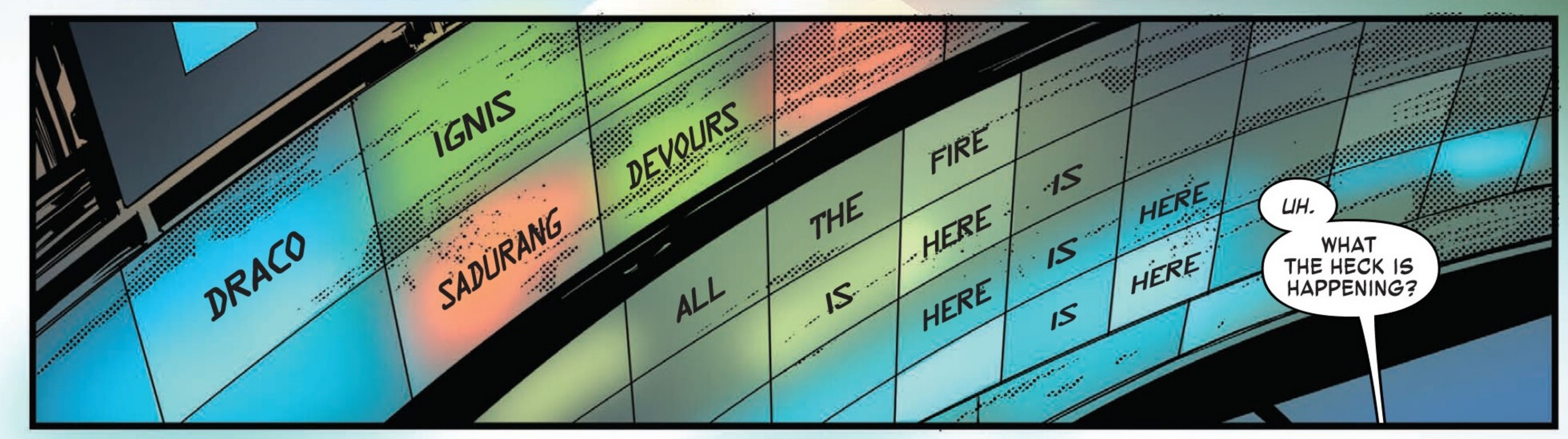
JANET. SWEETHEART.

I...

I COULD REALLY USE A BIT OF YOUR ADORABLE MORAL COMPASS RIGHT NOW.

YOU HAVE TO TELL HER, TONY. YOU KNOW YOU DO.





OH.
THIS IS GOING TO BE BAD FOR THE MARKETS.
I CAME FROM THE FROZEN CAVES TO TAKE THE KING'S GOLD.
AND I'LL BURN EVERY LIVING THING UNTIL I MAY SLUMBER ATOP IT ALL, EVERY COIN AND CRYSTAL!
TONY. AFRAID YOU'RE A SOLO ACT.
THAT THING DAMAGED BOTH THE MANTICORE AND DR. SHAPIRO'S ARMOR.
I'M GOING TO NEED SOME MILK AND A LITTER BOX, STAT.
IT'S OKAY, RHODEY. HAVE BETHANY MARSHAL THE SMITHS FOR EMERGENCY REPAIR.
AND HAVE THE HULKBOT 3000 AT THE READY.

THE THING THAT NEARLY TORE YOU **APART** A COUPLE HOURS AGO?

FOR GOD'S SAKE, TONY. WHY?

LET'S JUST SAY I NEED A REMATCH.

I'M GOING IN. WISH ME LUCK.

DARK.

NORMALLY, I'D LIGHT THIS PLACE UP LIKE DAZZLER AT BURNING MAN.

BUT WITH *THIS* KIT, WHO KNOWS?

UH.

ILLUMINATUS GIGANTUS.

OKAY. THERE IS NO **WAY** THAT SHOULD HAVE WORKED.

HE ***MELTED*** THIS PLACE AND AND ALL THE PEOPLE ***IN*** IT.

OKAY. I DON'T KNOW IF I'M REALLY TONY STARK...

...BUT I KNOW THAT ***WHOEVER*** I AM...

...I'M GOING TO PUT THE ***HURT*** ON THIS THING.

HEY.

FALKOR.

EH?

SHAZAM.

HEY. DON'T LOOK AT *ME.*

IT'S THE ONLY MAGIC WORD I *KNOW.*

ARRRRGGGGGGGGH!

SO YOU'RE A *WIZARD* AS *WELL,* STARK?

WAIT. HE DOESN'T *KNOW.*

HE DOESN'T KNOW HE *CAUSED* THIS SOMEHOW.

HE MUST'VE INFECTED STARK UNLIMITED'S A.I. WITH HIS SHEER *PRESENCE,* AND THAT INFECTED THE *ARMOR!*

I *SMELL* YOUR *WEAKNESS,* MONARCH OF NOTHING.

JUST AS I SMELLED *ARTHUR'S* WHEN I *COOKED HIM ALIVE.*

LINGGH.
HE'S...HE'S WARPED REALITY AND DOESN'T EVEN KNOW IT.
SHAKE IT OFF, TONY.
I HAVE GOT TO HANG OUT WITH DR. STRANGE MORE.
I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE THINKING, KINGSTARK.
YOU'RE THINKING OF WOMEN YOU HAVE BETRAYED.
AND OATHS YOU HAVE BROKEN.
...JOCASTA, WAS IT? SHE BELIEVED IN YOU. DESPITE YOUR GRAVE INADEQUACIES, SHE BELIEVED IN YOU.
AND YOU TREATED HER AS LESS THAN HUMAN.
YOU ABANDONED HER, AND SHE ABANDONED YOU.
AND A DRUNKARD, YOU BE AS WELL!
VOWED TO ABSTAIN YET BESOTTED YOURSELF AT THE FIRST POSSIBLE OPPORTUNITY.
AND THE GREAT MALEKITH OF THE DARK ELVES TOLD ME TO FEAR YOU!

A PITIFUL SQUIRE LIKE *YOU*? YOU WOULDN'T BE ALLOWED TO MASTER THE *HOUNDS* IN MY TIME.

I'LL HAVE YOUR *THRONE*, KINGSTARK.

AND I'LL MAKE YOUR LOVED ONES MY *VASSALS*. THINK OF *THAT* AS I DEVOUR YOU, NUTTED SHELL AND *ALL*.

YOU'RE... NOT WRONG, SADURANG.

I DO KEEP MESSING UP.

BUT I'M TRYING TO DO BETTER. TO BE BETTER.

AND BY THE WAY? MY HANDS ARE FREE, PUFNSTUF.

WHAT?

TODAY'S SPECIAL?

TOAD-IN-THE-HOLE.

URKKK. AKRRRKKK!

I CAN'T FIGHT HIM LIKE THIS.

AND ANY STARK *BACKUP* I CALL IS GOING TO BE *JUST* AS INFECTED.

OKAY. *PLAN B.*

AUCKK.

HAAAAUCK.

I'LL DESTROY YOUR WORLD FOR THAT INSULT, KINGSTARK!

EVERY INNOCENT SHALL CURSE YOUR NAME FOR THE AGONY I INFLICT UPON THEM!

HE MIGHT ACTUALLY DO IT.

RHODEY, YOU THERE? I'M COMING IN HOT. BE READY.

"BE READY"?

READY FOR WHAT?

STOP THE REPAIRS. STOP EVERYTHING.

YOU NEED TO TAKE STARK UNLIMITED BACK TO THE STONE AGE, RHODEY.

BETHANY, YOU HEAR ME?

PULL THE PLUG, BETH.

ON WHAT, TONY?

ON EVERYTHING. EVERY CIRCUIT, MICROWAVE AND LIGHT SWITCH!

GO DARK. YOU HEAR ME? GO DARK!

"WITH ONE GREEN-AND-PURPLE EXCEPTION.

"ALSO, WHAT'S THE CONVERSION FOR HECTARES?

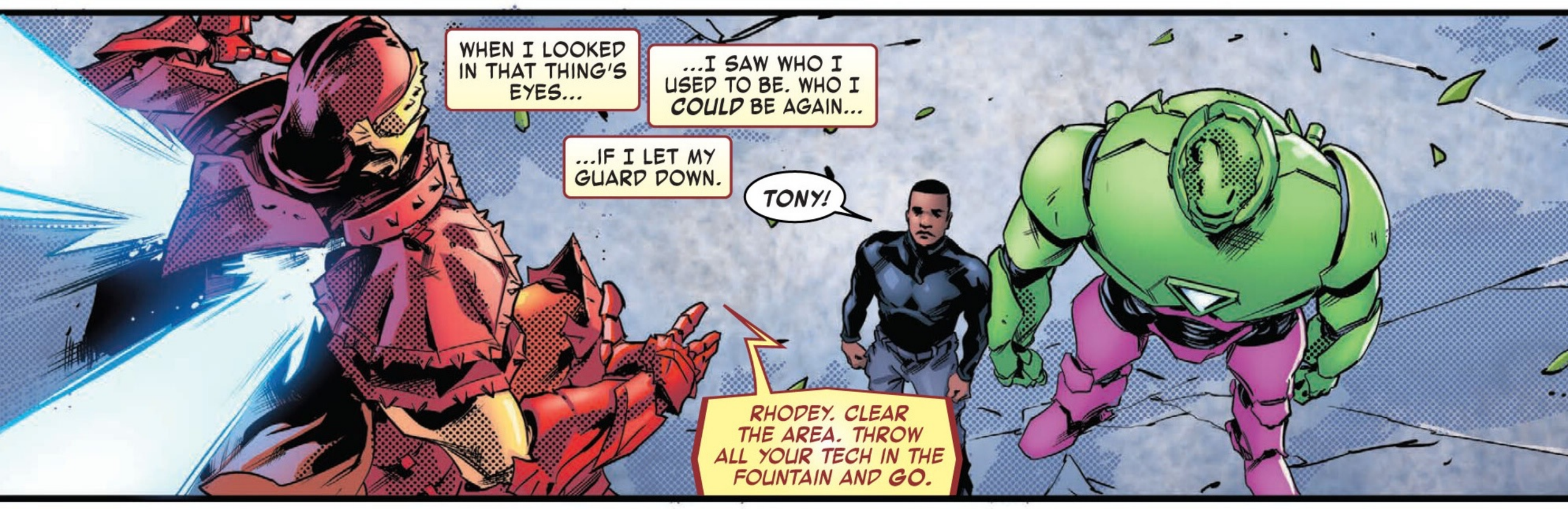
"YOU KNOW WHAT? NEVER MIND."

STARK!

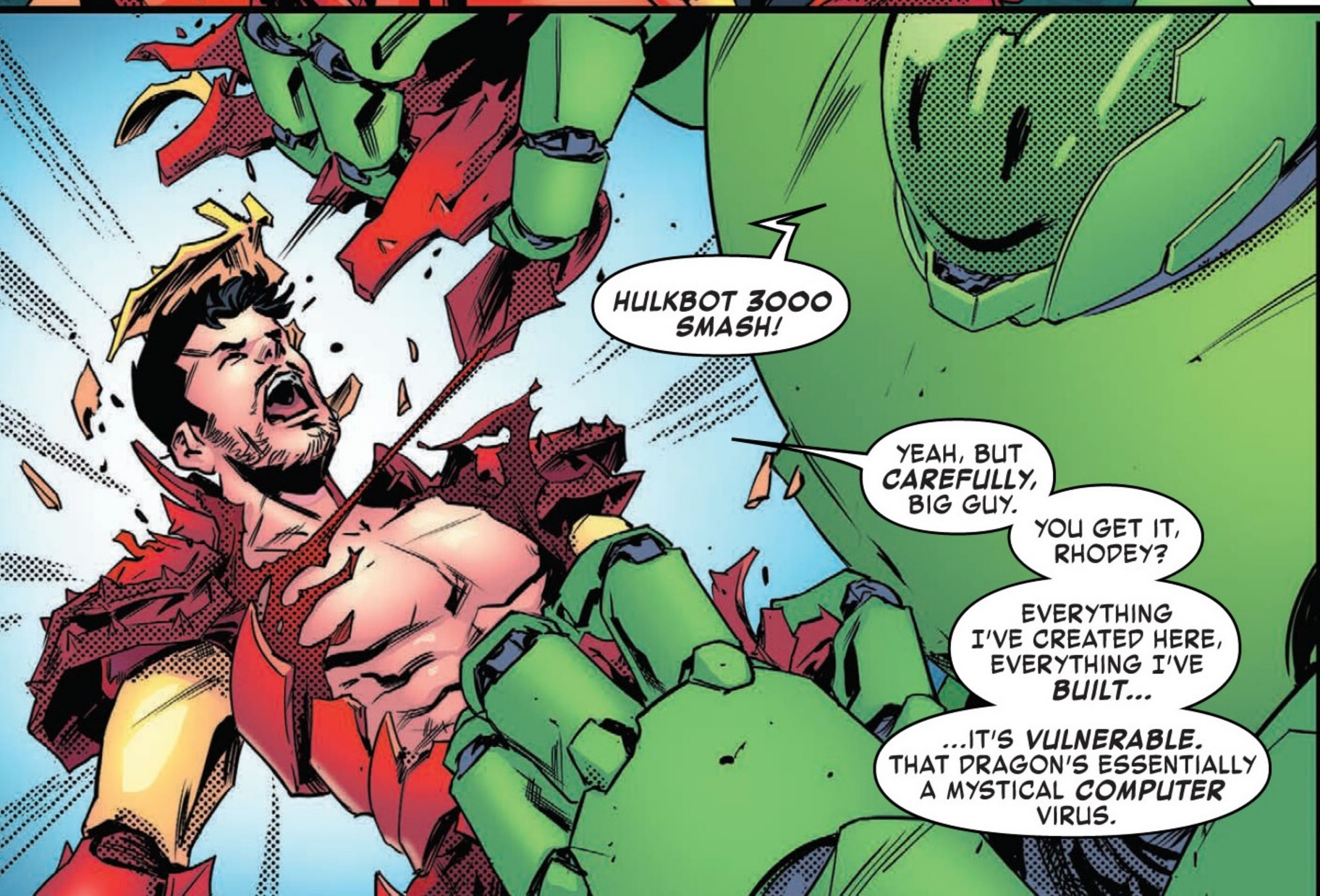
I COME FOR YOUR FLESH AND SOUL!

ALL RIGHT, PEOPLE. THE ORDER IS EVACUATE AND THE TIME FRAME IS NOW.
USE THE STAIRS. THE ELEVATORS AND ESCALATORS ARE OFFLINE.
GO.
MS. CABE? I WAS WONDERING... IF YOU, I MEAN, IF WE--
SPIT IT OUT, DAVID.

WELL, IT'S JUST THAT...I WAS WONDERING IF YOU'D LIKE TO GO OUT.
WITH ME.
GO WITH ME. OUT. US GO OUT. DO YOU?
I DON'T KNOW IF THIS IS ADORABLE OR A HUMAN RESOURCES ISSUE.


WHEN I LOOKED IN THAT THING'S EYES...
...I SAW WHO I USED TO BE. WHO I COULD BE AGAIN...
...IF I LET MY GUARD DOWN.
TONY!
RHODEY. CLEAR THE AREA. THROW ALL YOUR TECH IN THE FOUNTAIN AND GO.

HULKBOT. LISTEN CAREFULLY.
I NEED YOU TO TEAR THIS ARMOR OFF ME WITHOUT, YOU KNOW...HURTING THE NICE GUY WHO INVENTED YOU, ALL RIGHT?
TONY. THIS THING WENT NUTS ONCE ALREADY.
THAT'S WHY I NEED IT.
IT'S GOT A GLITCH IN THE A.I.


HULKBOT 3000 SMASH!
YEAH, BUT CAREFULLY, BIG GUY.
YOU GET IT, RHODEY?
EVERYTHING I'VE CREATED HERE, EVERYTHING I'VE BUILT...
...IT'S VULNERABLE. THAT DRAGON'S ESSENTIALLY A MYSTICAL COMPUTER VIRUS.

OTHERWISE KNOWN AS A BUG.
WELL, ISN'T IT JUST THE LUCKIEST THING...
THAT VOICE.
IT SOUNDS LIKE HOPE.

...THAT WE HAVE A BUG ON OUR SIDE TOO?
HI, TONY. GOT YOUR MESSAGE.
BROUGHT MY COMPASS.
AND THERE SHE IS.
JANET VAN DYNE.
EVERY GOOD THING WORTH FIGHTING FOR IN THE WORLD.
AND ALSO MY GIRLFRIEND.
JANET.
YOU DO MAKE AN ENTRANCE, YOU KNOW THAT?
HEH.
I'M GLAD TO SEE YOU TOO, SWEETIE.
WHAT DO YOU NEED?
I NEED FOUR MINUTES AND NINETEEN SECONDS.
AH.
GIVE ME SOMETHING CHALLENGING NEXT TIME.
AND TONY...

I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE MADE OF.
GO SHOW EVERYONE ELSE, ALL RIGHT?
200 MILLION FOLLOWERS ON SOCIAL MEDIA.
SHE COULD BE DATING ACTUAL KINGS.
MAYBE SHE KNOWS WHAT SHE'S TALKING ABOUT.
WHERE IS HE?
WHERE IS THE FALSE KING OF IRON?
WELL.
TIME TO BE ME, I GUESS.
WHAT MANNER OF FAERIE FOLK DARES PLACE HERSELF BETWEEN THE FIRE AND HIS FEAST?
SETTLE DOWN, YOUR MAJESTY.
YOU'RE SO TRULY LARGE AND POWERFUL, SURELY A TINY THING LIKE ME CAN'T STOP YOU, YES?
OF COURSE SOMETIMES, JUST SOMETIMES...
...THE FAERIE FOLK HAVE A NASTY BITE.
AAAAAAAAAARRR
CURSE YOU, GNAT WOMAN.

CLOSE.
BUT THE NAME I ACTUALLY GO BY...
...IS THE WINSOME WASP.
TAG, HANDSOME.
ARRGHHLLLL
WHY DO YOU DEFEND HIM, CONSORT?
YOU KNOW HIS WEAKNESSES!
EVERYONE HAS WEAKNESSES, DRAGON.
NO ONE KNOWS THAT MORE THAN HE DOES.
BAH.
IT MATTERS NOT.
NEITHER OF YOU WILL LIVE LONG ENOUGH FOR HIS NEXT GREAT DISAPPOINTMENT.
FWWOOOM
FOUR MINUTES, EIGHTEEN SECONDS.
GOOD JOB, JANET.
SADURANG.
LET'S PRETEND I PULLED THE SWORD FROM THE STONE, SHALL WE?

THIS...THIS IS YOUR WAR GAMBIT?
CHANGING TO FAR LESS IMPRESSIVE ARMOR?
WELL, I'LL GRANT YOU, IT'S NOT PRETTY.
I MADE IT WITH THE MATERIALS AT HAND.
SEE, ALL MY NEW STUFF, IT'S MADE FOR TODAY.
BUT THIS ARMOR WAS MADE FOR SHRUGGING OFF ANTIAIRCRAFT GUNS AND RIPPING TANKS OPEN.
IT'S MORE BATTLESHIP THAN SPEEDBOAT.
AND BEST OF ALL?
NO A.I. NO INTERNET.
NOT EVEN SPOTIFY.
IT'S TOO BAD--YOU WOULD HAVE REALLY LIKED LED ZEP.

NO.
THE MIGHTY SADURANG WILL NOT BE CAST DOWN BY A... A DRUNKARD KNAVE IN DUSTY ARMOR!
WELL, AGAIN. THE MARK I ARMOR ISN'T ABOUT PRETTY.
IT'S ABOUT POWER.
IT'S ABOUT IRON AND THE MAN WIELDING IT.
AND IRON, YOU MURDERING MONSTER...
...HAS KICKED THE BEHIND OF MANY A DRAGON.
AND THEN I THOUGHT ABOUT THIS THING.
THREATENING JANET. BURNING INNOCENTS FOR MONEY HE COULD NEVER EVEN SPEND.
AND MAYBE I LOST CONTROL FOR A BIT.

TONY. TONY.

HE'S DOWN. HE'S OUT *COLD.*

YEAH. OF COURSE HE IS.

WHEW.

SORRY. WASN'T SURE HOW THIS WAS GOING TO GO, ACTUALLY.

SHE DIDN'T REQUIRE AN EXPLANATION. I ASKED HER TO DO THE IMPOSSIBLE, AND SHE JUST...

...SHE JUST WENT AND *DID* IT. FOR *ME.*

IRRESPONSIBLE, IMPERFECT *ME.*

JANET.

I NEED TO TELL YOU SOMETHING.

WHAT *IS* IT, TONY?

I...

TELL HER. SHE DESERVES TO *KNOW.*

TELL HER THAT WHEN YOU WERE IN THE eSCAPE, YOU DRANK ALCOHOL. A *LOT* OF ALCOHOL.

AND WANTED *MORE.*

I JUST...I JUST REALLY *HATE* MAGIC SO VERY, VERY, VERY *MUCH.*

DAMN YOU, TONY. THE DRAGON WAS *RIGHT.*

HEH. I KNOW, BABY.

IT'S OVER.

STARK!

WHAT *IS* IT, BETHANY?

WELL, IT'S THE AVENGERS CALLING.

YOU, *UH,* WOULDN'T HAPPEN TO HAVE A SUIT OF *ELFBUSTER* ARMOR, WOULD YOU?

THIS DAY JUST KEEPS GETTING *WORSE.*

Asgardians of the Galaxy #8

SPACE ADVENTURES WERE NEVER PART OF THE PLAN.

ASGARD.

EVEN AS A KID, I WAS ALWAYS MORE INTERESTED IN DIGGING IN THE *DIRT* THAN SOARING AMONG THE *STARS*.

FUNNY HOW THINGS CHANGE.

NOW...

...WELL...

...I'M NOT SURE, BUT I THINK I'M ON SOME SORT OF INTERSTELLAR *MOST-WANTED* LIST.

FWOOSH

ANNABELLE RIGGS-- *SPACE PIRATE.*

WELL, THIS LOOKS... *BAD.*

BUT BEING A CRIMINAL DOESN'T MEAN I CAN IGNORE MY *RESPONSIBILITIES.*

WE'VE RECEIVED WORD THAT THE *TEN REALMS* ARE IN TROUBLE.

UH, ANGELA?

FROM THE LOOK OF THINGS, THAT'S AN *UNDERSTATEMENT.*

DOES THE HOME OF THE GODS *ALWAYS* LOOK LIKE THIS?

ASGARD HAS BEEN BUT A SHADOW OF ITS FORMER SELF FOR SOME TIME NOW.

BUT *SOMETHING* IS *AMISS.*

READY YOUR MACE, THUNDERSTRIKE. STAY WATCHFUL.

SO MUCH DESTRUCTION.

IT LOOKS LIKE--

GROOOAK!

WE'RE ALL THINKING IT, SKURGE. IT LOOKS...

...LIKE *RAGNAROK.*

URZUUL, THE *NAGLFAR BEACON*--

IT'S SAFE, ANGELA.

LOCKED AWAY ON BOARD THE *ASGARD'S REACH.* SEALED IN A VAULT OF MY OWN DESIGN.

WARDED WITH FIRE AND ICE AND A FEW MYSTIC EXPLOSIVES.

ONLY A FOOL WITH A DEATH WISH WOULD--

DO NOT PUT SUCH *FAITH* IN YOUR *TRAPS,* DWARF.

IN THE DAYS TO COME, ONLY THE RESOLVE OF *WARRIORS* SHOULD BE TRUSTED.

FOR *THE WAR OF THE REALMS* IS UPON US.

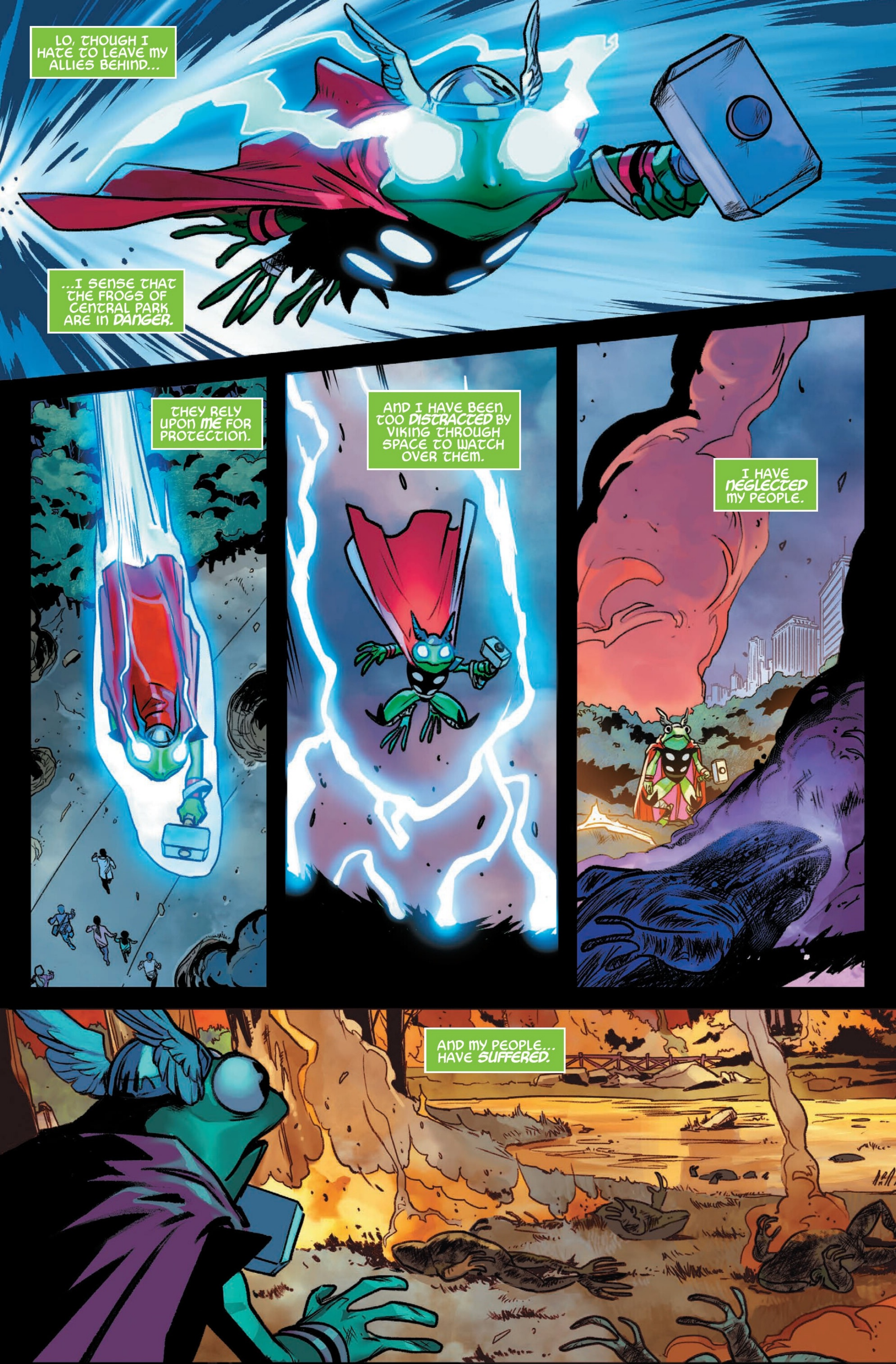
I HAVE SEEN IT.
HEIMDALL!
THAT DUDE'S GOT BOTH THE MAGIC TRUMPET...
...AND THE RAINBOW BRIDGE FRAGMENT WE USE TO POWER OUR SHIP.
I DO.
THE NAGLFAR BEACON IS A TERRIBLE WEAPON.
IT COULD SERVE US IN THE BATTLES TO COME.
AND, LIKE A FARMER HARVESTING CROPS, I AM GATHERING ALL SHARDS OF THE RAINBOW BRIDGE.
MALEKITH HAS HIS OWN BLACK BIFROST.
AND WITH NO WAY TO COUNTER HIS ASSAULT, NINE OF THE REALMS HAVE ALREADY FALLEN.
MALEKITH. THAT DARK ELF PIECE OF--
CURSES WILL NOT HELP US NOW, ODINSDOTTIR.
WE NEED YOUR SWORD.
BECAUSE EVEN NOW...
...MALEKITH MARCHES UPON THE FINAL REALM.

THE FINAL REALM.
MIDGARD.
HE'S TALKING ABOUT EARTH.
NO WAY!
WE CAN'T JUST LET OUR HOME GET TRASHED.
I'VE GOT FRIENDS AND FAMILY THERE--
CROOAK
STEADY, THE BOTH OF YOU.
THE HEROES OF THE MORTAL REALM BATTLE TO HOLD BACK THE FORCES OF THE SO-CALLED NEW LORDS OF MIDGARD.*
YOU MUST AID THEM.
THE RAINBOW BRIDGE HAS BEEN SHATTERED.
I NEED EVERY PIECE IN ORDER TO MARSHAL OUR FORCES.
BUT I HAVE GATHERED ENOUGH ENERGY TO SEND YOU TO MIDGARD.
*SEE THE WAR OF THE REALMS #1.
THE BEACON-- IT WAS CRAFTED AS A WEAPON IN THIS WAR.
GIVE IT TO ME AND WE'LL PUT IT TO GOOD USE.
VERY WELL.
YOU--ANNABELLE RIGGS, HOST TO VALKYRIE.
I HAVE FORESEEN--
NO OFFENSE, BUT I'VE GOT FRIENDS ON EARTH WHO NEED MY HELP.
SO MAYBE SAVE ANY GLOOM-AND-DOOM PROPHECIES FOR LATER?
WSSSSSSSH
FOR NOW--
--WE FIGHT.
I GUESS YOU NEVER KNOW WHERE YOU'RE GONNA END UP, DO YOU?

MANHATTAN.
THE FIGHT BEGINS.
ALTHOUGH THE SURPRISE OF IT ALL ISN'T AS MUCH FUN AS YOU MIGHT THINK.
SHOW THESE DOGS NO MERCY!
HOW ABOUT A LITTLE MERCY, ANGELA?
LIKE... IF THEY START SURRENDERING AND PLAYING NICE... WE CAN SHOW THEM A LITTLE MERCY, RIGHT?
CREEE-OOOAK
SMAKKOW
I KNEW YOUR FATHER, YOUNG MAN.
I THINK HE'D BE PROUD OF YOU FOR JOINING US HERE TODAY.
THANKS... UH, CAP!
RIGHT NOW, I'M A LITTLE WORRIED ABOUT THE REST OF MY--
WE'RE EVACUATING PEOPLE AS FAST AS WE CAN, KID!
AND...IS THAT A FROG IN A THOR COSTUME? BECAUSE THAT'S WAY CUTE!
THE DARK ELVES HAVE BEEN SLITHERING IN THE SHADOWS FOR TOO LONG.
NOW, THEY'VE BROUGHT THEIR HATRED INTO THE LIGHT.
INDEED.
LET'S SEND THEM BACK TO THE DARKNESS.
SHRA-VRR-CLICK-CLAK-CLACK

THE BATTLE CONTINUES.
THERE'RE SO MANY OF THEM!
WHERE ARE THEY ALL COMING FROM?
MALEKITH THE ACCURSED HAS UNITED THE OTHER REALMS AGAINST US!
I'VE DEALT WITH HIM BEFORE--HE'LL LEAVE NOTHING UNRAZED LEST WE STOP HIM!
FWOOM
RARGH
BOOM
VOOM
WHO ARE YOU?
ARE--ARE YOU A NOVA?
NOPE!
I'M JUST AN ARCHAEOLOGIST WHO'S LOOKING FOR HER GIRLFRIEND! NOW STAY--
ZRAK
FZZZ-ZZZT
--UHM--
--JUST KIDDING!
RUN!
TRUST LOKI MAGIC TO CUT OUT AT A TIME LIKE THIS!* LUCKILY...
*TO LEARN WHY, CHECK OUT THE END OF THE WAR OF THE REALMS #1!
...TRICKSTER MAGIC IS NOT THE ONLY SORCERY AT OUR DISPOSAL!

THE BATTLE RAGES.
SHAKOW
ANGELS!
MY OWN PEOPLE!
I KNEW YOU WERE HEARTLESS--CRAVEN--WHEN YOU TRIED TO KILL ME AS A BABE!
WHEN YOU RAISED ME AS YOUR OWN AND THEN CAST ME OUT!
BUT I NEVER THOUGHT I WOULD SEE YOU SIDE WITH MALEKITH!
I'LL HEAR NO REPROACH FROM AN ASGARDIAN TRAITOR!
BRAKKA
HEY--YOU, WITH THE AX!
YOU GONNA LIVE?
I WILL.
THEN TAKE A GUN.
AYE.
SURE. AIM FOR THE EYES.
OR WHATEVER FLOATS YOUR BOAT.
BRAKKA
BRAKKA
BRAKKA
GRRRRK?
THROG?
WHERE ARE YOU GOING?


LO, THOUGH I HATE TO LEAVE MY ALLIES BEHIND...
...I SENSE THAT THE FROGS OF CENTRAL PARK ARE IN DANGER.
THEY RELY UPON ME FOR PROTECTION.
AND I HAVE BEEN TOO DISTRACTED BY VIKING THROUGH SPACE TO WATCH OVER THEM.
I HAVE NEGLECTED MY PEOPLE.
AND MY PEOPLE... HAVE SUFFERED.

I HAVE FAILED THEM.

I AM UNWORTHY.

BUT THE UNWORTHY THROG WILL NOT ABANDON HIS WEAPON.

NOT THE WAY HE ABANDONED HIS PEOPLE.

THIS WORLD BURNS!

THE QUEEN OF CINDERS WILL BE PLEASED!

WE'LL ROAST EVERY SOUL IN MIDGARD!

AT LEAST NOT UNTIL...

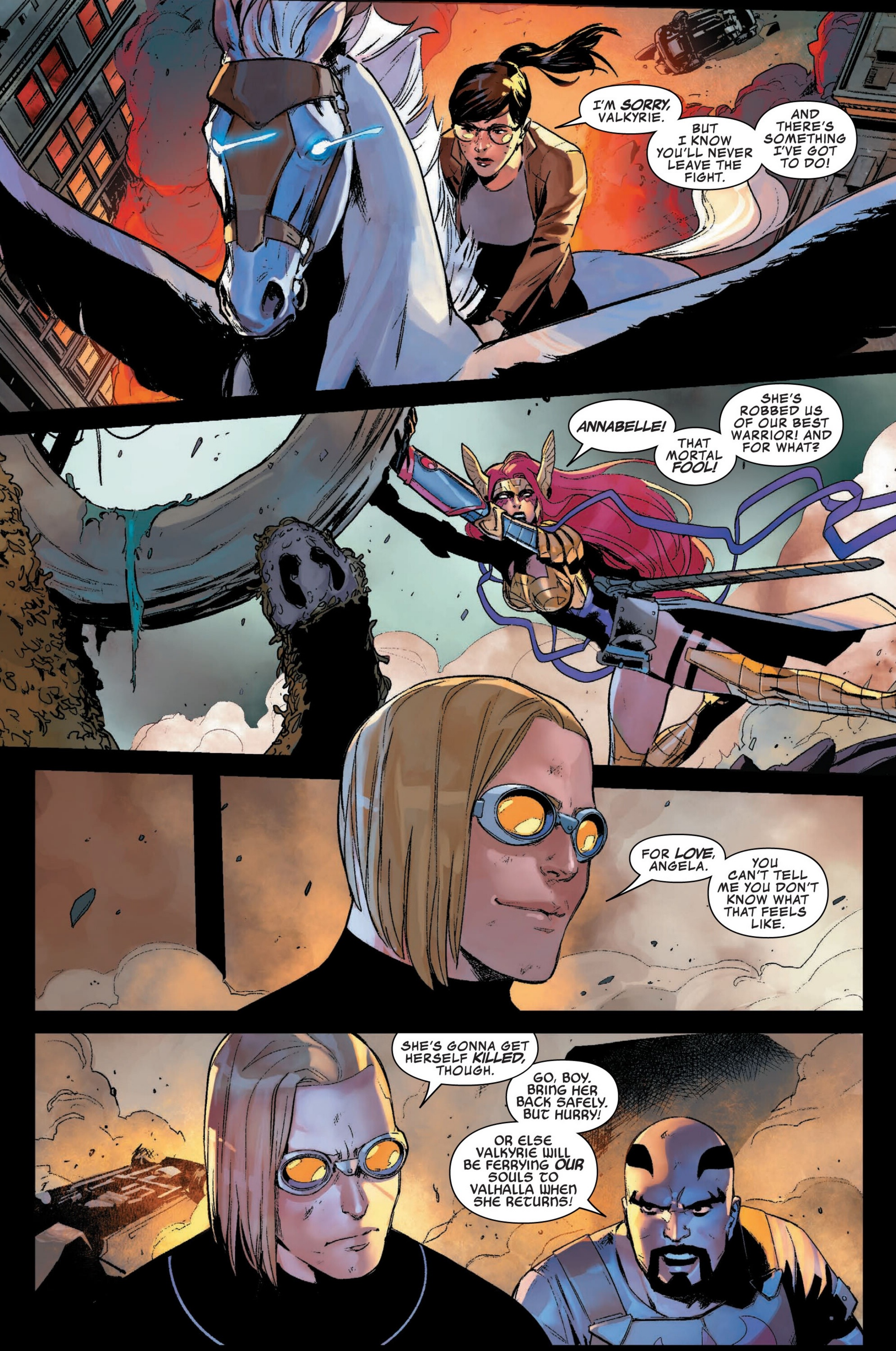
...HE HAS HIS VENGEANCE!

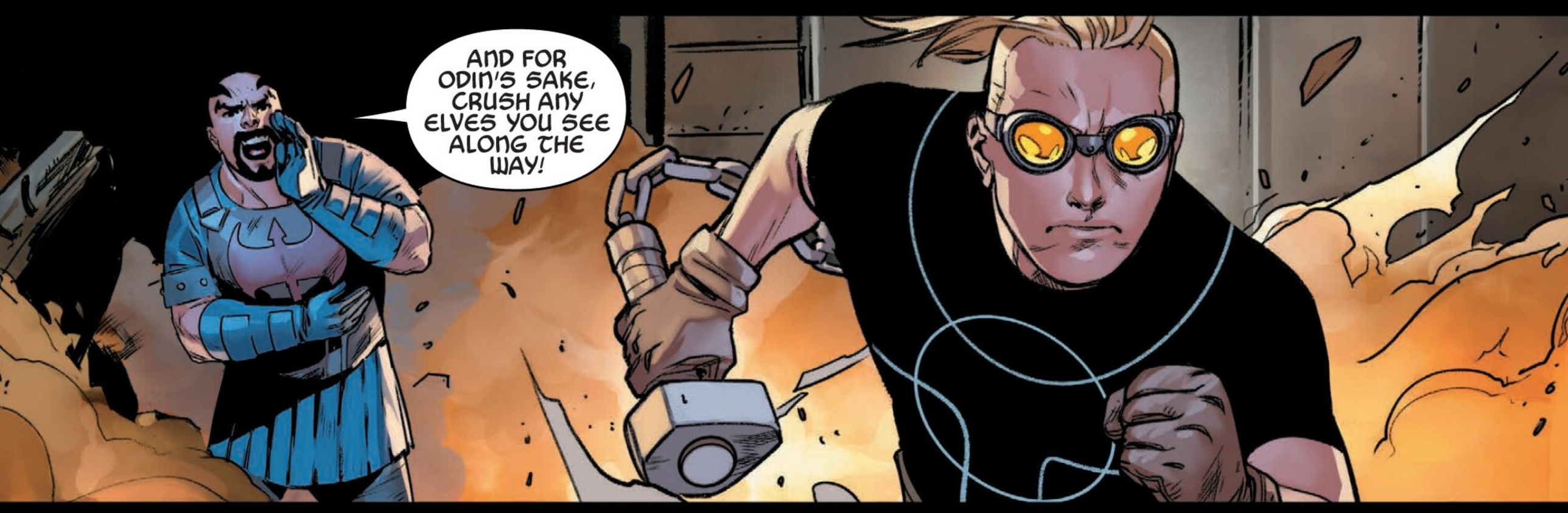
HERR?

SHRAKAW-

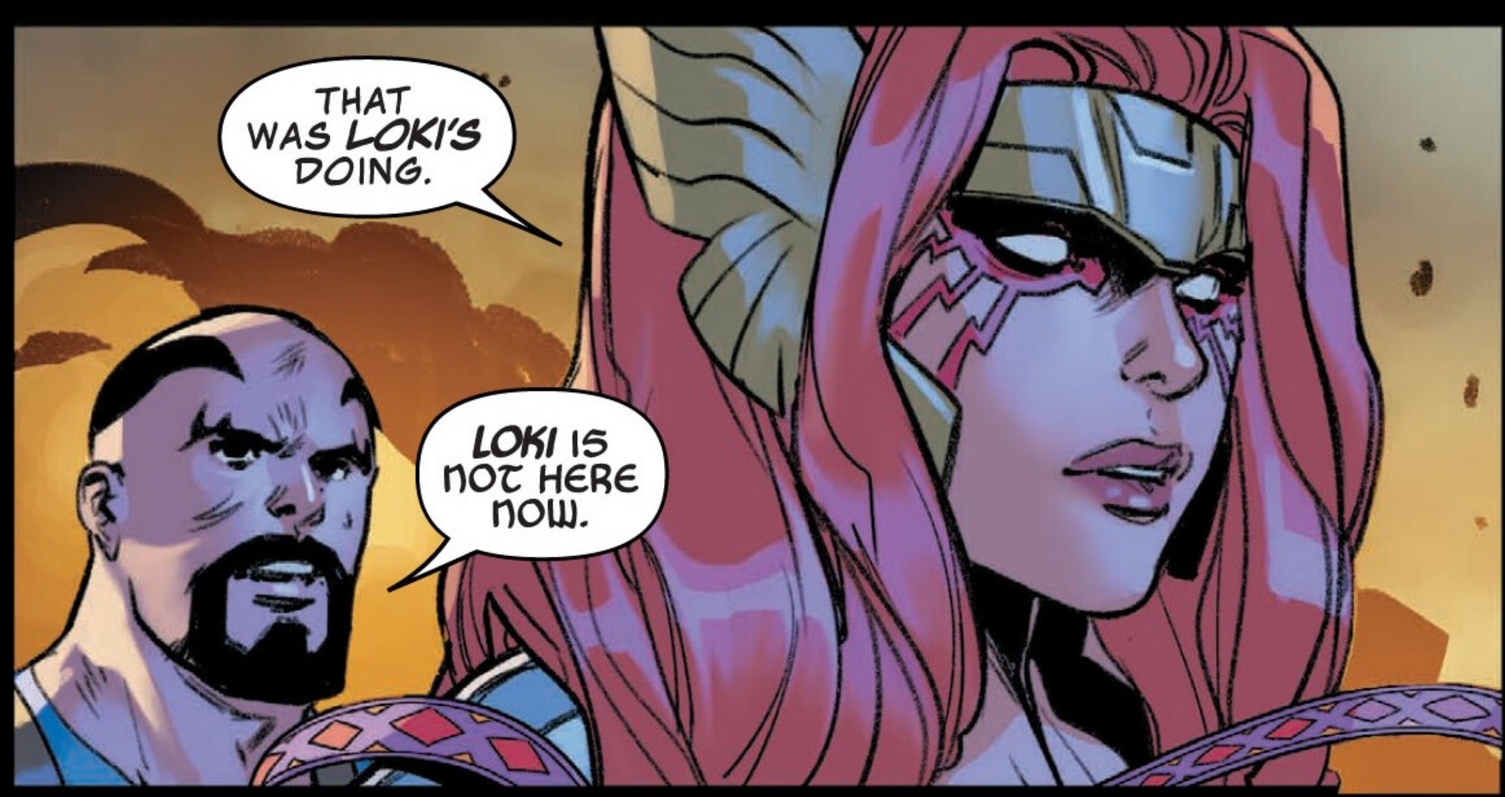
THOOM

HOPELESSNESS SETS IN.
STAND TOGETHER, ASGARDIANS!
WE CAN DRIVE THEM BACK!
WE MUST NOT FALTER!
WHY ARE YOU ALWAYS TELLING US NOT TO FALTER, ANGELA?
DON'T YOU THINK WE CAN HANDLE A FEW GIANT, MAGICAL SWAMP MAMMOTHS?
HA!
KRA-
SMASH
URRF!
YOU HAVE MY THANKS, BLACK PANTHER.
I NEED NO THANKS, DWARF. BUT I DO THINK WE'LL NEED THOSE WEAPONS OF YOURS.
SKURGE, THROG'S GONE! HE JUST FLEW OFF TOWARD CENTRAL PARK.
I GUESS THAT'S WHERE HIS... FROGS ARE.
STEADY, THUNDERSTRIKE. WE ARE NEEDED HERE. THROG MUST FIGHT HIS OWN BATTLE.
VALKYRIE! WE NEED YOUR SWORD!
WHAT--
ANNABELLE, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
KEEP YOUR MIND--OUR MINDS--ON THE FIGHT! REN CAN TAKE CARE OF--


I'M SORRY, VALKYRIE.
BUT I KNOW YOU'LL NEVER LEAVE THE FIGHT.
AND THERE'S SOMETHING I'VE GOT TO DO!
ANNABELLE!
THAT MORTAL FOOL!
SHE'S ROBBED US OF OUR BEST WARRIOR! AND FOR WHAT?
FOR LOVE, ANGELA.
YOU CAN'T TELL ME YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT THAT FEELS LIKE.
SHE'S GONNA GET HERSELF KILLED, THOUGH.
GO, BOY. BRING HER BACK SAFELY. BUT HURRY!
OR ELSE VALKYRIE WILL BE FERRYING OUR SOULS TO VALHALLA WHEN SHE RETURNS!


AND FOR ODIN'S SAKE, CRUSH ANY ELVES YOU SEE ALONG THE WAY!

DAMNABLE MIDGARDIANS!
ASGARDIANS, ANGELA.
YOU DUBBED THEM AS SUCH WHEN YOU RECRUITED THEM.


THAT WAS LOKI'S DOING.
LOKI IS NOT HERE NOW.

WE MIGHT BE DOWN HALF OUR TEAM...

...BUT OUR ENEMIES DON'T SEEM INTERESTED IN LETTING US REGROUP!

BLOCKS AWAY.
GET HER! BRING HER DOWN!
H-HOW?
SHE'S CUTTING US TO RIBBONS--BY DANCING!

REN!

THWOK
THRAK

ANNABELLE?! WHERE THE HELL HAVE YOU BEEN?!
IN SPACE!
IT'S A LONG STORY!

LET'S GO SOMEPLACE NICE AND QUIET AND YOU CAN TELL ME ALL ABOUT IT.
I'D LOVE TO, BUT I DON'T THINK I HAVE MUCH TIME.
I KIND OF SEIZED CONTROL FROM VALKYRIE.
YOU CAN DO THAT?
NOT USUALLY.
I DON'T KNOW.
I THINK MAYBE VAL LET ME TAKE OVER.
SHE LET YOU?
I THINK MAYBE... DEEP DOWN... SHE WANTED ME TO FIND YOU.
THEN I'LL THANK HER NEXT TIME I SEE HER.
I NEVER KNOW WHERE THIS ADVENTURE IS GONNA TAKE ME.
SOMETIMES, IT LEADS ME STRAIGHT INTO THE ARMS OF SOMEONE AMAZING.

ANNABELLE?
AND SOMETIMES...
DON'T--
...SOME OF THE WORST POSSIBLE TIMES, IN FACT...
--GO. SIGH
NOT AGAIN.
...IT SCREWS WITH ME...
YOU?! WHERE IS YOUR COUNTERPART?
WHERE IS BRUNNHILDE, LEADER OF THE VALKYRIES?!
...JUST TO BE A TOTAL @#$%#.

ASGARDIANS OF THE GALAXY #8
ASGARDIAN VARIANT BY
Phil Noto

AVENGERS #18
ASGARDIAN VARIANT BY
Paolo Rivera

AVENGERS #19
ASGARDIAN VARIANT BY
Nick Bradshaw & John Rauch

CAPTAIN MARVEL #6 VARIANT BY
Adi Granov

Asgardians of the Galaxy #9

NEW YORK. THEN.
RRRGGGH!!!
IS THAT ALL THE ELVES YOU'VE GOT? MY BLADE IS FAR TOO DRY!
MALEKITH!
STOP HIDING BEHIND YOUR MAGIC AND FIGHT LIKE A--
HHRGGH!

AH, VALKYRIE.
THE LAST VALKYRIE.
LOOK AT WHAT'S BECOME OF YOU, WHAT'S BECOME OF YOUR SACRED OATHS.
I HAVE RAISED AN ARMY TO CONQUER ALL THE REALMS.
THOR IS GONE.
THE HEROES OF THIS WORLD ABANDONED YOU AS THEY FLED.
YOU HAVE NOTHING LEFT TO FIGHT FOR.
HAVE YOU NOTHING TO SAY?
ANNABELLE--
HEH.
SHNNK
AVENGERS MOUNTAIN. NOW.
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?

ANGELA?
LOOK AT ME!
WHAT'S HAPPENED?
VALKYRIE HAS FALLEN.
ALL THE VALKYRIES HAVE FALLEN.
BUT THAT MEANS--
ANNABELLE.
SHE WAS CALLED AWAY.
I NEVER GOT THE CHANCE TO SAY...
BRUNNHILDE WAS A BRAVE WARRIOR.
SHE DIED IN DEFENSE OF MIDGARD.
SHE DIED IN HOPES OF SAVING COUNTLESS OTHERS.
I DON'T CARE ABOUT THAT, SKURGE!

ANNABELLE'S GONE!
SHE WAS SUMMONED AWAY--TAKEN FROM ME!
AND NOW SHE'S DEAD!
REN!
ANNABELLE.
YOU...
...YOU CAN'T...
...WE WERE SUPPOSED TO...
REN--

CLEA.
SORCERESS.

ON YOUR FEET.

YOU'RE COMING WITH ME.

WE MUST HURRY--

--IF WE'RE GOING TO *RESCUE* ANNABELLE.

RESCUE...?

YOU MEAN... SHE'S *NOT* DEAD?

NOT... *TECHNICALLY.*

THOUGH THE CLOCK IS TICKING.

SOME TIME AGO, ANNABELLE DID DIE.
BUT I CALLED HER BACK FROM VALHALLA.
IN ORDER TO RAISE HER FROM THE DEAD, I BOUND HER FLESH AND BLOOD TO VALKYRIE'S.*
THEY ARE NOT, HOWEVER, ONE AND THE SAME.
*FEARLESS DEFENDERS #6-7! --SARAH
TWO BODIES. TWO SEPARATE ENTITIES.
THEY COULD NOT BOTH EXIST IN THE MATERIAL PLANE AT THE SAME TIME.
VALKYRIE HAS BEEN SLAIN, BUT THAT DOES NOT MEAN THE SAME FATE HAS BEFALLEN ANNABELLE.
THEN WHAT ARE WE WAITING FOR?!
I KNOW WHERE TO LOOK FOR HER.
BUT THE LOCALE IS VAST.
I NEED YOUR CONNECTION TO HER TO TRACK HER.
I HOPE YOU DON'T THINK WE'RE JUST GOING TO LET YOU GO...

...NOT WITHOUT *US.*

THUNDERSTRIKE--KEVIN--I CAN'T ASK YOU TO DO THIS.

YOU'RE NOT ASKING.

WE'RE *OFFERING.*

I KNOW MY MOM IS HERE IN AVENGERS MOUNTAIN WITH THE REST OF THE CIVILIANS WHO EVACUATED NEW YORK.

BUT IF I THOUGHT SHE WAS STILL OUT THERE, I'D *NEVER* STOP FIGHTING TO GET TO HER.

AND I HOPE I'D HAVE BACKUP FROM MY FRIENDS.

ANNABELLE RIGGS IS ONE OF US.

AN *ASGARDIAN OF THE GALAXY.*

I'LL NOT LEAVE HER ABANDONED TO SOME NETHER-WORLD.

CREEEEOOOAK!

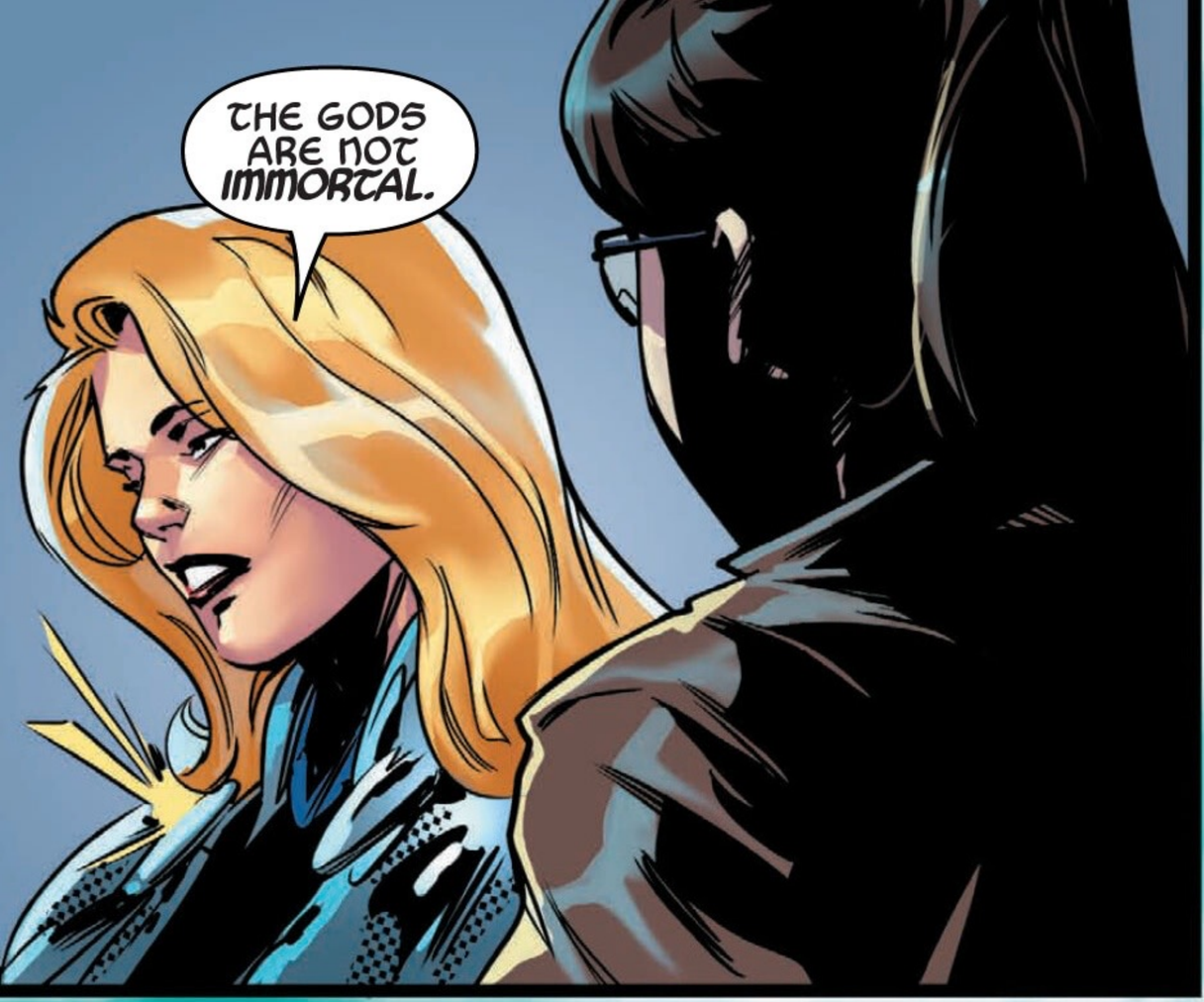
IF YOU'RE GOING TO GO, BE *QUICK* ABOUT IT.

ANGELA--

I WILL NOT BE WITH YOU THIS TIME.

THE WAR WILL NOT WAIT FOR ANNABELLE'S RETURN.
MY PEOPLE--THE ANGELS OF HEVEN--STAND AGAINST MIDGARD.
AND I MUST STOP THEM.
THIS SEEMS... RECKLESS.
RISKING SO MUCH FOR ONE LIFE... WHILE THERE ARE COUNTLESS OTHERS IN DANGER.
YOU'RE WRONG, URZUUL.
IF IT WERE SERA WHO WERE LOST...
...I WOULD DO THE SAME.
I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT TO SAY.
JUST HURRY BACK.
I CAN STAND ALONE AGAINST THE HOSTS OF HEVEN...
...FOR ONLY SO LONG.
EXECUTIONER--I'M GOING TO TAP INTO THE PROPERTIES OF YOUR AX TO AID US IN OUR PASSAGE THROUGH TIME AND SPACE.
I'LL SAVE A BIT OF MY OWN MAGIC FOR WHATEVER WE'RE GOING TO FACE IN THE GREAT BEYOND.
I HOPE YOU DON'T MIND.
AS LONG AS THE EDGE STAYS SHARP, DO WHAT YOU WILL, WITCH.

ANNABELLE--
ELSEWHERE.
THEN.
V-VALKYRIE?
HOW ARE WE BOTH HERE?
THIS ISN'T HOW IT WORKS.
WHAT IS THIS?
THIS IS THE END.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
THE END?
THE END OF WHAT?
OH.
WE'RE DYING, AREN'T WE?


THE GODS ARE NOT IMMORTAL.

I HAVE KNOWN THIS DAY WAS COMING.

I AM A VALKYRIE.

DEATH IS PART OF THE BARGAIN.
BUT I DO NOT WANT THE SAME FOR YOU.
IF I SIMPLY ALLOW YOU TO FADE TO NOTHINGNESS WHEN I DIE...
...I MIGHT AS WELL DRAW MY OWN SWORD ACROSS YOUR THROAT.
THAT'S... UH...SWEET, I GUESS.
YOU DESERVE TO LIVE.
YOU DESERVE MORE THAN THE HALF LIFE YOU'VE BEEN LIVING.
MAYBE THERE'S A WAY TO SAVE US BOTH!
WE CAN FIGURE SOMETHING--

OH!

RUMMMMMBBBBBLLE

IT'S TOO LATE.

IT'S HAPPENING RIGHT NOW, ISN'T IT? THIS PLACE IS FALLING APART BECAUSE...

...YOU'RE DYING *RIGHT NOW.*

YOU'RE--

--BEING *KILLED.*

CLEVER GIRL.

NOW.

WHERE ARE WE?

IS THIS... VALHALLA?

I'M AFRAID WE'RE NOT SO LUCKY.

THESE ARE THE MISTS SURROUNDING VALHALLA.

WE ARE NOT MEANT TO SEE THIS.

THIS...IS A DANGEROUS PLACE.

VALKYRIE HAS A... LODGE... SOMEWHERE NEARBY.

A POCKET REALM HIDDEN IN THE MISTS.

THAT'S WHERE ANNABELLE GOES WHEN VALKYRIE ROAMS MIDGARD.

SORT OF LIKE A TIME-OUT?

NO, NOT LIKE...

...

WELL, YES.

ONLY THE VALKYRIOR CAN NAVIGATE THESE MISTS.

THOSE WHO SEEK VALHALLA WITHOUT THEM... ARE LOST.

WHEN VALKYRIE DIED, ANNABELLE WOULD HAVE BEEN CAST OUT AMONG THEM.

THOUSANDS OF WARRIORS... TRAPPED JUST OUTSIDE PARADISE.

IT MUST BE MADDENING.
INTRUDERS...
YES...
ALIVE.
THEY DO NOT BELONG.
THEY MIGHT KNOW THE WAY OUT.
DO THEY HAVE THE KEY TO VALHALLA?
NO! THEY'VE COME TO TAUNT US!
KILL THEM!
WHOA!
TEAR THE SECRETS OF VALHALLA FROM THEIR BLASPHEMOUS FLESH!
GET BACK, THE LOT OF YOU!
REN! REACH OUT!
YOU CAN FIND ANNABELLE!
SHE'S NEARBY, BUT YOU MUST SHOW US THE WAY!
I THINK...
...MAYBE...

"THIS WAY!"

SHE KNOWS THE WAY!

SHE HAS THE STINK OF A VALKYRIE UPON HER!

THE STINK OF VALHALLA!

SHE'LL SCREAM THE TRUTH AND SET US FREE!

I CAN'T HELP YOU!

I DON'T KNOW THE WAY!

I WISH I DID, BUT I DON'T!

AND ALSO I'M A LITTLE TIRED OF UNDEAD VIKINGS.

UNNF!

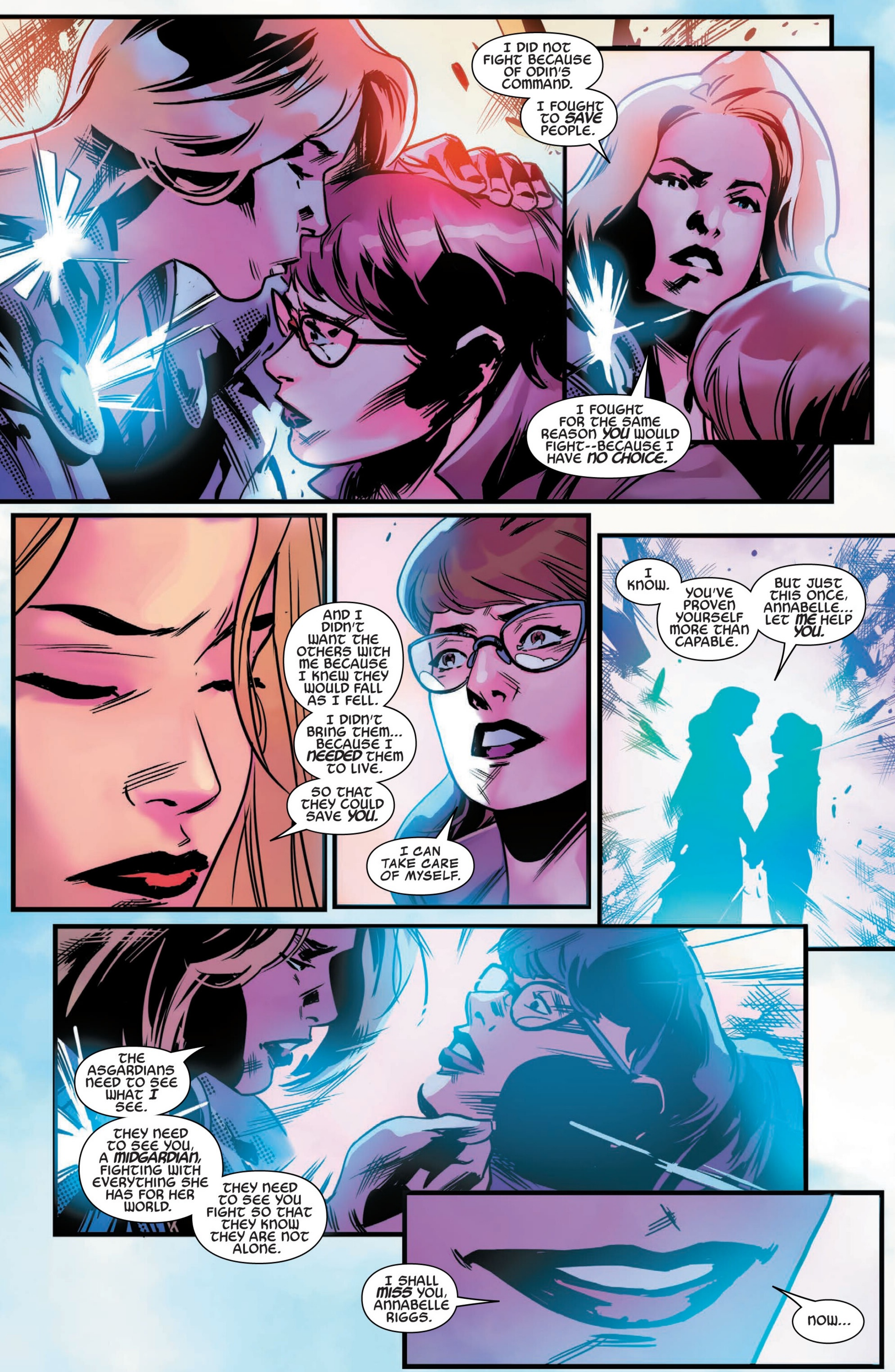
SL-SLLLSH

HEY!

I KNOW THOSE BLADES!

ANNABELLE!
YOU--
YOU'RE ALL RIGHT!
WE FOUND YOU!
IT'S LIKE I JUST... KNEW WHERE TO LOOK!
REN! CLEA!
YOU'RE ALL HERE!
WE'RE GETTING YOU OUT OF HERE!
WE'RE TAKING YOU BACK HOME!
MUSIC TO MY EARS. BUT FIRST--
COME ON, ANNABELLE.
LET'S GO.
ALL THE CIVILIANS ARE GATHERED AT AVENGERS MOUNTAIN. WE CAN STAY THERE, WHERE IT'S SAFE, UNTIL THIS WAR OF THE REALMS IS OVER.
REN, I CAN'T...I CAN'T GO HIDE.
THIS FIGHT--IT'S NOT OVER.

THEN.
WHEN I'M GONE...
THESE WALLS WILL NO LONGER PROTECT YOU.
THE MISTS WILL SWALLOW YOU UP AND--
YOU'RE... YOU'RE SO DAMN PIG-HEADED!
YOU WENT AND GOT YOURSELF KILLED!
BECAUSE OF YOUR PLEDGE TO ODIN OR WHOEVER!
BECAUSE OF YOUR STUPID VIKING OATHS!
THE OTHERS MIGHT HAVE BEEN ABLE TO HELP YOU!
IF YOU HAD JUST LET THEM IN!
YOU'RE PART OF A DAMN TEAM!
WHY HAVE YOU ALWAYS HAD SUCH A HARD TIME UNDERSTANDING THAT?
YOU-- YOU--


I DID NOT FIGHT BECAUSE OF ODIN'S COMMAND.
I FOUGHT TO SAVE PEOPLE.
I FOUGHT FOR THE SAME REASON YOU WOULD FIGHT--BECAUSE I HAVE NO CHOICE.
AND I DIDN'T WANT THE OTHERS WITH ME BECAUSE I KNEW THEY WOULD FALL AS I FELL.
I DIDN'T BRING THEM... BECAUSE I NEEDED THEM TO LIVE.
SO THAT THEY COULD SAVE YOU.
I CAN TAKE CARE OF MYSELF.
I KNOW.
YOU'VE PROVEN YOURSELF MORE THAN CAPABLE.
BUT JUST THIS ONCE, ANNABELLE... LET ME HELP YOU.
THE ASGARDIANS NEED TO SEE WHAT I SEE.
THEY NEED TO SEE YOU, A MIDGARDIAN, FIGHTING WITH EVERYTHING SHE HAS FOR HER WORLD.
THEY NEED TO SEE YOU FIGHT SO THAT THEY KNOW THEY ARE NOT ALONE.
I SHALL MISS YOU, ANNABELLE RIGGS.
NOW...

EVERYONE-- STAY CLOSE TO THE EXECUTIONER.
YOU CAN CALL ME SKURGE, YOU KNOW.
ALL RIGHT, SKURGE, I'M USING THE MAGIC OF YOUR AX TO TELEPORT US BACK.
HOPEFULLY-- AVENGERS MOUNTAIN IS STILL THERE.
WE CAN SIT THIS ONE OUT, ANNABELLE.
THESE ARE GODS.
GODS AND MONSTERS.
WE CAN GO SOMEWHERE SAFE.
NO.
VALKYRIE SAID SOMETHING RIGHT BEFORE SHE VANISHED.
THERE'S SOMETHING SHE WANTS US TO DO.
SOMETHING SHE WANTS ME TO DO.
MALEKITH BROUGHT A FIGHT TO OUR WORLD, REN.
HE HIT US WHERE IT HURTS.
OUR ALLIES NEED TO SEE US STANDING UP TO HIM.
MORE THAN THAT...
...OUR ENEMIES NEED TO SEE US FIGHTING FOR OUR WORLD.
VALKYRIE, SHE SAID--
...GO KICK THEIR ASSES.

GIANT-MAN #1 VARIANT BY
Dale Keown & Jason Keith

GIANT-MAN #2 VARIANT BY
Marco Checchetto

WAR OF THE REALMS:
JOURNEY INTO MYSTERY #1 VARIANT BY
Gerald Parel

WAR OF THE REALMS:
JOURNEY INTO MYSTERY #1 VARIANT BY
Joe Quinones & Matthew Wilson

Asgardians of the Galaxy #10

ASGARD'S REACH.

THIS WAY.

COME ON.

SHAKE A LEG.

URZUUL-- THERE'S A HELLUVA FIGHT GOING ON RIGHT OUTSIDE.

I'M NOT SURE WE HAVE *TIME* FOR THIS.

HENCE, GIRL, WHY I ADVISED YOU TO *SHAKE YOUR LEGS.*

AND IT'S NOT LIKE EITHER ONE OF YOU WILL *SURVIVE* WITHOUT MY *WEAPONS.*

IF YOU WERE WISE, YOU AND YOUR GIRLFRIEND WOULD SIT THIS FIGHT OUT.

BUT SINCE YOU'RE *NOT* WISE, NOT AS FAR AS I CAN TELL, YOU'D BEST ARM YOURSELVES.

UH--

URU METAL GAUNTLETS.

SHOULD ENHANCE THOSE *CLAWS* OF YOURS A GOOD MEASURE, REN.

IS THIS... FOR ME?

AYE, ANNABELLE. IT'S A *VALKYRIE'S SPEAR.*

THOUGHT THAT MIGHT SUIT YOU.

I MEAN, YOU'RE STILL GONNA GET YOURSELF SKEWERED...

"...BUT MAYBE YOU CAN TAKE SOME *ANGELS* WITH YOU."

NAIROBI, KENYA.

STAND FAST, WARRIORS OF MIDGARD!

THE *WAR OF THE REALMS* RAGES ACROSS THIS WORLD!

TODAY WILL BE A BATTLE WORTH REMEMBERING!

VRRRRRSSSSH

GO GET 'EM, ASGARDIANS!

IF THIS IS OUR LAST RIDE--

--LET'S MAKE IT *COUNT!*

COME AT ME, ANGELS!
THIS IS A GOOD DAY!
ASGARD... MIDGARD...HAS NAMED ME YOUR EXECUTIONER!
BRAKKA BRAKKA BRAKKA

SAKKARR
THUNDER?! IT...IT CAN'T BE!
THOR IS NOT HERE--

"--IS HE?"
LIGHT ME UP, LITTLE BUDDY!
GROOOAAK!

ALL RIGHT, ANGELS, YOU'VE BEEN--
--THUNDERSTRUCK!
LESS GLOATING, BOY.
MORE FIGHTING.
WRA-BOOM

ANNABELLE!
MAYBE YOU SHOULD--
DON'T SAY IT, REN!
DON'T YOU DARE SAY IT!
THIS IS MY FIGHT!
VALKYRIE'S FIGHT!
SHRANG

THROG!
LOOK OUT!
CROOAK?

AWAY, PEST!
THRAK
CREEEOOOAAKK
AGH!
THAT FROG IS MY FRIEND!
YOUR BLOOD WILL SPILL IN HIS HONOR!

IT IS YOUR BLOOD THAT WILL FLOW, ASGARDIAN SCUM!
THOK
THUNK
TH-THOK
NNNNGGH!
SKURGE!

ANGELA!
THE BEACON!
THIS IS WHY LOKI MADE IT!
SUMMON THE NAGLFAR ARMADA!
NO.
NO?
WHAT THE HELL?
THIS REALM HAS SUFFERED ENOUGH. I'LL NOT BRING THE ARMADA HERE.
THE ONLY WAY TO TURN THE TIDE OF BATTLE IS TO DRAW THE ANGELS AWAY FROM EARTH.
THE PEOPLE OF MIDGARD HAVE SURPRISED THEM-- BECAUSE THEY FIGHT FOR SOMETHING THEY LOVE.
LET'S SEE IF THE ANGELS HAVE THAT SAME FIGHTING SPIRIT.
SKURGE.
I HAVE NEED OF YOUR AX.
YOU DON'T EVEN NEED TO ASK, M'LADY.
KEVIN-- NEVER FORGET.
YOU'RE EVERY BIT THE HERO YOUR FATHER WAS.
YOU PROVE IT EVERY DAY, BOY.
WE'LL HOLD THE FORT WHILE YOU'RE GONE.
JUST HURRY BACK, ALL RIGHT?
...
AYE, BOY.

HEVEN.

AYE.

SKURGE! ARE YOU...

NEVER THOUGHT...

...I'D SEE HEVEN...

...BEFORE RETURNING ONCE MORE TO HEL.

DIDN'T EXPECT IT TO BE SO EMPTY, THOUGH.

YOU'RE NOT DEAD YET, WARRIOR. AND THERE'S WORK TO BE DONE STILL.

KEEP YOUR PORTAL OPEN FOR AS LONG AS YOU CAN.

HEVEN WON'T BE EMPTY FOR LONG.

THAT HORN!

IT COMES FROM--

ANGELA! SHE'S ATTACKING HEVEN!

TRACK
UNNF!
OUT OF THE WAY, MORTAL!
STOP HER!
WE MUST PROTECT HEVEN!
SHE'LL DESECRATE EVERYTHING IF WE LET HER!
ANGELA! THEY'RE HERE!
COME ON!
HACK ALL YOU WANT!
SKURGE THE EXECUTIONER WILL STAY ON HIS FEET 'TIL HE'S BROUGHT THE LOT OF YOU TO YOUR DOOM!
SLICE
THEY'RE DOING IT!
ANGELA AND SKURGE!
THEY'RE DRAWING THEM AWAY!
NOT ALL OF THEM, ANNABELLE!
WE'VE GOT PLENTY OF STRAGGLERS!

YOU'LL SEE...
...HNN...
...EVEN A FALLEN ASGARDIAN...
...CAN WREAK MUCH HAVOC.
THE NAGLFAR BEACON CALLS FORTH AN ARMY. AN ARMY OF DEAD GODS.
I HAD NOT REALIZED...
...BUT THIS IS SOMETHING I HAVE LONGED TO SEE.
A STORM IN HEVEN.
A BLOOD RAIN.
THIS IS NOT JUST THE FALL OF THE ANGELS.
THIS IS THE FALL OF HEVEN.
ANGELA!
WHAT HAVE YOU DONE?
WHAT CURSE HAVE YOU BROUGHT UPON US?
THE QUEEN OF HEVEN.
AND IT IS MY DOING.

YOU BROUGHT THIS DAMNATION WHEN YOU ALLIED WITH MALEKITH AGAINST A REALM STILL IN ITS INFANCY!
IT'S A SICKNESS YOU HAVE--THIS DESIRE TO KILL BABIES!
AND--AT LONG LAST--THIS SICKNESS WILL CLAIM YOUR LIFE!
SHKRANG
"AND THE LIFE OF EVERY ANGEL WHO FOLLOWED YOU TO MIDGARD!"
LIKE THIS!
EVERY PART OF THE SPEAR IS A WEAPON!
USE IT AS SUCH!
THANKS, OKOYE! I THINK I'M GETTING THE HANG OF IT!
DON'T PRETEND YOU STAND BEFORE ME IN DEFENSE OF MIDGARD!
YOU CANNOT TRIUMPH AS THE CHAMPION OF FALSE CONVICTIONS!
UNNF!
YOU'RE HERE FOR REVENGE AND NOTHING ELSE!
YOUR FIGHTING STYLE--
--WHAT IS IT CALLED?
I CALL IT DANCING!

YOU WOULD DOOM ALL OF HEVEN IN YOUR BLOODLUST?
GLADLY!

PUNISHER! MIND IF I...
KNOCK YOURSELF OUT, KID.
SO. WHEN YOU WOKE UP THIS MORNING, DID YOU THINK YOU'D BE KILLING ANGELS?
THESE THINGS... MAN... I DON'T KNOW WHAT THEY ARE...
...BUT THEY'RE NOT ANGELS.

MIDGARD WILL FALL.
HEVEN WILL ENDURE.
YOU WILL DIE--AS HAS ALWAYS BEEN MY INTENT--FOR NAUGHT!
HOW DESPERATE YOU MUST BE.
HOW FRIGHTENED.

"HOW CERTAIN THAT THIS IS AN ENDING..."

...FOR YOU...
SLLSSH
ARGH!
"...AND FOR YOUR KINGDOM."
HURK!
WAIT. ANGELA...
...OUR PEOPLE...THE ANGELS...
...THEY NEED--
SLLL
SH

"OUR" PEOPLE.

I COULD SEND THE NAGLFAR ARMADA AWAY.

I COULD SPARE THE REMAINING ANGELS...

...SPARE HEVEN ITSELF...

OR I COULD JUST ABANDON THE FORGOTTEN GODS HERE...

...TO FOREVER GNAW ON THE ***BONES*** OF A ***DEAD REALM.***

BUT THE FORGOTTEN GODS DESERVE ***BETTER.***

SMAD

THAT'S THE LAST OF THEM.
DID WE WIN?
I LEARNED A LONG TIME AGO, KID...
...SOMETIMES A WIN LOOKS A LOT LIKE A LOSS.
WHAT DO YOU SAY, ASGARDIANS?
THE WAR OF THE REALMS STILL RAGES.
HAVE YOU GOT ANY FIGHT LEFT IN YOU?
OR AM I GOING TO BE SORELY DISAPPOINTED?
WELL, GANG?
YIPPIE-KI-YAY?
YOU ALREADY KNOW I'M GOING WHEREVER YOU GO.
AND I ALREADY KNOW YOU'RE NOT DONE FIGHTING YET.

HEVEN IS DEFEATED.
YOUR QUEEN HAS FALLEN.
WITH HER LAST BREATH, SHE BEGGED THAT I WOULD OFFER YOU GUIDANCE.
I THINK... SHE MIGHT HAVE WANTED ME TO TAKE HER PLACE.
BUT A QUEEN MUST LOVE HER PEOPLE.
AND THAT IS SOMETHING I CAN NEVER DO.
YOU ABANDONED ME TO THE COSMOS LONG AGO.
YOU LEFT ME TO FEND FOR MYSELF... TO FIND MY OWN WAY.
SO WHAT'S LEFT OF THE ANGELS...
...SHOULD DO THE SAME.

"ANGELA... SKURGE... THROG...

"...WE DON'T KNOW WHAT'S HAPPENED TO THEM..."

WE DON'T KNOW IF THEY...

...IF THEY DIED...

...LIKE VAL...

WARS TAKE YOUR FRIENDS FROM YOU, GIRL.

SOME OF THEM, ANYHOW.

JUST YOU MAKE SURE...

...YOU HOLD ON TO THOSE YOU CAN.

WE DON'T KNOW IF THEY'RE LOST.

I DON'T KNOW WHEN OR HOW, BUT SOMEHOW I FEEL CERTAIN...

TRAK

BOOM

CROAK

...WE'LL SEE THEM AGAIN SOMEDAY.

THE TOAD-NORNS HAVE GUIDED ME.
LO, I SEE BEFORE ME THOSE I HAVE BEEN FATED TO PROTECT.
THE FROG OF THUNDER IS NOT YET DONE FIGHTING.
SO...
...BACK TO EARTH, THEN.
THIS... IS NOT HEL.
IT IS VALHALLA!
I DO NOT DESERVE THIS!
WE ALL THINK THAT AT FIRST, MY FRIEND.
WE'RE GONNA WIN THIS THING, RIGHT?
OF COURSE WE ARE, REN.

THAT'S WHAT THE
ASGARDIANS OF THE GALAXY
DO.
LUCA MARESCA

CAPTAIN MARVEL #6

Strange Trip Part 1

FORMERLY RIO DE JANEIRO, SOUTH AMERICA.

CURRENTLY THE ENCHANTRESS' "NEW KINGDOM OF THE DEAD."

RARGH!

MY MAJESTIC UNDEAD ARMY... HEAR THE COMMAND OF YOUR QUEEN. THESE *LITTLE LEAPING HEROES* HAVE WORN OUT THEIR WELCOME. LET US BE DONE WITH THEM...

THROW THEM OFF THE CLIFFS!

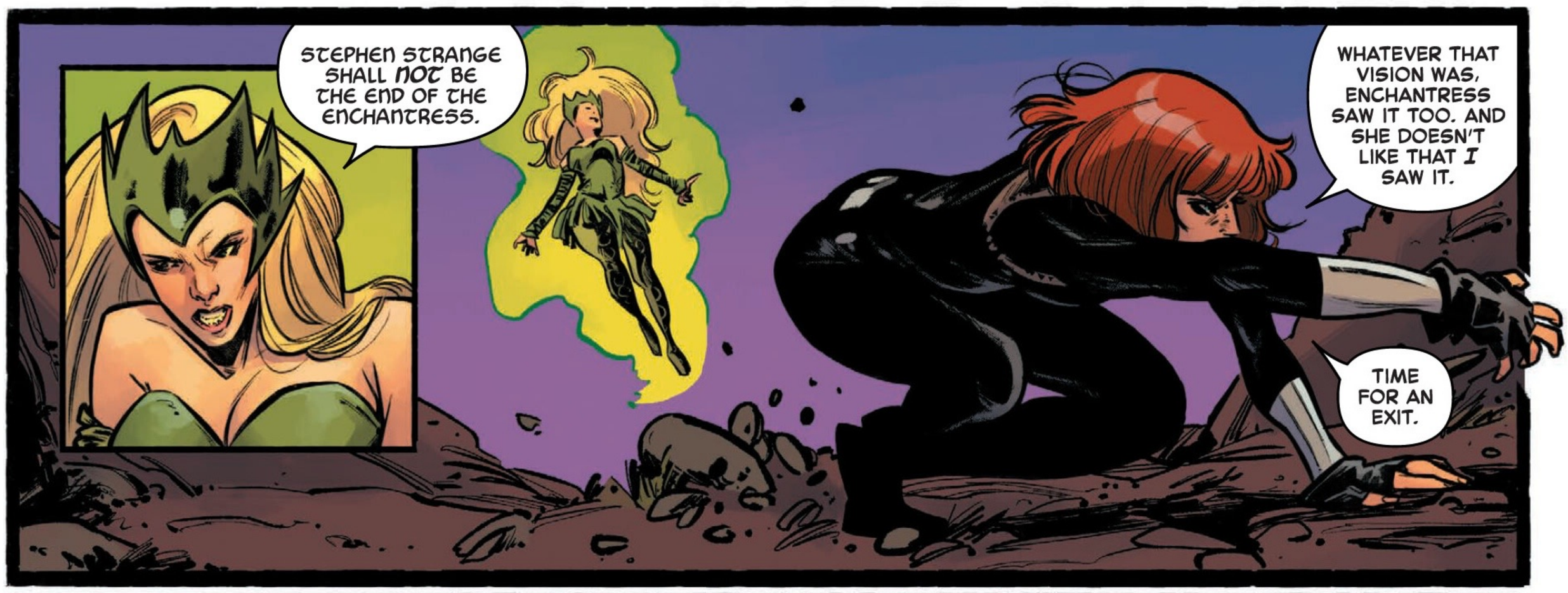
GET CLEAR, NAT.

CLICK

GOT IT.

I'VE GOT A PATH, BUCKY. I'M TAKING IT.
NATASHA... NO!
YOU THINK A SPEAR CAN HARM THE MOST POWERFUL SORCERESS IN THE TEN REALMS, LITTLE SPIDER?
BOOM
I THINK NOT.
HNG!

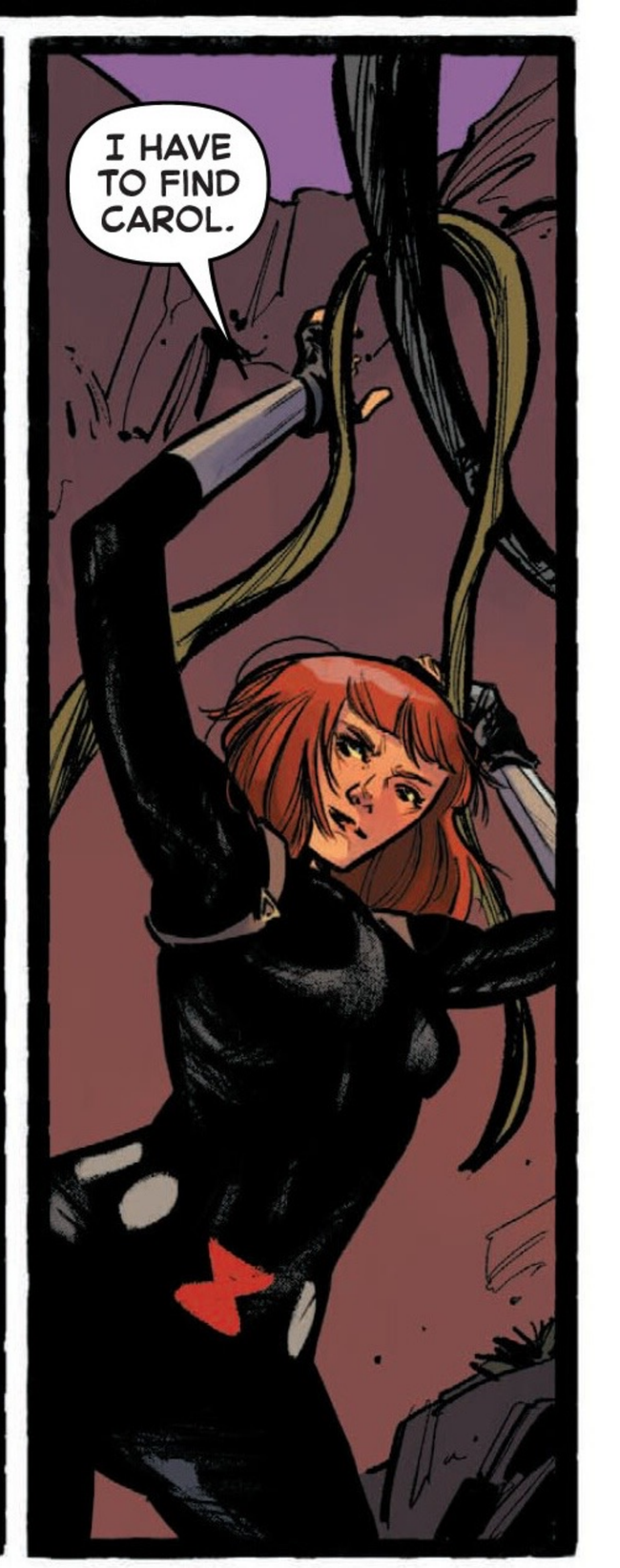
WHAT... WHERE AM I? BUCKY?
WAIT...THAT'S ME STANDING THERE...NEXT TO DOCTOR STRANGE AND CAPTAIN MARVEL?? WHAT'S HAPPENIN--
AIIIIEEEEE!
WHAT THE *HELL* WAS THAT...


STEPHEN STRANGE SHALL *NOT* BE THE END OF THE ENCHANTRESS.
WHATEVER THAT VISION WAS, ENCHANTRESS SAW IT TOO. AND SHE DOESN'T LIKE THAT *I* SAW IT.
TIME FOR AN EXIT.

NAT? ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
AND *WHERE* ARE YOU GOING?
DOWN. I GOTTA GO DOWN. RIGHT NOW.

NAT, IT TOOK US ALL DAY TO GET UP HERE. WE CAN'T JUST GIVE UP THIS GROUND.
MALEKITH'S ARMY IS STILL SPREADING ACROSS THE GLOBE!

YEAH. BUT WE'RE NOT GOING TO BE THE ONES TO DEFEAT ENCHANTRESS, AND IT'S NOT GOING TO HAPPEN ON THIS MOUNTAIN. I'VE SEEN IT.
STAY IF YOU LIKE, BUT MY MISSION HAS JUST CHANGED.


I HAVE TO FIND CAROL.

ZZZZZZZIP

AVENGERS MOUNTAIN.

CAROL.

CAROL.

CAROL. WAKE UP.

I...I'M AWAKE.

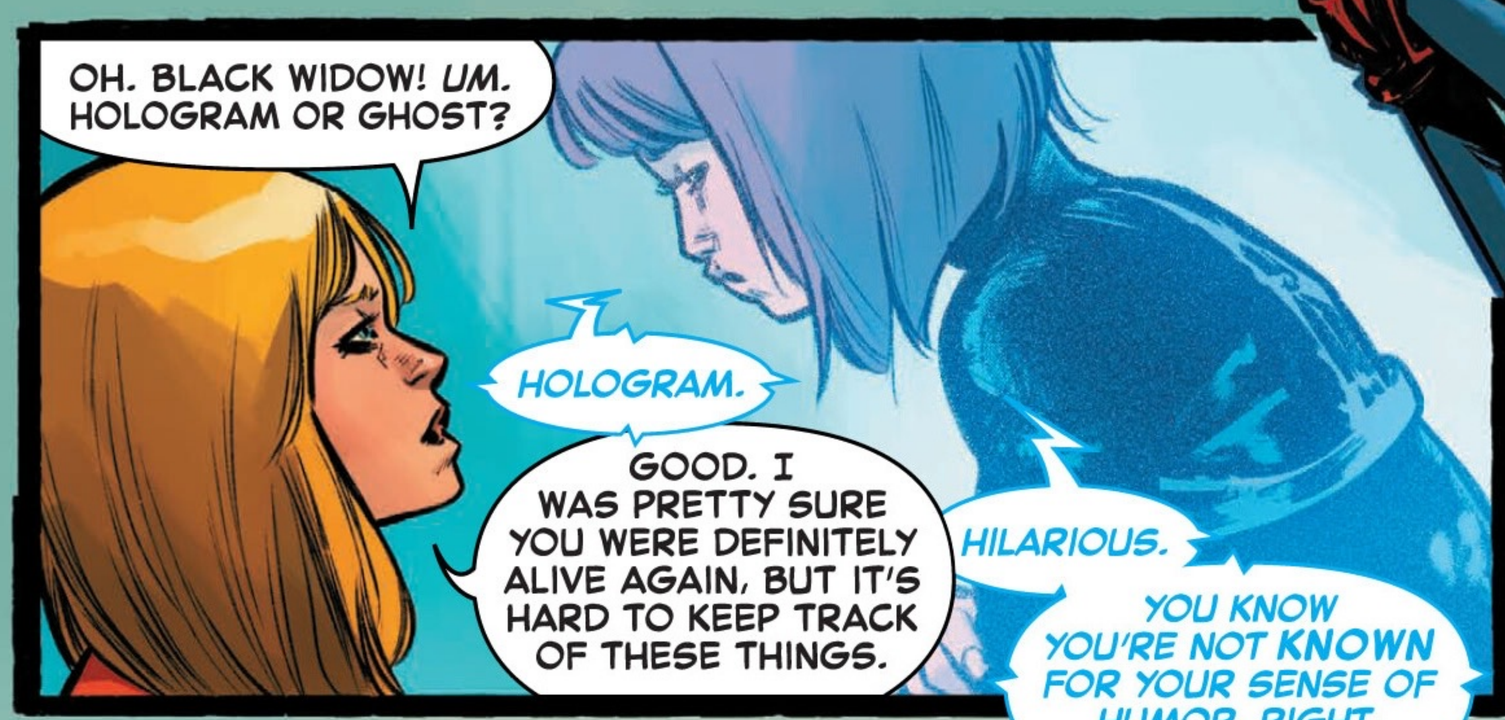
ALL EVIDENCE TO THE CONTRARY.

GIVE... GIVE ME A MINUTE...I'VE BEEN UP FOR THREE DAYS.

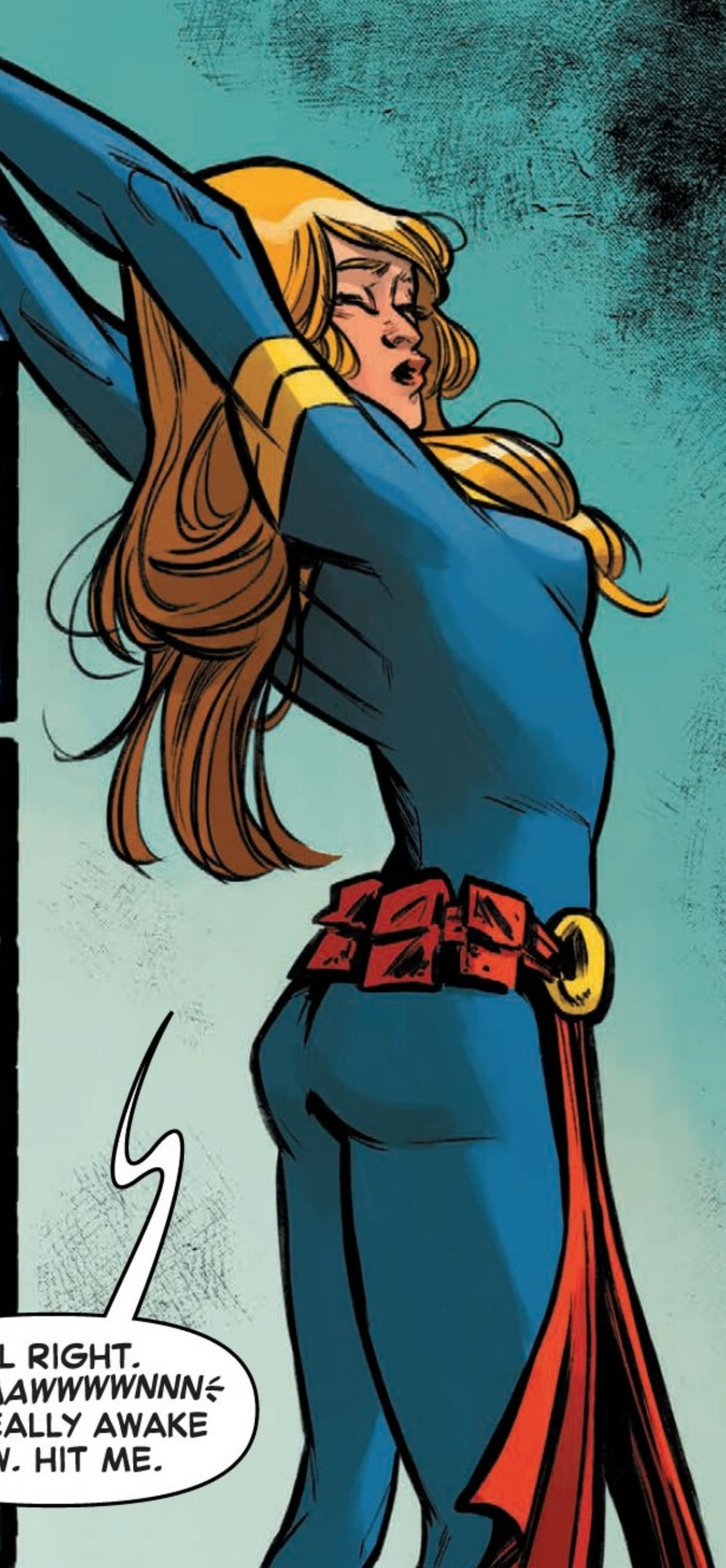
WHY ARE YOU EVEN ASLEEP? IT'S, LIKE, SEVEN PM THERE.

SEVEN? DAMMIT. I'VE ONLY BEEN ASLEEP FOR NINETEEN MINUTES... THAT'S NOT GONNA CUT IT.

WHO EVEN--


OH. BLACK WIDOW! UM. HOLOGRAM OR GHOST?
HOLOGRAM.
GOOD. I WAS PRETTY SURE YOU WERE DEFINITELY ALIVE AGAIN, BUT IT'S HARD TO KEEP TRACK OF THESE THINGS.
HILARIOUS.
YOU KNOW YOU'RE NOT KNOWN FOR YOUR SENSE OF HUMOR, RIGHT, CAROL?

HMPF. I'M PLENTY FUNNY. AND I COULD BE FUNNIER IF I WANTED TO BE. IT'S A CHOICE.
ARE YOU DONE RAMBLING ABOUT HOW FUNNY YOU ARE?
...YES.
GOOD. WE'VE GOT A SITUATION.
WHAT A SURPRISE.
RIGHT?
OUR LIVES ARE SPECIAL.
THAT'S A WORD.


ALL RIGHT. ≻YAAAAAWWWWNNN≺ I'M REALLY AWAKE NOW. HIT ME.

SO I'M IN SOUTH AMERICA WITH WINTER SOLDIER. WE'RE FIGHTING ENCHANTRESS' ARMY OF THE DEAD. I SEE AN OPENING, I TAKE IT.
SHE SHRUGGED ME OFF LIKE IT WAS NOTHING. BUT SOMETHING HAPPENED... I GOT CAUGHT IN SOME KIND OF...I DON'T KNOW... PRECOGNITIVE BLOWBACK OR SOMETHING.
I SAW, FOR JUST A MOMENT, THROUGH HER EYES... AND I FELT HER FEAR. SHE'S AFRAID OF DOCTOR STRANGE.
I'M LISTENING.

IF THE VISION IS RIGHT...STRANGE TAKES ENCHANTRESS OUT IN RIO. AND YOU AND I WILL BE STANDING RIGHT BESIDE HIM.
SEND ME YOUR COORDINATES. I'LL BE THERE IN SIX HOURS.
ALREADY DONE.

FIVE HOURS LATER, JUST OUTSIDE OF RIO DE JANEIRO.

YOU MADE GOOD TI--

OOF!

I KNOW YOU'RE NOT A HUGGER, BUT I'VE DECIDED TO PUNISH YOU FOR SAYING I'M NOT FUNNY BY HUGGING YOU. ALSO, I DIDN'T GET A CHANCE TO HUG YOU BEFORE, AND I...WELL, I'M SO DAMN GLAD YOU'RE ALIVE, NAT.

...

IT'S GOOD TO SEE YOU TOO, CAROL.

WERE YOU ABLE TO LOCATE STRANGE?

YEAH, BUCKY TRACKED HIM DOWN. HE'S BEEN BATTLING A LARGE HORDE OF UNDEAD WITH GHOST RIDER AND SPIDER-MAN JUST OUTSIDE OF SÃO PAULO... SOUNDS LIKE HE'S STILL IN THE AREA.

WHAT ABOUT BUCKY? HE FEEL LIKE JOINING US?

IT'S A BIG CONTINENT. HE'S GOT HIS HANDS PRETTY FULL. WE'RE ON OUR OWN.

WELL, THEN WE BETTER GET GOING.

HOURS LATER...
THAT LOOKS LIKE HIS ENERGY SIGNATURE BELOW.
FINALLY.
I DIDN'T REALIZE IT WAS SO FAR. WE SHOULD HAVE TAKEN THE QUINJET.
NO, YOU WERE RIGHT. THE JUNGLE IS TOO DENSE HERE. THIS WAS BETTER.
YES, WELL, YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO BE CARRIED.
WELL, I HAD TO CARRY YOU.
BUT I'M TOTALLY LIGHT.
OH, YEAH. YOU'RE A DELICATE FLOWER.
I AM.
HEY, STEPHEN, WE'VE GOT A PROBLEM.
CAROL, I'M RATHER BUSY. IF YOU HADN'T NOTICED, I'M SINGLE-HANDEDLY TRYING TO SAVE THIS VILLAGE FROM A HORDE OF UNDEAD KILLING EVERYTHING IN THEIR PATH.
YEAH, I SEE. WE CAN FIGHT AND TALK. CALL US THE REINFORCEMENTS.
IN THAT CASE, TALK AWAY.

THE CLIFFSNOTES ARE THAT NAT WAS FIGHTING ENCHANTRESS YESTERDAY IN RIO DE JANEIRO AND GOT CAUGHT IN SOME KIND OF PRECOGNITIVE BLOWBACK THAT LEFT HER WITH A VISION OF ENCHANTRESS' DEFEAT.
YOU HAVE MY EXTREME ATTENTION.
FWOOM
BLAM BLAM BLAM
GOOD. 'CUZ IT'S YOU DELIVERING THE FINAL BLOW, WITH NAT AND ME AT YOUR SIDE.
I'M DELIGHTED TO HEAR IT.
SHE'S GOING TO BE TOUGH TO FIND, THOUGH.
ENCHANTRESS?
BLAMMO
BONK
YES. SHE'S NOT GOING TO WANT TO COME ANYWHERE NEAR ME...ESPECIALLY IF SHE ALSO SAW NATASHA'S VISION. SHE'LL GIVE US A WIDE BERTH.
NAT'S VISION PRETTY CLEARLY SHOWED IT TAKING PLACE IN RIO. COULD BE AS SIMPLE AS GOING THERE AND LETTING DESTINY DO THE REST.
WELL, ALL RIGHT, THEN. SEEMS LIKE YOU LADIES HAVE GOT EVERYTHING WELL IN HAND.
LET'S CLEAN THIS UP AND MOVE ON TO THE BIG PICTURE.
FWOOM
MY THOUGHTS EXACTLY.

ALL RIGHT, BOYS, YOU HEARD THE MAN. BIG PICTURE.
BLAM
FWOOM
I HAVE AN IDEA. LET'S HOPE THIS WORKS...
HRRRG...
WHERE ARE THEY?
I SENT THEM "HOME."
THAT'S INCREDIBLE. LET'S JUST DO THAT A THOUSAND MORE TIMES.
YOU TRYING TO KILL ME?
NOT ACTIVELY, NO.
YOU KNOW YOU'RE NOT TERRIBLY FUNNY, RIGHT, CAROL?
I TRIED TO TELL HER. SHE'S NOT HAVING IT.
ARE YOU ABSOLUTELY CERTAIN THIS FIGHT WITH ENCHANTRESS DOESN'T HAPPEN HERE AND NOW?
WE'RE PRETTY SURE. WHY?
BECAUSE SHE'S RIGHT BEHIND YOU.

I WILL NOT WAIT FOR YOU TO MAKE YOUR MOVE, SORCERER.
ENCHANTRESS WAITS FOR NO MAN!

WELL, I MEAN, I'M NOT *MARRIED* TO RIO.
EXACTLY. LET'S JUST GET THIS DONE NOW.
OH, LET'S.

BOOM

OOF.
WELL, I DIDN'T LIKE THAT.
ARGH.
SCREW MAGIC. LET'S SEE HOW ENCHANTRESS LIKES SOME GOOD OLD-FASHIONED *PUNCHING.*

YES, PLEASE--DO WHAT YOU DO, "HERO."
HNNNNGGGG!
FLY RIGHT INTO MY TRAP.

ARRRRRRRGHH!

GROAN
GROAN
WHAT THE HELL DID SHE DO? ARE YOU TWO ALL RIGHT?

I...I'M OKAY, I THINK... STRANGE?

YEAH. I FEEL...WAIT... NO, SOMETHING'S WRONG.

OH MY GOD. NO. STRANGE?
SHE BODY-SWAPPED US.
NO NO NO NO NO.
OH CRAP. THAT BRILLIANT NORDIC #$%&.

THE FEELING OF BEING IN HIS BODY IS...BIZARRE.

I DON'T KNOW IF IT'S THE MAGIC, BUT IT'S ALMOST LIKE...LIKE A RIVER IS RUNNING THROUGH THIS BODY...CONNECTING IT...*ME* TO...EVERYTHING. BUT IT ALSO FEELS TOTALLY BEYOND MY CONTROL...LIKE THAT RIVER COULD SWALLOW ME WHOLE AT ANY MOMENT.

AND THEN THERE'S THE HANDS. CONSTANT PAIN IN HIS...*MY* HANDS. IT...IT'S A LOT. AND I'M USED TO PAIN.

THIS PAIN IN YOUR HANDS...THIS IS ALWAYS?

YES.

...I'M SORRY, STEPHEN.

I CAME TO ACCEPT IT LONG AGO. IT'S ALMOST LIKE AN OLD FRIEND NOW.

SPEAKING OF FRIENDS AND BODIES, *YOURS* IS VERY POWERFUL.

YES. IT IS.

IT'S QUITE AMAZING, TRULY.

HEY! WATCH THE HANDS, MAGIC MAN!

SORRY! JUST TRYING TO GET A FEEL FOR THINGS.

FEEL IS A POOR WORD CHOICE RIGHT NOW, STEPHEN. KEEP YOUR *FEELS* TO YOURSELF.

UGH, YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE TO FIGHT ME FOR THE RIGHT TO BEAT UP ENCHANTRESS, STRANGE...OH WAIT...NOW THAT'S ME. DAMMIT.

I HATE THIS MISSION SO MUCH.

SIX HOURS LATER.

SOMEWHERE ON THE ROAD BETWEEN SÃO PAOLO AND RIO.

THIS CAPE IS DRIVING ME INSANE. WHY DOES IT KEEP SMACKING ME IN THE FACE?!

IT'S CALLED THE CLOAK OF LEVITATION, AND IT DOES THAT BECAUSE IT HATES YOU.

WELL, THE FEELING IS MUTUAL.

FWIP

MEANWHILE, HOW DO YOU DO ANYTHING WITH ALL THIS RIDICULOUS HAIR? YOU SHOULD CUT IT IMMEDIATELY.

TRUST ME, DO THAT AND YOU'RE JUST TRADING ONE HEADACHE FOR ANOTHER.

WHATEVER. JUST...TRY AGAIN, OKAY?

MAKE YOUR HANDS LIKE MINE, SEE?

LIKE THIS?

I MEAN... NO. NO, NOT AT ALL. CAROL, THAT'S... IT'S COMPLETELY WRONG...ARE YOU EVEN TRYING?!

YOU THINK I'M NOT TRYING?! REALLY? YOU THINK THAT'S A REASONABLE THING TO SAY RIGHT NOW?
I'M SORRY, CAROL. BUT YOU SIMPLY HAVE TO REVERSE THIS SPELL.
IT'S SUCH A CLEVER MOVE...SHE KNEW I WAS A THREAT, AND SO SHE FOUND A WAY TO COMPLETELY NEUTRALIZE EVERYTHING I CAN DO. THAT BODY MIGHT AS WELL BE WORTHLESS NOW.
WORTHLESS?! ARE YOU FREAKING KIDDING ME, STRANGE? NONE OF THIS IS HELPING. YOU ARE LITERALLY THE WORST TEACHER!
STOP BEING SO OFFENDED, CAROL! WE HAVE BIGGER PROBLEMS THAN YOUR TENDER FEELINGS!
TENDER FEELINGS?! I'LL SHOW YOU TENDER FEELINGS!
I MEAN, I REALLY WISH YOU WOULD BECAUSE THEN YOU'D BE ACTUALLY DOING SOMETHING WITH THAT BODY! THAT WOULD BE PROGRESS!
DON'T YOU SEE, CAROL? THE THING THAT'S SO DANGEROUS...SO DISTURBING ABOUT THIS IS THAT MY BODY IS NOT LIKE YOURS.
THE MAGIC I WIELD IS A DISCIPLINE. IT'S KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE--IT SHOULD HAVE MOVED WITH ME...WITH MY MIND. BUT INSTEAD IT'S SOMEHOW STUCK IN MY BODY.
YOU'RE FOCUSED ON THE WRONG THING, STEPHEN. ENCHANTRESS NEEDED YOU SEPARATED FROM YOUR MAGIC, OTHERWISE WHAT'S THE POINT? YOU THINK SHE'D JUST PUT YOU IN AN EVEN MORE POWERFUL BODY THAT CAN STILL DO MAGIC? YOU NEED TO CONCENTRATE.
YOU'RE TELLING ME TO CONCENTRATE?!
YES! I THINK--
MMMPFFF.

NATASHA, ARE YOU--

--LAUGHING?!

I'M WATCHING THE TWO OF YOU YELL AT EACH OTHER, AND LITERALLY YOU COULD NOT BE MORE SIMILAR. YOU'RE THE TWO MOST STUBBORN JERKS I'VE EVER SEEN...AND I HAVE SEEN SOME JERKS.
ENCHANTRESS' PLAN IS BRILLIANT BECAUSE SHE TOOK TWO OF THE MOST CONTROLLING JACKASSES AROUND AND FORCED THEM INTO A SITUATION WHERE THEY HAVE NO CONTROL OF THE THINGS THEY TAKE FOR GRANTED EVERY DAY.
IF SHE WASN'T SO EVIL, I'D BUY HER A DRINK. IT'S GENIUS.

I'M GLAD IT AMUSES YOU, NATASHA.
YES, THE FATE OF THE WORLD, ALL THESE INNOCENT LIVES. IT'S HILARIOUS.

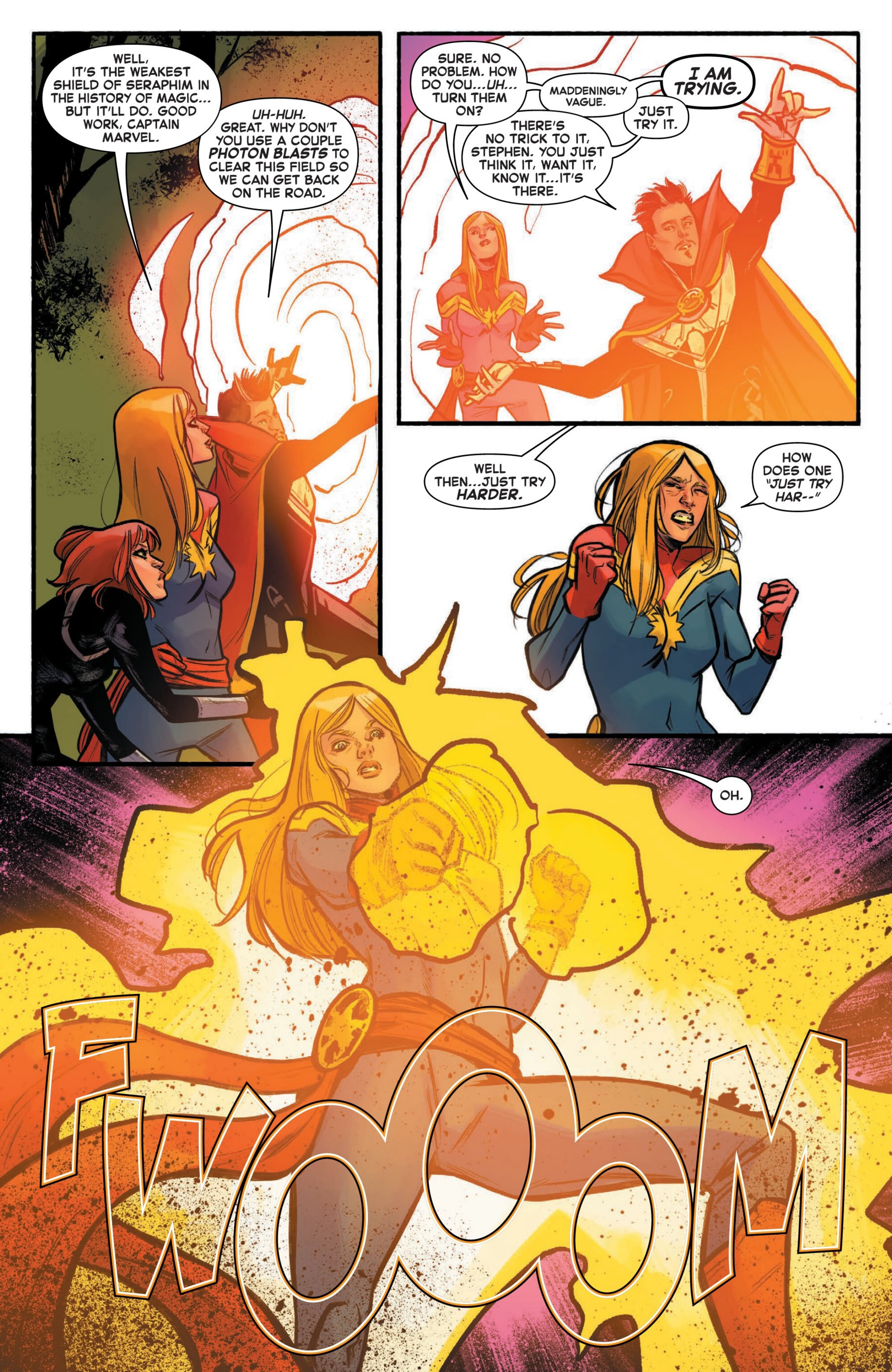
NO. IT IS NOT HILARIOUS. IT'S PATHETIC. YOU TWO NEED TO GET OVER YOURSELVES OR THIS IS NEVER GOING TO WORK.
IN FACT, WE WON'T EVEN MAKE IT THROUGH THE NIGHT... BEHIND YOU.

ARRRGGGH-GRRRRAHHH!
OH DEAR.
CAROL, DO A SPELL... NOW!
UM... EXPECTO...UM... PATRONUM?
SIGH CAROL... THAT'S HARRY POTTER.
I'M NOT PICKY. HARRY POTTER WOULD BE GREAT RIGHT NOW.
I WISH I KNEW HOW THESE RIDICULOUS SPARKLY HANDS WORKED.
WE'RE SO GOING TO DIE OUT HERE.

CAPTAIN MARVEL #7

Strange Trip Part 2

NEAR RIO DE JANEIRO.
SHIELD OF THE SERAPHIM! SHIELD OF THE SERAPHIM! SAY IT, CAROL!
BUT I CAN'T GET THE HANDS RIGHT!
JUST SAY IT ANYWAY!
SHIELD OF THE SERAPHIM!!!


WELL, IT'S THE WEAKEST SHIELD OF SERAPHIM IN THE HISTORY OF MAGIC... BUT IT'LL DO. GOOD WORK, CAPTAIN MARVEL.
UH-HUH. GREAT. WHY DON'T YOU USE A COUPLE PHOTON BLASTS TO CLEAR THIS FIELD SO WE CAN GET BACK ON THE ROAD.
SURE. NO PROBLEM. HOW DO YOU...UH... TURN THEM ON?
MADDENINGLY VAGUE.
I AM TRYING.
JUST TRY IT.
THERE'S NO TRICK TO IT, STEPHEN. YOU JUST THINK IT, WANT IT, KNOW IT...IT'S THERE.
WELL THEN...JUST TRY HARDER.
HOW DOES ONE "JUST TRY HAR--"
OH.
FWOOOM

THAT WAS INCREDIBLE!
YES. WELL. MAYBE DON'T BLOW US UP?

SECONDED.
THIS BODY IS SO POWERFUL.
YEAH, DON'T GET TOO COMFORTABLE, STEPHEN. I'M GONNA WANT IT BACK.
NOW... DO THAT AGAIN, BUT THIS TIME, POINT IT AT THE ZOMBIES.

DROPPING THE SHIELD ON THREE. BLACK WIDOW?
READY.
DOCTOR STRANGE?
OBVIOUSLY.
THREE.
TWO.

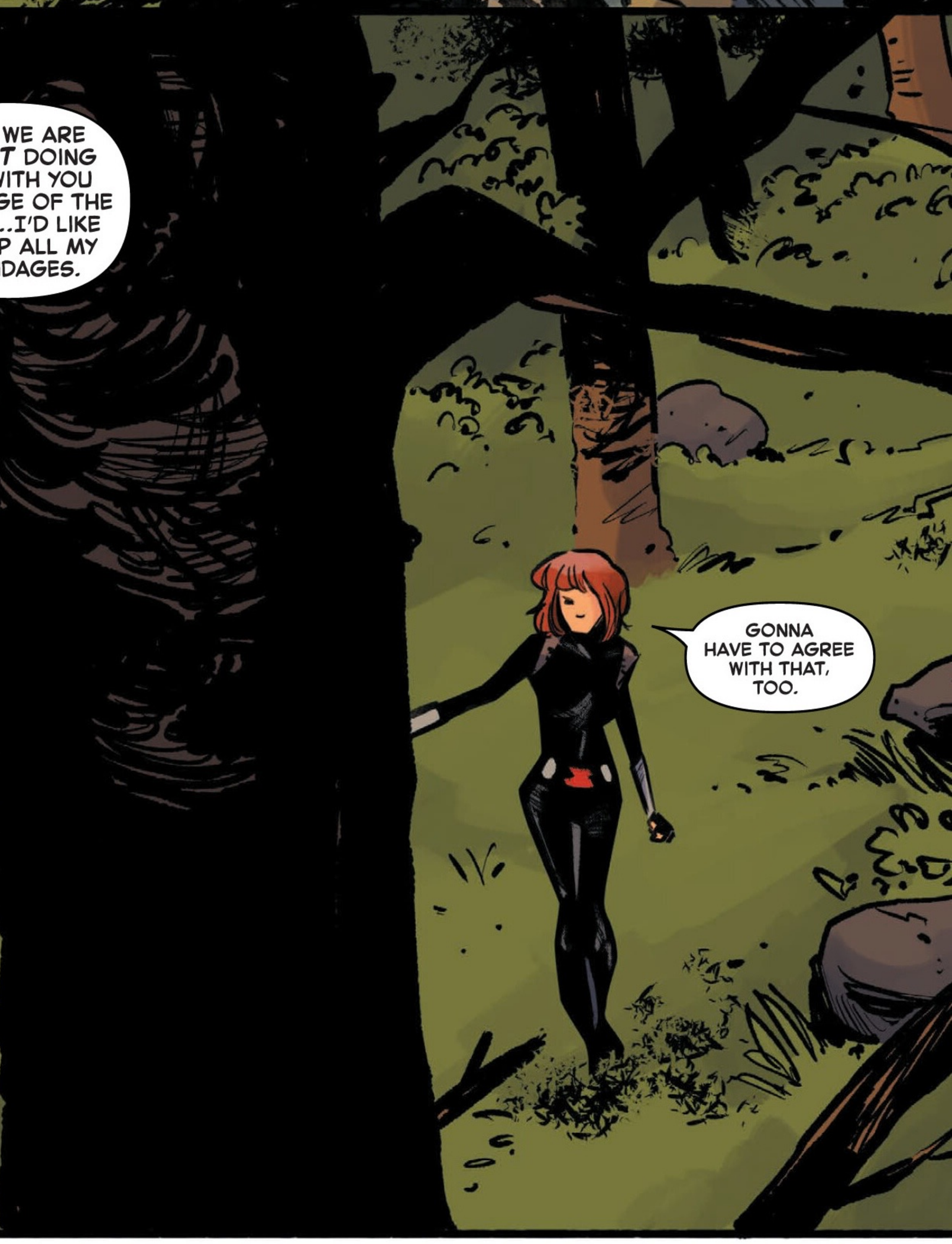
ONE!

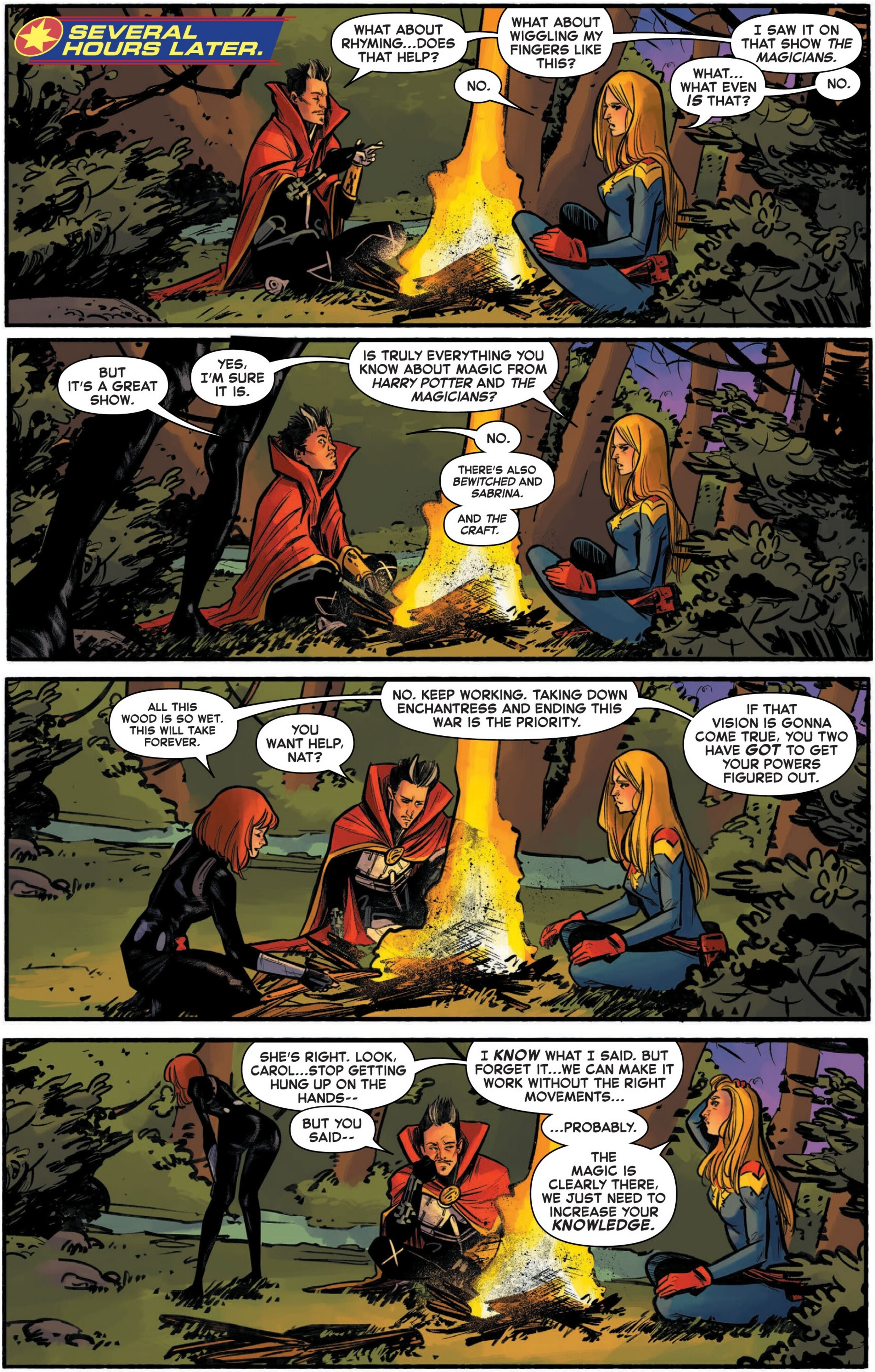
BLAM BLAM BLAM BLAM
FWOOSH
FWOOOM
AGH!
RARGH!

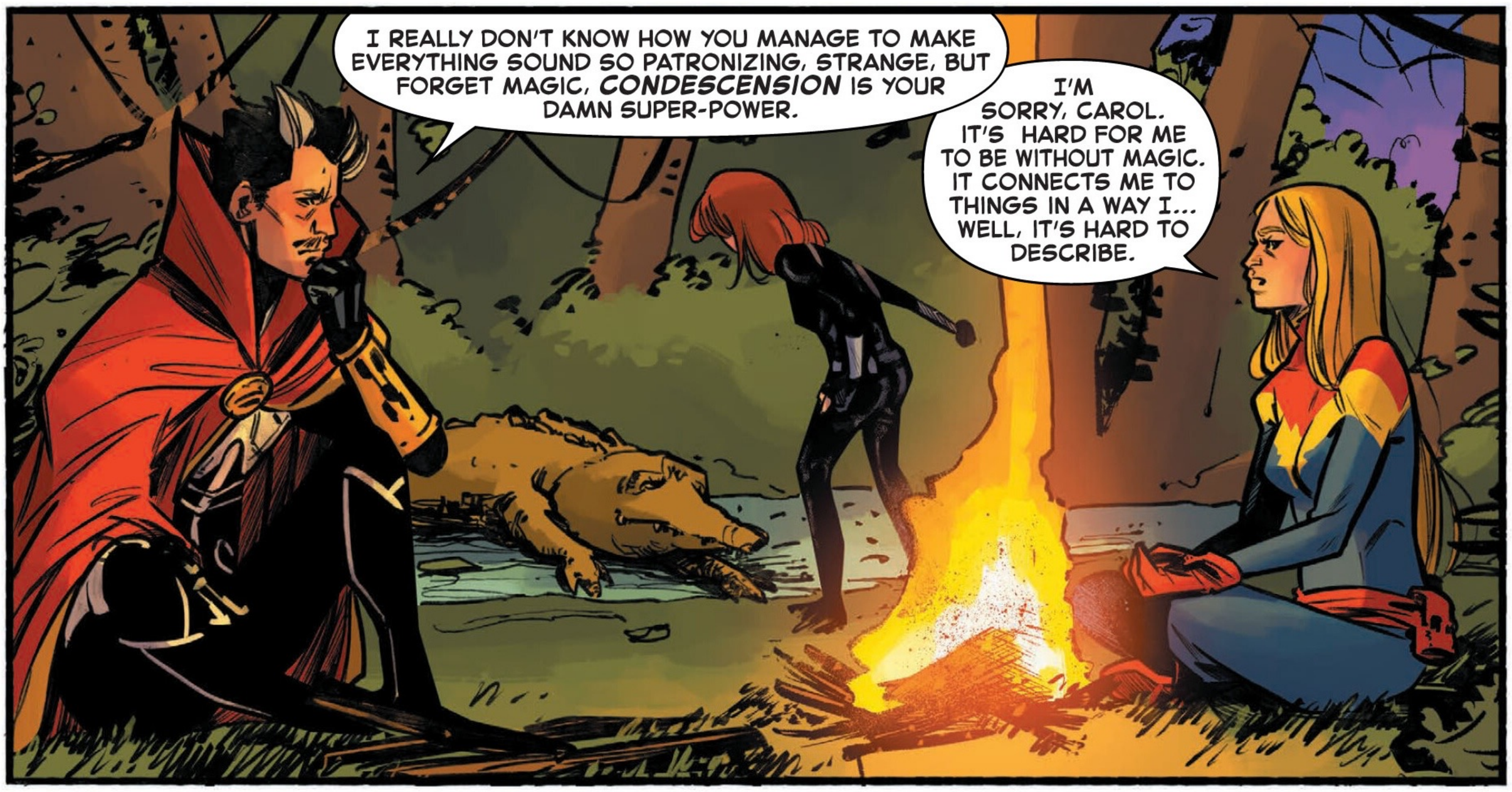
WELL, I DIDN'T HATE THAT.
LET'S GET MOVING...

BLAM
...WHO KNOWS HOW MANY MORE POCKETS OF THESE THINGS WE'RE GOING TO HAVE TO FIGHT BEFORE WE FIND ENCHANTRESS. AND I WANT TO MAKE CAMP BY NIGHTFALL.

SHOULDN'T I JUST BE ABLE TO MAGICALLY *TELEPORT* US? THAT'S A THING, RIGHT?
YEAH, WE ARE SO *NOT* DOING THAT WITH YOU IN CHARGE OF THE MAGIC...I'D LIKE TO KEEP ALL MY APPENDAGES.


GONNA HAVE TO AGREE WITH THAT, TOO.

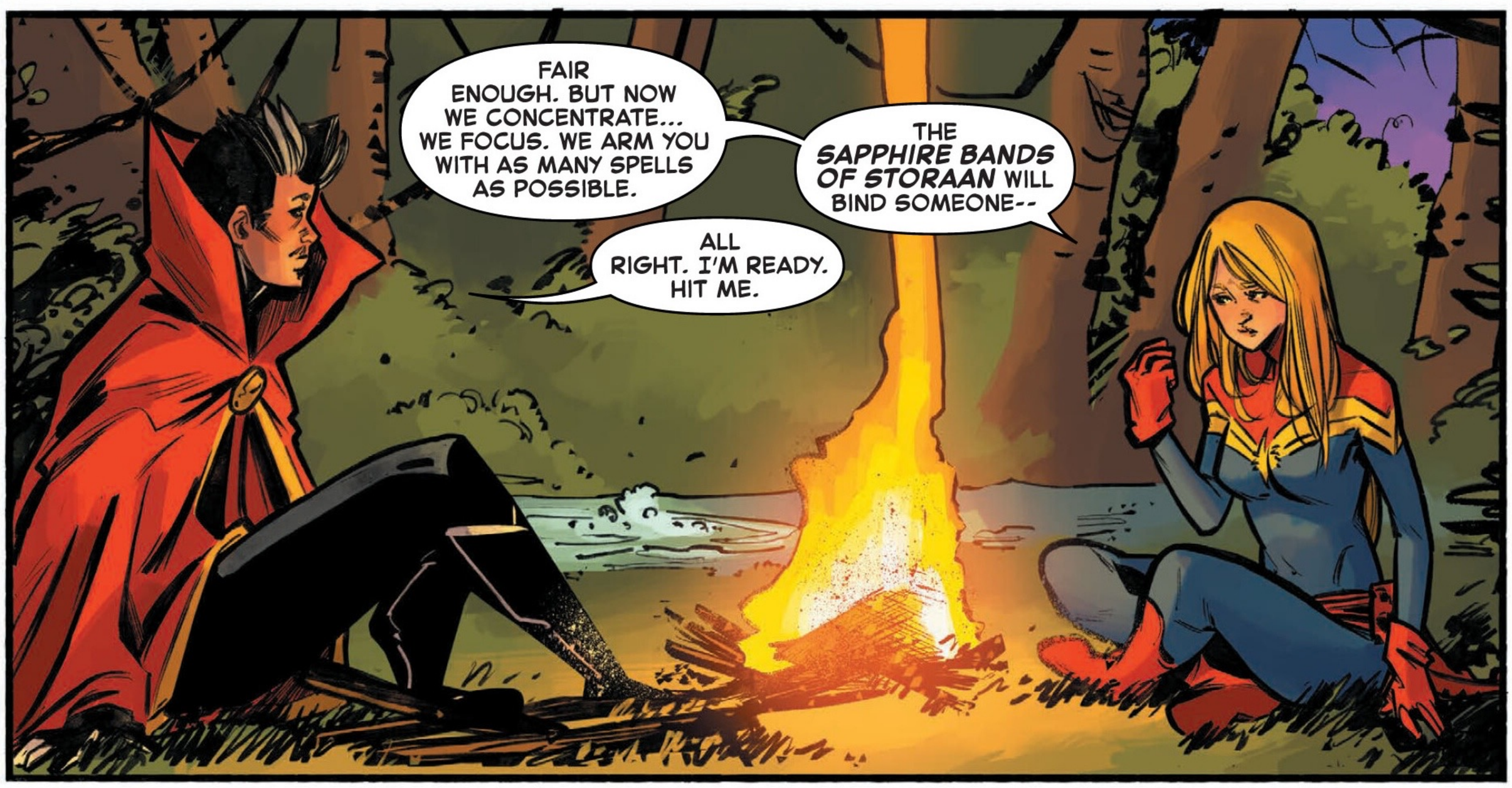

SEVERAL HOURS LATER.
WHAT ABOUT RHYMING...DOES THAT HELP?
NO.
WHAT ABOUT WIGGLING MY FINGERS LIKE THIS?
WHAT... WHAT EVEN IS THAT?
I SAW IT ON THAT SHOW THE MAGICIANS.
NO.
BUT IT'S A GREAT SHOW.
YES, I'M SURE IT IS.
IS TRULY EVERYTHING YOU KNOW ABOUT MAGIC FROM HARRY POTTER AND THE MAGICIANS?
NO.
THERE'S ALSO BEWITCHED AND SABRINA.
AND THE CRAFT.
ALL THIS WOOD IS SO WET. THIS WILL TAKE FOREVER.
YOU WANT HELP, NAT?
NO. KEEP WORKING. TAKING DOWN ENCHANTRESS AND ENDING THIS WAR IS THE PRIORITY.
IF THAT VISION IS GONNA COME TRUE, YOU TWO HAVE GOT TO GET YOUR POWERS FIGURED OUT.
SHE'S RIGHT. LOOK, CAROL...STOP GETTING HUNG UP ON THE HANDS--
BUT YOU SAID--
I KNOW WHAT I SAID. BUT FORGET IT...WE CAN MAKE IT WORK WITHOUT THE RIGHT MOVEMENTS...
...PROBABLY.
THE MAGIC IS CLEARLY THERE, WE JUST NEED TO INCREASE YOUR KNOWLEDGE.


I REALLY DON'T KNOW HOW YOU MANAGE TO MAKE EVERYTHING SOUND SO PATRONIZING, STRANGE, BUT FORGET MAGIC, *CONDESCENSION* IS YOUR DAMN SUPER-POWER.
I'M SORRY, CAROL. IT'S HARD FOR ME TO BE WITHOUT MAGIC. IT CONNECTS ME TO THINGS IN A WAY I... WELL, IT'S HARD TO DESCRIBE.

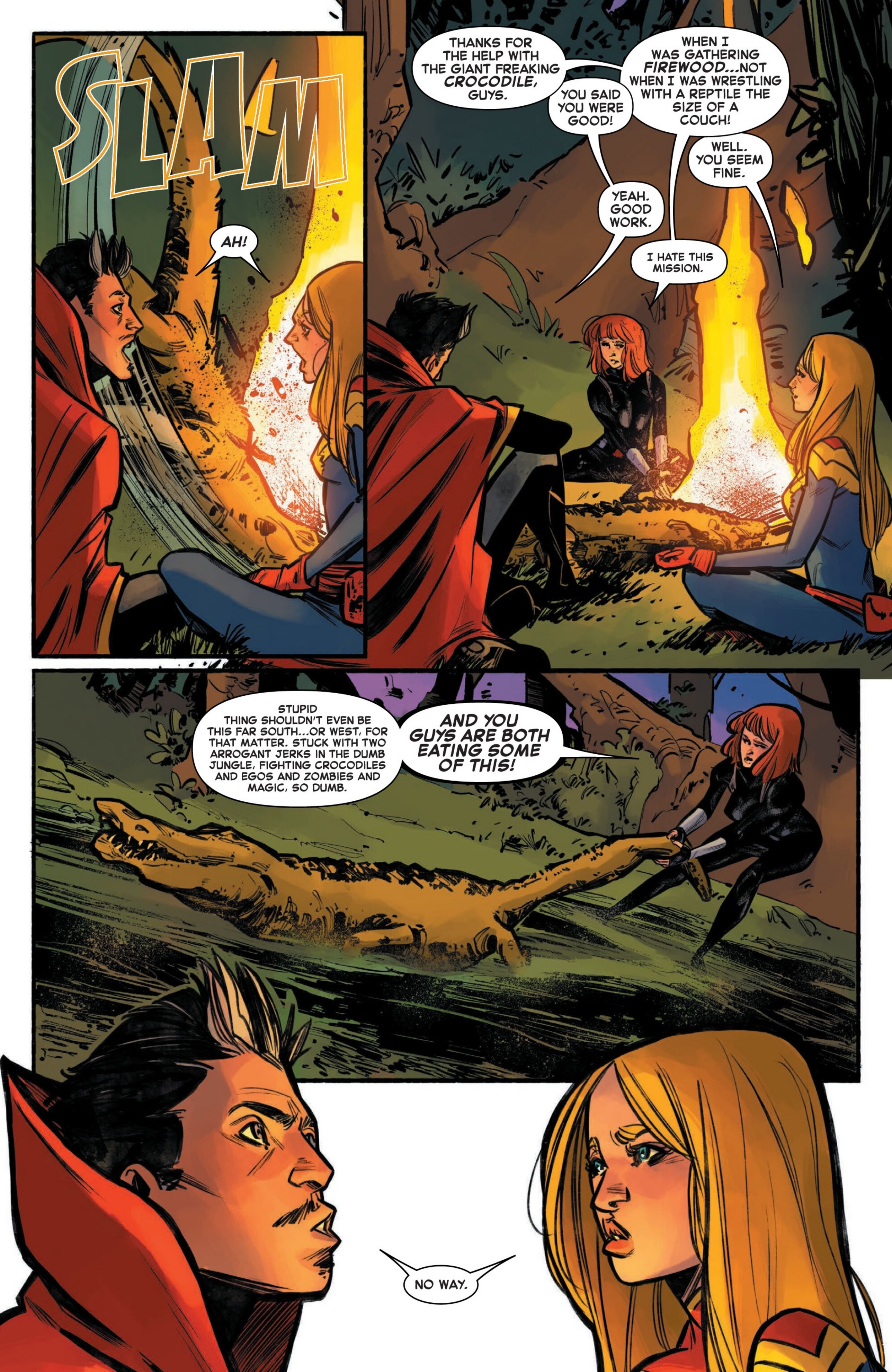
YOU DON'T HAVE TO DESCRIBE IT, STEPHEN. I'M *IN* YOUR BODY...I CAN FEEL IT. IT'S FASCINATING AND INCREDIBLE.
BUT THAT MAKES IT ALL THE MORE UPSETTING, YOU SEE. BEING CUT OFF FROM IT, BUT SEEING IT RIGHT THERE IN FRONT OF ME...IN *YOU*. IT'S SURREAL AND... DISTURBING.
NAT WAS RIGHT. BODY-SWAPPING US *WAS* A GENIUS MOVE. BUT ONE WE MUST OVERCOME... *TOGETHER*.

YOU'RE RIGHT.
AND SO IS SHE. IT'S ANNOYING HOW RIGHT SHE IS, REALLY.
NAT OR ENCHANTRESS?
BOTH, I SUPPOSE.
FOR ONCE WE'RE IN AGREEMENT.

...NOW TEACH ME ALL YOU KNOW, OH WISE AND POWERFUL ONE.
;SIGH; WE WERE HAVING A NICE MOMENT...WHY DID YOU HAVE TO RUIN IT?
SORRY. YOU DON'T LIKE BEING DISCONNECTED FROM MAGIC, BUT IT'S NO PICNIC TO BE OUTSIDE MY BODY, EITHER. I'M JUST TRYING TO MAKE THE BEST OF IT.


FAIR ENOUGH. BUT NOW WE CONCENTRATE... WE FOCUS. WE ARM YOU WITH AS MANY SPELLS AS POSSIBLE.
THE SAPPHIRE BANDS OF STORAAN WILL BIND SOMEONE--
ALL RIGHT. I'M READY. HIT ME.

WAIT, WHAT ABOUT THAT FANCY SHMANCY CRIMSON ONE YOU USE?
THE CRIMSON BANDS OF CYTTORAK. YEAH, YOU'RE NOT READY FOR THAT.
WE'RE GOING UP AGAINST ENCHANTRESS...A TREMENDOUSLY POWERFUL ASGARDIAN SORCERESS. DOESN'T THAT MEAN WE HAVE TO MAKE ME READY?
...VERY WELL.


SLAW
AH!
THANKS FOR THE HELP WITH THE GIANT FREAKING CROCODILE, GUYS.
YOU SAID YOU WERE GOOD!
WHEN I WAS GATHERING FIREWOOD...NOT WHEN I WAS WRESTLING WITH A REPTILE THE SIZE OF A COUCH!
WELL. YOU SEEM FINE.
YEAH. GOOD WORK.
I HATE THIS MISSION.
STUPID THING SHOULDN'T EVEN BE THIS FAR SOUTH...OR WEST, FOR THAT MATTER. STUCK WITH TWO ARROGANT JERKS IN THE DUMB JUNGLE, FIGHTING CROCODILES AND EGOS AND ZOMBIES AND MAGIC, SO DUMB.
AND YOU GUYS ARE BOTH EATING SOME OF THIS!
NO WAY.

24 HOURS LATER.
MAN, I HATE FIGHTING THE DEAD. THEY NEVER STAY DOWN. PLUS THERE'S SOMETHING JUST...LIKE, EXISTENTIALLY DEPRESSING ABOUT IT.
YOU DIDN'T SAY IT WOULD BE THIS CROWDED, NAT.
YEAH... I DIDN'T SEE THIS PART.
THIS PART SUCKS.
THIS IS GETTING US NOWHERE. WE COULD BATTLE THESE THINGS FOREVER. WE HAVE TO TAKE THE FIGHT TO ENCHANTRESS!
I AGREE!
NAT, GET BEHIND ME! THIS IS GONNA SOUND WEIRD, STRANGE, BUT WHEN YOU FEEL LIKE EXPLODING... JUST...LET IT HAPPEN!
WAIT! WHAT?! LET WHAT HAPPEN?! EXPLODING?

FWOOM
UM...GO GO "BINARY POWER-UP"!

OH. I SEE. YES. THIS IS GOOD.

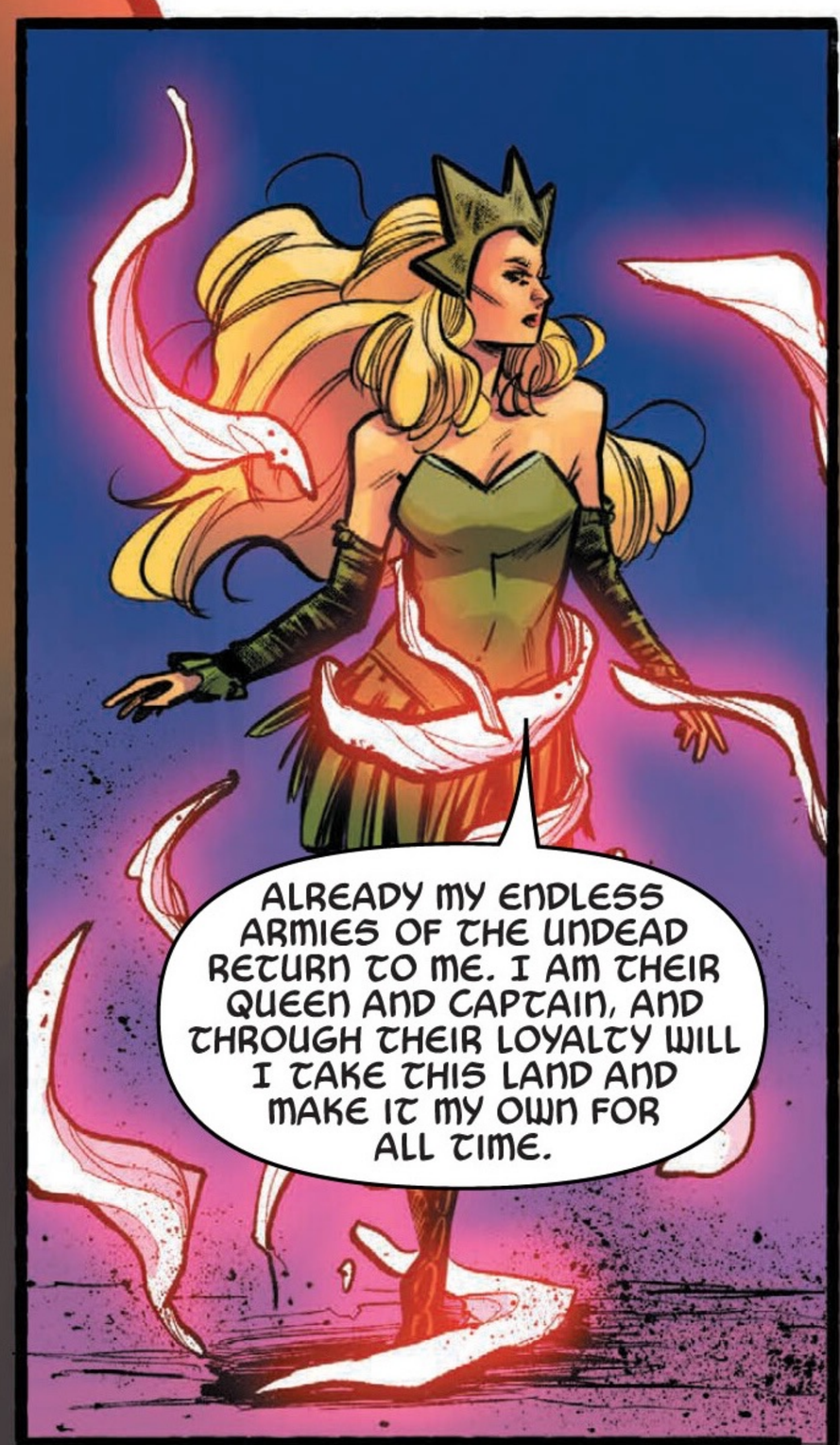
BOOM

IMPRESSIVE. BUT IT BOUGHT US ONLY MINUTES...NEW ZOMBIES ARE ALREADY ARRIVING. THEY'RE ENDLESS!

ENDLESS. I WONDER...

I BIND THEE...WITH *THE CRIMSON BANDS OF CYTTORAK!*

IT--IT'S WORKING!



BUT MAYBE...MAYBE THAT'S NOT SUCH A BAD THING? MAYBE I NEED TO STOP TRYING TO BE DOCTOR STRANGE AND JUST BE...CAPTAIN MARVEL.
WHAT DOES A QUEEN FEAR? A CAPTAIN OF THE DEAD?
DESTROY THEM, MY BELOVEDS.

...OH MY GOD. THAT'S IT.
I THINK TODAY, FOR YOU, QUEEN AND CAPTAIN OF THE ENDLESS UNDEAD...
...A MUTINY.

...no.
NO, YOU CAN'T. YOU ARE MINE...YOU ARE MINE!
RRRGGRAAAH
S-STOP. I COMMAND YOU TO STOP...

ALLEEEEE!
MY GOD.
BOOM
NO!
ARRRRRRRGHH!

OOOOF.
HNNNG.

OH THANK GOD.
WE'RE BACK.
HOW?

IT TAKES A GREAT DEAL OF MAGIC TO KEEP TWO MINDS JAMMED INTO THE WRONG BODIES. ENCHANTRESS USED UP EVERYTHING SHE HAD DESTROYING THE HORDE.
NICE WORK, CAROL. TRULY.
THANKS.
I AM CONFIDENT THAT WITH TIME I COULD HAVE FOUND A WAY TO DEFEAT HER...BUT I DON'T KNOW THAT I WOULD HAVE SEEN THE SOLUTION YOU DID. IN HER OWN WAY, THE ENCHANTRESS SEALED HER FATE WHEN SHE SWITCHED OUR BODIES.

WITH PLEASURE. I'LL TAKE HER BACK TO AVENGERS MOUNTAIN TO JOIN THE OTHER ALLIES OF MALEKITH'S WHO HAVE ALREADY FALLEN.

DO YOU KNOW WHERE YOU ARE HEADED NOW?

THE QUEEN OF CINDERS IS NEXT ON MY LIST.

GOOD. THIS WAR IS FAR FROM OVER, BUT I CAN FEEL THE TIDE TURNING.

I HOPE YOU'RE RIGHT.

CAROL DANVERS' MANHATTAN APARTMENT.
TEN DAYS AND A WAR OF THE REALMS LATER.
AW. GOOD GIRL...WHO'S MY LITTLE GOOSE? I'LL BE BACK SOON. BE GOOD.
KOFF KOFF
MROW?

WAR OF THE REALMS:
JOURNEY INTO MYSTERY #2 VARIANT BY
Rahzzah

WAR OF THE REALMS:
JOURNEY INTO MYSTERY #3 VARIANT BY
Marcos Martin

WAR OF THE REALMS:
JOURNEY INTO MYSTERY #4 VARIANT BY
Jen Bartel

WAR OF THE REALMS:
JOURNEY INTO MYSTERY #5 VARIANT BY
Kevin Nowlan

CHAMPIONS #5

Old Friends and New

BUR DUBAI.

I NEVER IMAGINED I WOULD SEE A *SUPER HERO* REPLACE MY *LIGHT BULBS.*

COME DOWN FROM THE CEILING AND HAVE SOME GAHWA AND DATES BEFORE YOU GO.

I MUST SAY, SECOND SPIDER, ALL OF THIS IS QUITE *STRANGE...*

DO YOU NORMALLY VISIT RANDOM PEOPLE IN THE PLACES YOU GO?

IT'S HARD TO EXPLAIN...

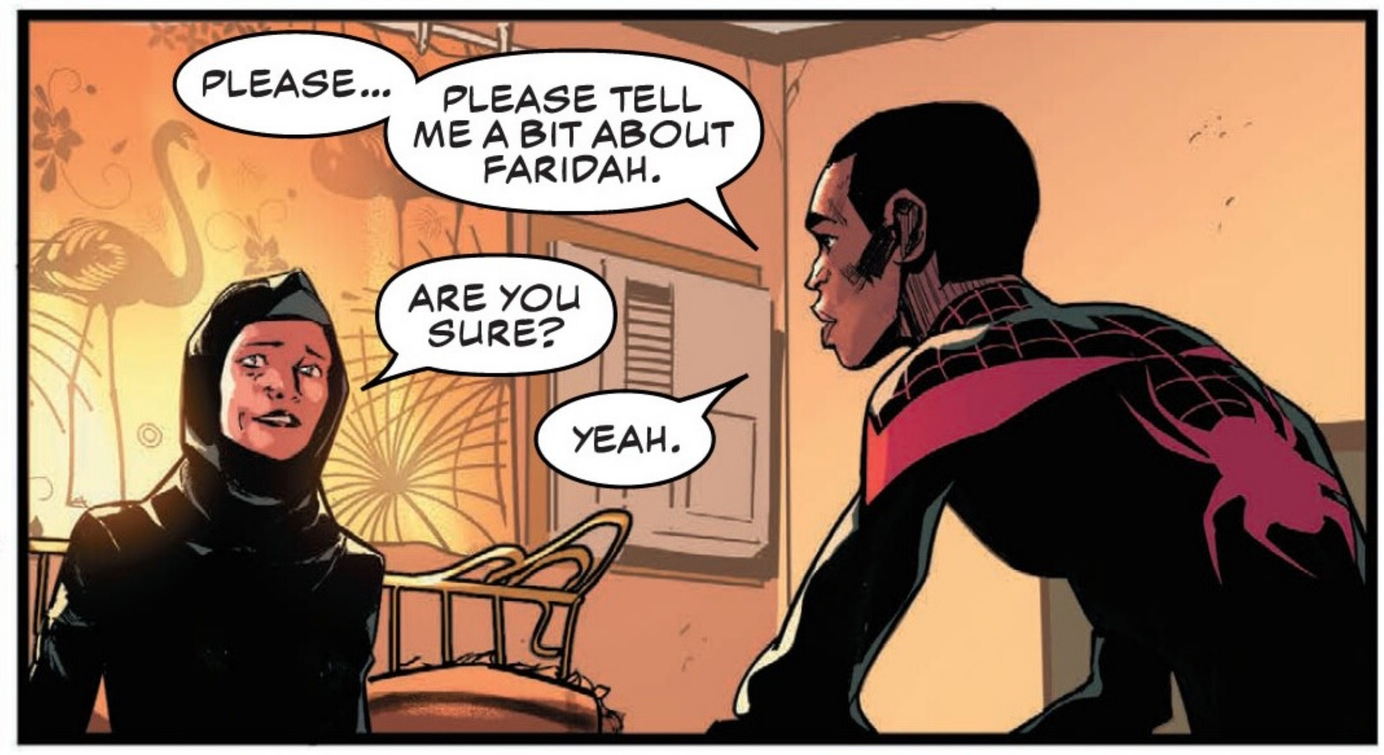
OH MY, I JUST REALIZED YOU CAN'T DRINK WITH A *MASK* ON. HOW FOOLISH OF ME!

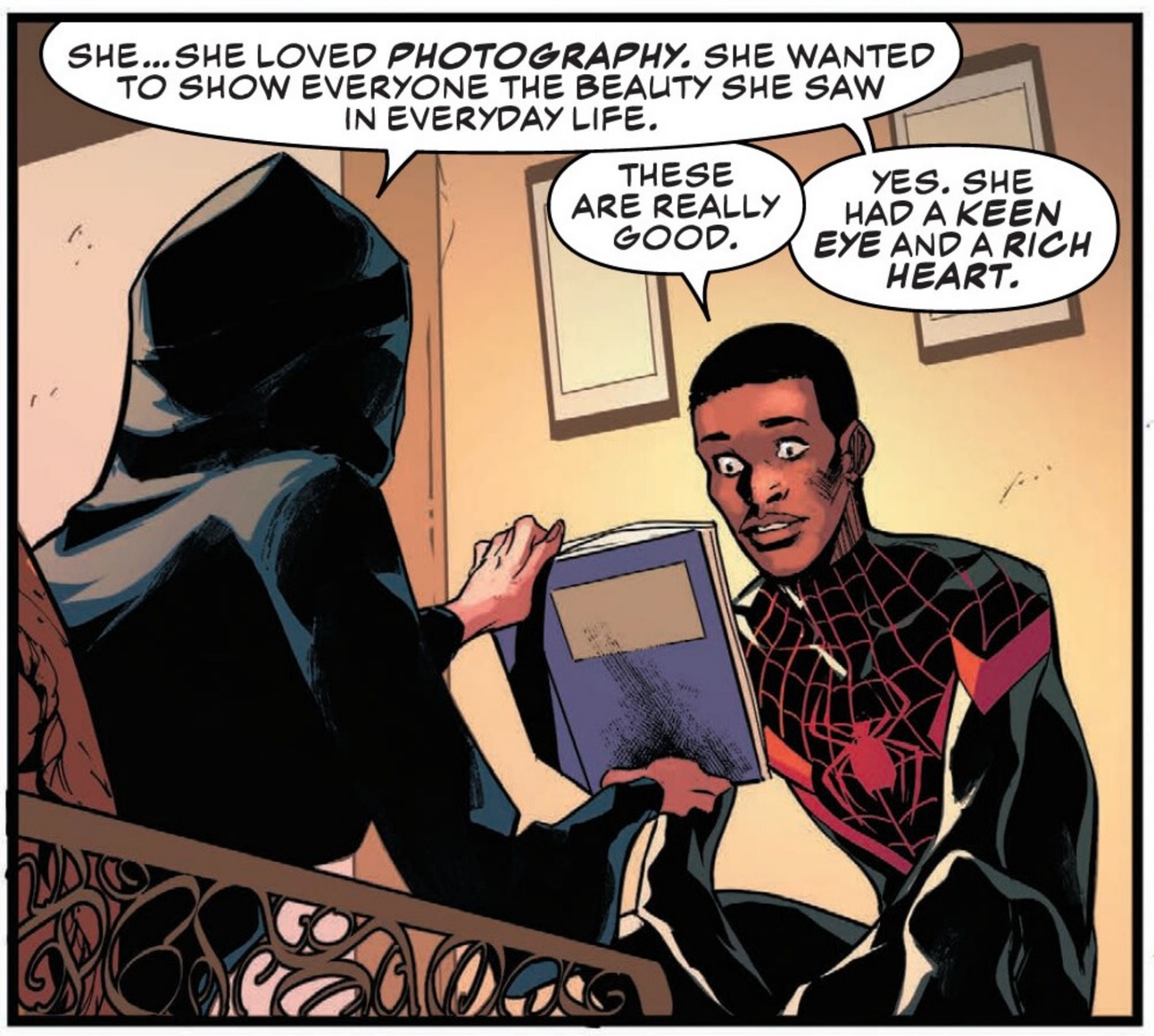
IT'S ALL GOOD, MISS KASSEM...

I *TRUST* YOU.

THAT'S WHAT I DON'T UNDERSTAND...
WHY?
WHY SEEK ME OUT THIS WAY? WHY SPEND SUCH TIME WITH A STRANGER MOURNING A YOUNG GIRL YOU DIDN'T EVEN KNOW?
I ALREADY TOLD YOU MY DAUGHTER'S DEATH WAS NOT YOUR FAULT.*
*IN THE ALREADY INFAMOUS CHAMPIONS #3. --TOM

IT'S LIKE THIS...
EVERY LIFE WE SAVE AND EVERY LIFE WE LOSE MATTERS.
IF I CAN'T APPRECIATE THAT, THEN I DON'T DESERVE TO WEAR THE MASK...

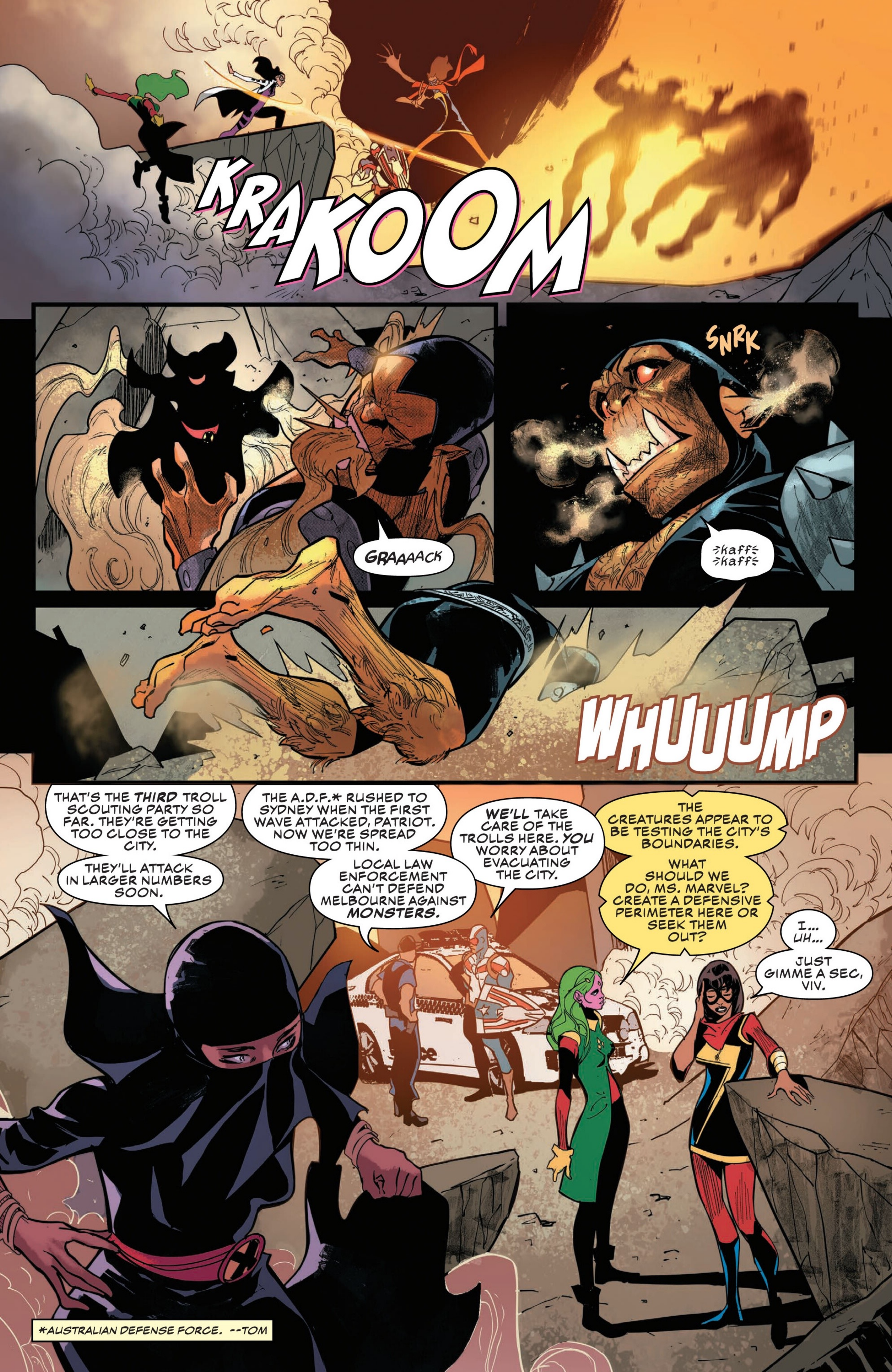

PLEASE...
PLEASE TELL ME A BIT ABOUT FARIDAH.
ARE YOU SURE?
YEAH.


SHE...SHE LOVED PHOTOGRAPHY. SHE WANTED TO SHOW EVERYONE THE BEAUTY SHE SAW IN EVERYDAY LIFE.
THESE ARE REALLY GOOD.
YES. SHE HAD A KEEN EYE AND A RICH HEART.

BUT...WE ARGUED A LOT TOO.
I WORRIED THAT TAKING PICTURES WOULD NOT BE A GOOD JOB.
NOW...NOW, THEY'RE ALL I HAVE TO REMEMBER HER BY...

WHAT IS THAT?! ARE THOSE MONSTERS?
OH MY GOSH! THAT'S--THAT'S NEW YORK! IT'S...
...AN INVASION.
THERE ARE PEOPLE IN DANGER, AND YOU CAN HELP THEM.
I... I DON'T KNOW...
I BELIEVE IN YOU, SECOND SPIDER. GO WHERE YOU ARE NEEDED. AND WHEN YOU GET THERE...

Old Friends and New


KRAKOOM
GRAAAACK
SNRK
=kaff=
=kaff=
WHUUUMP
THAT'S THE THIRD TROLL SCOUTING PARTY SO FAR. THEY'RE GETTING TOO CLOSE TO THE CITY.
THEY'LL ATTACK IN LARGER NUMBERS SOON.
THE A.D.F.* RUSHED TO SYDNEY WHEN THE FIRST WAVE ATTACKED, PATRIOT. NOW WE'RE SPREAD TOO THIN.
LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT CAN'T DEFEND MELBOURNE AGAINST MONSTERS.
WE'LL TAKE CARE OF THE TROLLS HERE. YOU WORRY ABOUT EVACUATING THE CITY.
THE CREATURES APPEAR TO BE TESTING THE CITY'S BOUNDARIES.
WHAT SHOULD WE DO, MS. MARVEL? CREATE A DEFENSIVE PERIMETER HERE OR SEEK THEM OUT?
I... UH...
JUST GIMME A SEC, VIV.
*AUSTRALIAN DEFENSE FORCE. --TOM

CRAZY CREATURES ARE ATTACKING EVERYWHERE. THE WHOLE WORLD IS UNDER SIEGE. THIS IS EXACTLY WHY WE EXPANDED THE CHAMPIONS. WE WANTED TO BUILD A *GLOBAL TEAM* TO TACKLE *GLOBAL PROBLEMS*...

I NEED TO TAKE CHARGE AND KEEP US MOVING, BUT I CAN'T STOP THINKING ABOUT EVERYTHING THAT'S GONE *WRONG*...

MILES QUIT AFTER TELLING ME HE LET *MEPHISTO* SAVE MY LIFE.

AMADEUS KNEW ABOUT IT BUT TRIED TO KEEP IT A SECRET, SO NOW WE'RE SNIPING AT EACH OTHER AND HE'S TRYING TO SHOW OFF WITH A NEW TEAM.*

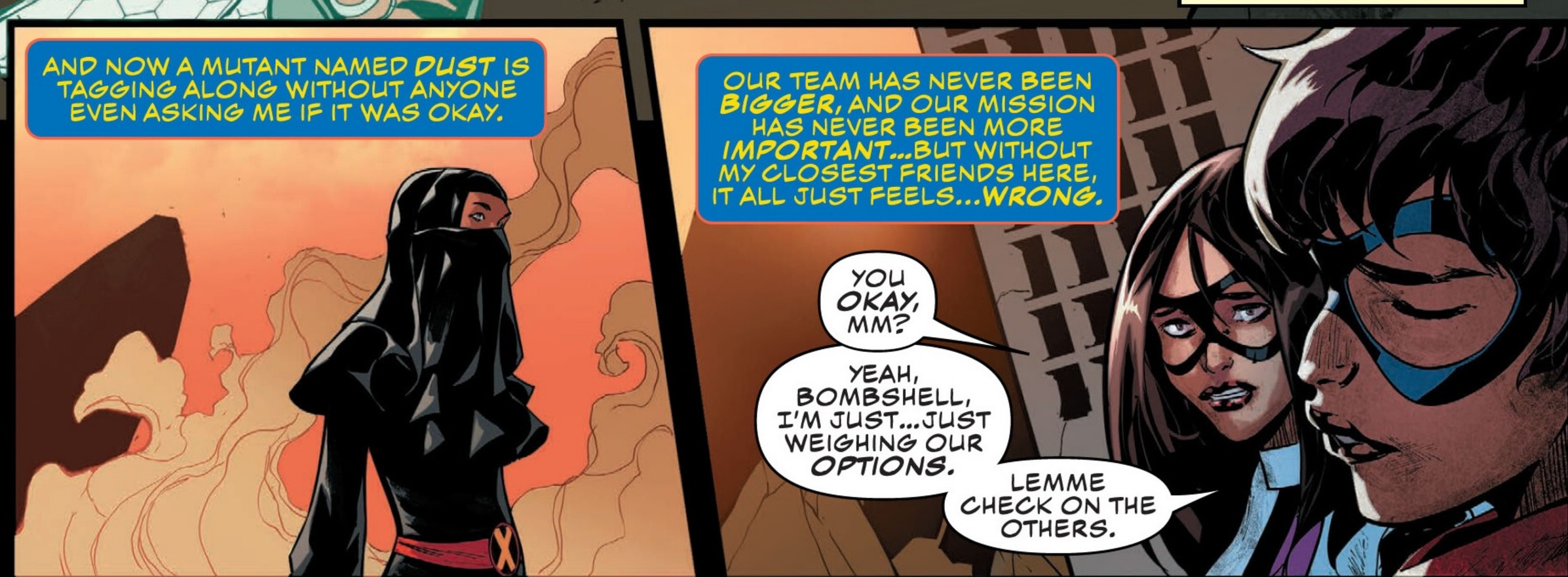
SAM JOINED UP WITH ONE OF HIS OLD ENEMIES AND TOOK OFF INTO SPACE LOOKING FOR HIS *NOVA HELMET*.

NADIA IS RECOVERING AFTER A *MENTAL BREAKDOWN*.**

VIV AND *IRONHEART* HAD SOME KIND OF ARGUMENT THAT SENT *RIRI* INTO HIDING.

*SEE WAR OF THE REALMS: NEW AGENTS OF ATLAS #1. --TOM

**IN UNSTOPPABLE WASP (2018) #4 AND #5. --TOM



PINPOINT, YOU THERE? HOW'S THE SUPPLY RUN GOING?

I'M PICKING UP POWER MAN AND WE'RE HEADING TO QUEENS, BUT I MUST TELL YOU...

...I'VE NEVER USED MY PORTALS THIS MUCH BEFORE. I'M GETTING WORN OUT.

TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA.

I KNOW I'M ASKING A LOT, BUT ONCE THAT'S DONE I NEED YOU TO GO TO SÃO PAULO TO MAKE SURE AMKA'S CREW IS SAFE. THEY HAVEN'T CHECKED IN FOR A FEW HOURS AND I'M WORRIED ABOUT THEM.

OKAY, I'LL TRY.

YOU SURE IT'S COOL TO TAKE ALL THESE MEDICAL SUPPLIES?

FROST GIANTS TOTALED THE CITY. THERE'S NOWHERE TO STORE THIS STUFF, SO USE IT AND HELP PEOPLE.

QUEENS, NEW YORK.

PORTAL AT 12 O'CLOCK!

EVERYONE STAY BACK!

WHOA!

WE COME IN PEACE, BLASTER BOYS!

WHO THE HELL ARE YOU KIDS?

ONE SEC, JUST GOT TO CATCH MY BREATH...

I'M PINPOINT. THAT'S POWER MAN. I MAKE PORTALS, AND HE GETS STRENGTH FROM AMBIENT CHI... THINGS.

WE'RE CHAMPIONS.

CHAMPIONS?

WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?
HOW'D YOU KNOW WE WERE HERE?
SOMEONE HIT OUR HASHTAG AND TOLD US THE X-MEN NEEDED MEDICAL SUPPLIES, SO HERE WE ARE.
YOU GUYS LOOK PRETTY ROUGH, MR. CYCLOPS.
WE'RE THE LAST HOLDOUT HERE IN QUEENS. WE'VE GOTTA KEEP THE STADIUM CLEAR SO PEOPLE HAVE SOMEWHERE TO HIDE OUT FROM THE FROST GIANTS.
THEY PATROL THIS AREA EVERY FEW HOURS, AND WE BLAST 'EM BACK.
I'D OFFER TO TAKE YOU SOMEWHERE BETTER, BUT NOWHERE SEEMS TO BE SAFE... AND I'M RUNNING OUT OF POWER.
PINPOINT, WE NEED YOU NOW!
MORE TROLLS ARE ATTACKING! WE'RE PINNED!
THAT'S... THAT'S MS. MARVEL!
YOU KNOW HER?
I JUST WISH I COULD TALK TO SAM...
...OR MILES...
...AMADEUS...
...OR SCOTT.
GRAB ANYONE YOU CAN AND GET YOUR BUTT DOWN--
ZAAAARK
--HERE...

...TO ME, MY CHAMPIONS!

I HEARD SO MUCH ABOUT SCOTT SUMMERS, THE TERRORIST.
ZAAAAR
CYCLOPS?
STORIES ABOUT HOW HE CHANGED FROM THE STOIC LEADER OF THE X-MEN TO A COLDHEARTED MUTANT RADICAL WILLING TO ROLL OVER ANYONE WHO GOT IN HIS WAY.
EVERYONE STAY TOGETHER!
I FOUGHT BESIDE A YOUNGER VERSION OF HIM AND SAW HOW SCARED HE WAS ABOUT BECOMING A HARDENED KILLER.
WATCH OUR FLANKS! DON'T LET 'EM SURROUND US!
BUT RIGHT NOW, NONE OF THAT MATTERS.
RIGHT NOW...
KEEP IT UP, CHAMPS!
WE'VE GOT THIS!
...HE'S AN INSPIRATION.

DUST, SWEEP OUT THEIR LEGS!
WOOOSH
POWER MAN AND PATRIOT, PUSH 'EM BACK!
WHAM
BOMBSHELL AND VIV, KEEP UP THE PRESSURE!
THOOM
YOU TROLLS ARE NOT GETTING PAST US!

BLASTED HUMANS!
FALL BACK AND REGROUP!
NICE JOB. WHERE'D YOU LEARN THOSE TACTICS?
HONESTLY? WORLD OF BATTLECRAFT...
THE MASS COMBAT PATCH LAST YEAR WAS SWEET. I LEVELED UP A BUNCH OF CHARACTERS.
LOOK, MR. SUMMERS, I KNOW YOU DON'T KNOW ME, BUT I KIND OF KNOW YOU...
...KNEW YOU...
...YOUR YOUNGER YOU, I MEAN...
DON'T WORRY, MS. MARVEL. I KNOW EXACTLY WHO YOU ARE.
WE WERE CAPTURED BY ATLANTEANS, WE FOUGHT THE FREELANCERS AND WE BEAT THE HIGH EVOLUTIONARY.
VIDEO GAMES, PAINTBALL AND WATCHING MOVIES. YOU GUYS WERE MY FRIENDS, AND I'LL NEVER FORGET THAT...
...BECAUSE WE'RE CHAMPIONS.

HOW?! HOW IS THIS POSSIBLE?
WHEN YOUNG "SLIM" SUMMERS RETURNED TO THE PAST AND CLOSED THE TIME LOOP, ALL HIS MEMORIES GOT ADDED TO MINE.
THAT'S CRAZY.
YOU DO THIS SUPER HERO THING LONG ENOUGH AND NOTHING SOUNDS CRAZY ANYMORE...
BOOM, BABY!
POWER MAN AND PALS TO THE RESCUE.
YEAH, YEAH... YOU'RE ALL THAT. THANKS FOR THE SAVE.

SOORAYA, I'M SURPRISED YOU'RE HERE.
SAME.
I'D SAY YOU LOOK WELL, BUT UNFORTUNATELY THAT WOULD BE A LIE.
HEH, I KNOW. IT'S BEEN A TOUGH COUPLE WEEKS.
I APOLOGIZE FOR NOT ANSWERING WHEN THE CALL WENT OUT.*
YOU DID WHAT YOU NEEDED TO DO. DON'T APOLOGIZE FOR THAT.
ARE THE X-MEN TRULY GONE?
YEAH. I THINK OUR LUCK FINALLY RAN OUT.
I'M JUST TRYING TO CLEAN THE SLATE BEFORE WE'RE ALL DONE.
*SEE UNCANNY X-MEN (2018) #11. --TOM

I AM TRYING TO FIND A WAY TO LIVE MY LIFE WITHOUT HARMING OTHERS, BUT IF YOU NEED ME...
NO.
I WON'T HAVE YOU DAMAGE YOUR FAITH TO JOIN US.
THE CHAMPIONS ARE A GOOD FIT FOR YOU RIGHT NOW.

PERHAPS, BUT THEY HAVE NOT INVITED ME TO JOIN.
LOOK, DUST, I'LL BE HONEST. I WAS SURPRISED WHEN VIV BROUGHT YOU ALONG, BUT IF SHE AND SCOTT BOTH TRUST YOU, THEN I WILL TOO.
WELCOME TO THE TEAM.

MS. MARVEL, THE ROCK TROLLS ARE PUSHING FORWARD AGAIN.
THEIR FORCES APPEAR TO BE 83 PERCENT LARGER THAN LAST TIME.
GET READY, EVERYONE...

SOMETIMES, WHEN I'M REALLY SCARED, THERE'S A VOICE IN MY HEAD THAT TELLS ME THINGS I DON'T WANT TO HEAR...

"YOU'RE NOT STRONG ENOUGH...
"...OR SMART ENOUGH.
"YOU'RE GOING TO GET HURT...
"...AND EVEN IF YOU WIN THIS TIME, NONE OF IT WILL MATTER IN THE END."
WHEN MY FRIENDS ARE AROUND, I CAN IGNORE THOSE FEARS AND DO WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE.
WHEN THEY'RE NOT, IT'S A LOT HARDER TO SEE MYSELF AS THE HERO I WANT TO BE.

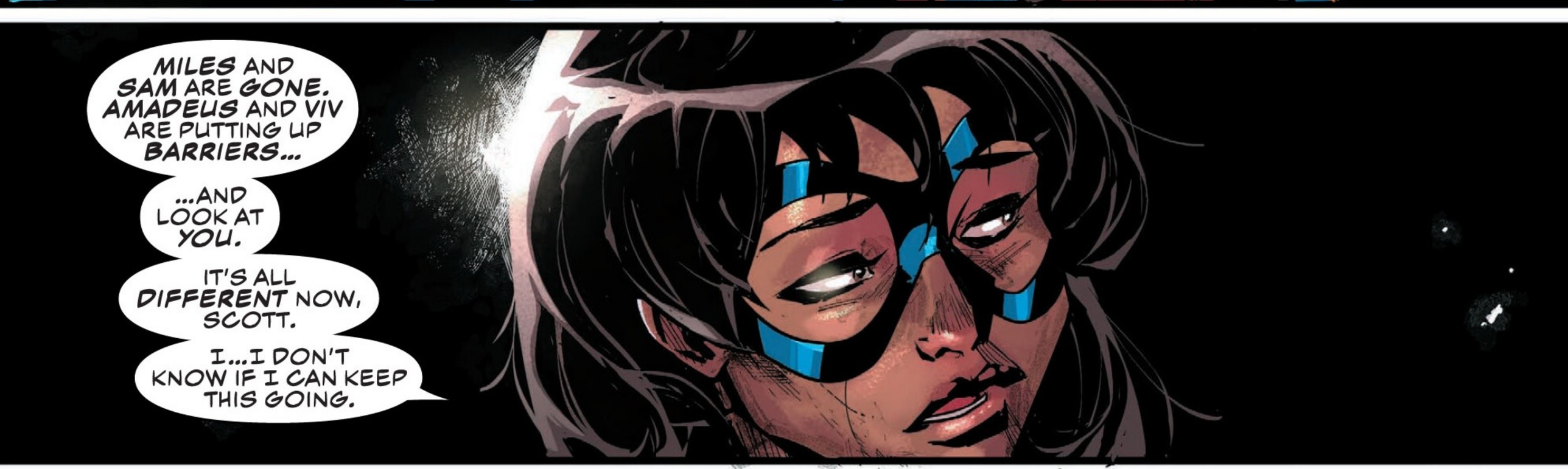
THE PERIMETER IS CLEAR.
WOLVERINE'S GONNA BE SAD HE MISSED OUT ON THIS SCRAP.
I HEARD MR. WOLVERINE IS REALLY SHORT.
HE IS, ACTUALLY.

DUST, ARE YOU...ARE YOU OKAY?
I'M FINE, JUST PRAYING.
TRYING TO RATIONALIZE THE VIOLENCE WE MUST PERPETUATE HERE IN ORDER TO SAVE OTHERS.
IT KINDA SUCKS, RIGHT?
YES.

THIS WAR IS AWFUL. EVERYWHERE I GO, IT'S ALL A MESS.
DON'T BLAME ME. I ONLY BLEW UP STUFF THE TROLLS ALREADY BROKE.

YOU DID GOOD.
DID I? I CAN'T EVEN TELL ANYMORE.
ALL I SEE IS THE DESTRUCTION WE LEAVE BEHIND.

YOU DIDN'T DO THIS. YOU AND THE TEAM ARE DOING EVERYTHING YOU CAN TO STOP IT FROM GETTING WORSE.
IS THAT ENOUGH?
IT HAS TO BE, BECAUSE RIGHT NOW THAT'S ALL WE'VE GOT.


MILES AND SAM ARE GONE. AMADEUS AND VIV ARE PUTTING UP BARRIERS...
...AND LOOK AT YOU.
IT'S ALL DIFFERENT NOW, SCOTT.
I...I DON'T KNOW IF I CAN KEEP THIS GOING.

I'VE BEEN WHERE YOU ARE. I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE FEELING.
I CAN'T GUARANTEE THAT IT'S GONNA GET ANY EASIER, BUT I CAN TELL YOU THIS--
--WHAT YOU'RE DOING MATTERS.
THE CHAMPIONS MATTER.

QUEENS.

THE PERIMETER IS SECURE. PEOPLE ARE SAFE. WHY ARE YOU SO ANNOYED, HAVOK?

WHY DO YOU THINK, JAMIE?

YOU'RE SCOTT'S BROTHER, NOT HIS *KEEPER.* HE'LL COME BACK WHEN HE--

ZAP

AHHH!

I'M HEADING TO *SÃO PAULO,* BUT STAY IN TOUCH AND LET ME KNOW IF I CAN HELP.

WILL DO.

YOU HAVE FUN ON YOUR TRIP WITH THE *TEENY-BOPPERS?*

THEY NEEDED *HELP.*

YEAH, AND WHAT ABOUT *US?* YOU'RE JUST LUCKY THINGS WERE *QUIET* HERE WHILE YOU WERE GONE.

WHAT THE HELL WERE YOU *THINKING?!* WE'RE SUPPOSED TO BE A *TEAM.*

I KNOW. THAT'S WHY I WENT...

...BECAUSE MY *TEAM* NEEDED ME.

SPIDER-MAN & THE LEAGUE OF REALMS #1
VARIANT BY
Cully Hamner & Morry Hollowell

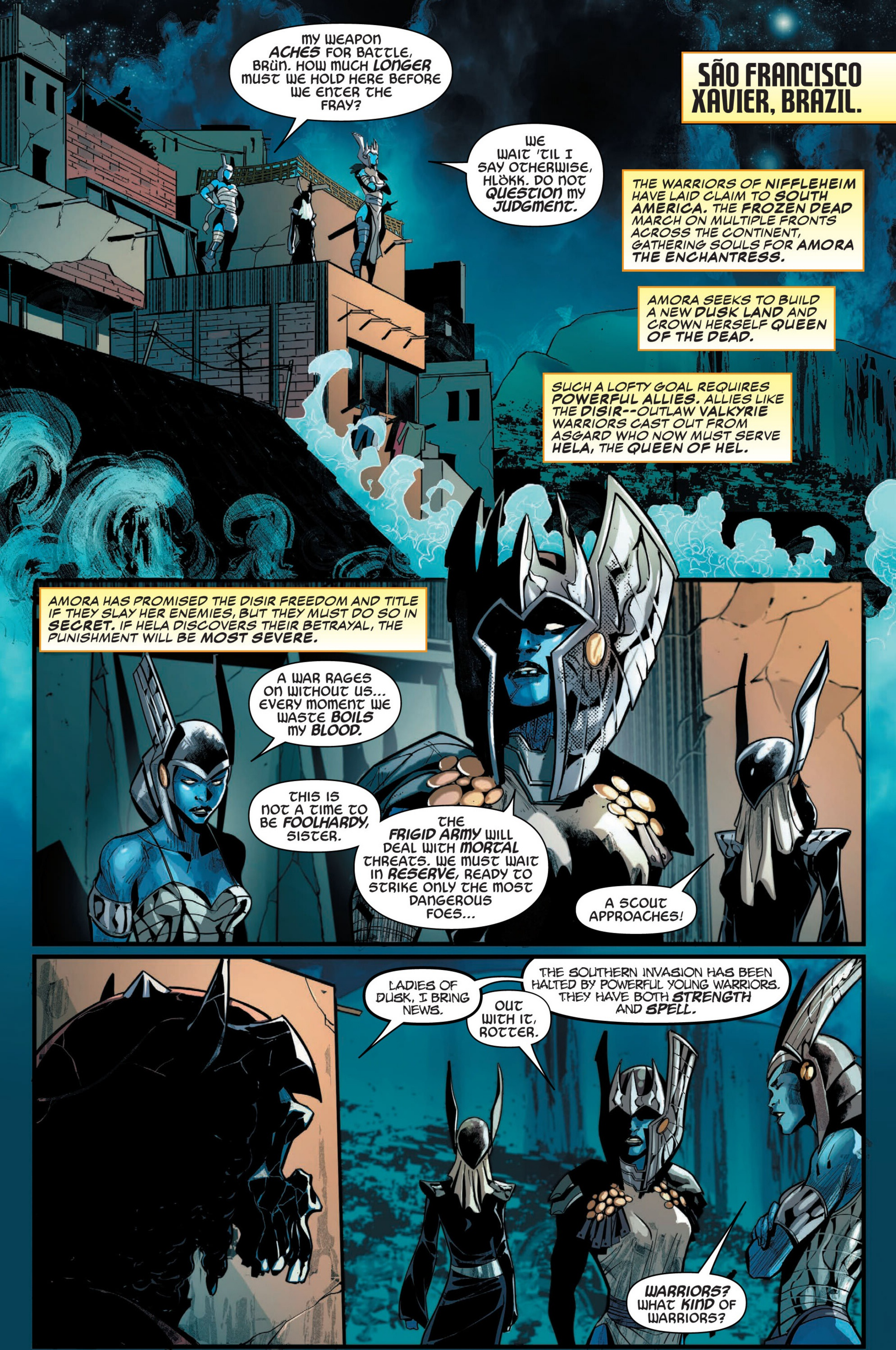
SPIDER-MAN & THE LEAGUE OF REALMS #2
VARIANT BY
Lan Medina, Livesay & Brian Reber

SPIDER-MAN & THE LEAGUE OF REALMS #3
VARIANT BY
Cully Hamner & Morry Hollowell

WAR OF THE REALMS:
NEW AGENTS OF ATLAS #1 VARIANT BY
Pyeong-Jun Park

CHAMPIONS #6

Dead Ahead


MY WEAPON ACHES FOR BATTLE, BRÜN. HOW MUCH LONGER MUST WE HOLD HERE BEFORE WE ENTER THE FRAY?
WE WAIT 'TIL I SAY OTHERWISE, HLÖKK. DO NOT QUESTION MY JUDGMENT.
SÃO FRANCISCO XAVIER, BRAZIL.
THE WARRIORS OF NIFFLEHEIM HAVE LAID CLAIM TO SOUTH AMERICA. THE FROZEN DEAD MARCH ON MULTIPLE FRONTS ACROSS THE CONTINENT, GATHERING SOULS FOR AMORA THE ENCHANTRESS.
AMORA SEEKS TO BUILD A NEW DUSK LAND AND CROWN HERSELF QUEEN OF THE DEAD.
SUCH A LOFTY GOAL REQUIRES POWERFUL ALLIES. ALLIES LIKE THE DISIR--OUTLAW VALKYRIE WARRIORS CAST OUT FROM ASGARD WHO NOW MUST SERVE HELA, THE QUEEN OF HEL.
AMORA HAS PROMISED THE DISIR FREEDOM AND TITLE IF THEY SLAY HER ENEMIES, BUT THEY MUST DO SO IN SECRET. IF HELA DISCOVERS THEIR BETRAYAL, THE PUNISHMENT WILL BE MOST SEVERE.
A WAR RAGES ON WITHOUT US... EVERY MOMENT WE WASTE BOILS MY BLOOD.
THIS IS NOT A TIME TO BE FOOLHARDY, SISTER.
THE FRIGID ARMY WILL DEAL WITH MORTAL THREATS. WE MUST WAIT IN RESERVE, READY TO STRIKE ONLY THE MOST DANGEROUS FOES...
A SCOUT APPROACHES!
LADIES OF DUSK, I BRING NEWS.
OUT WITH IT, ROTTER.
THE SOUTHERN INVASION HAS BEEN HALTED BY POWERFUL YOUNG WARRIORS. THEY HAVE BOTH STRENGTH AND SPELL.
WARRIORS? WHAT KIND OF WARRIORS?

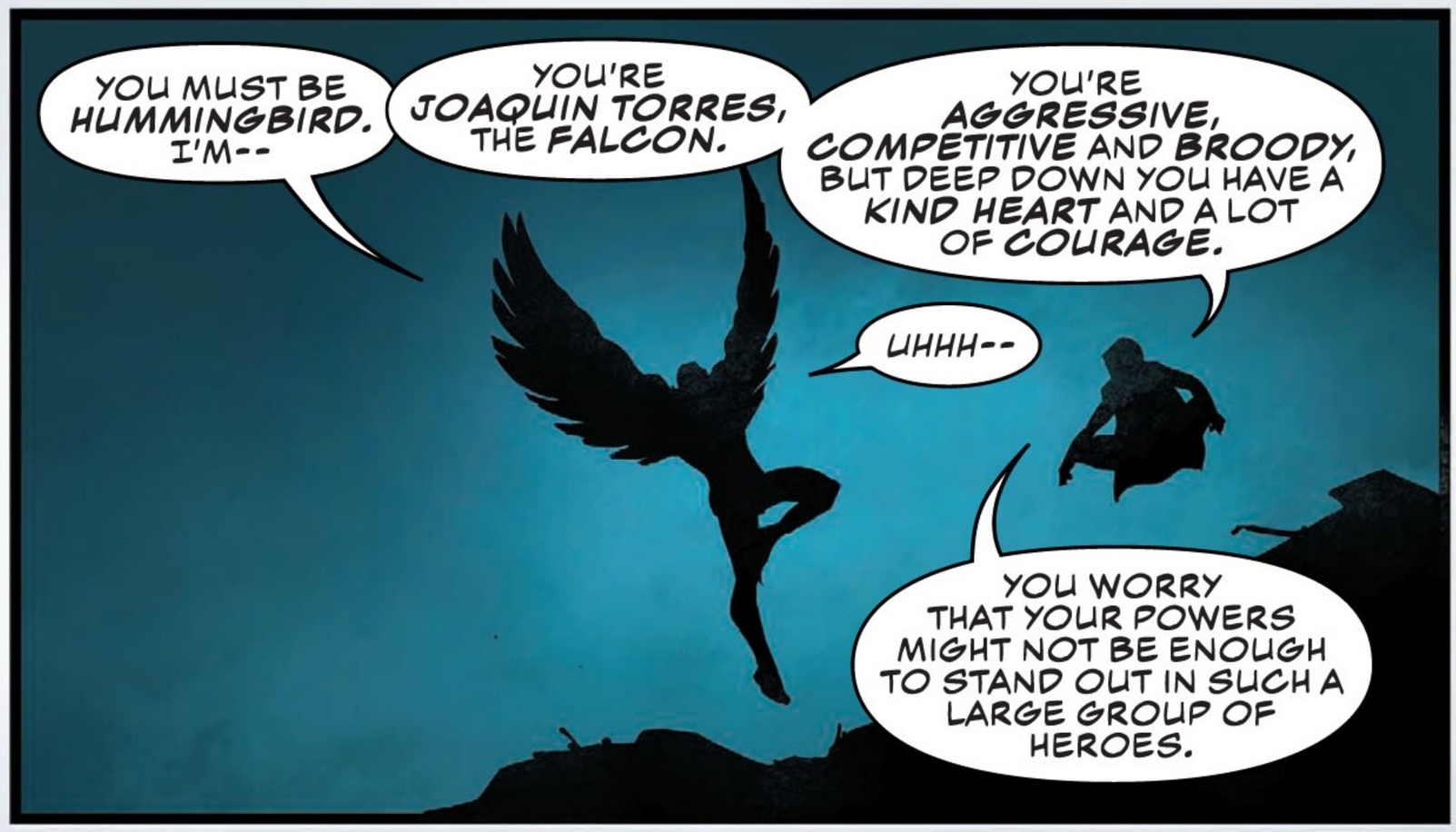
"THEY CALL THEMSELVES... CHAMPIONS."
FOUR HOURS AGO, MS. MARVEL AND HER TEAM ARRIVED IN BRAZIL TO CHECK ON SNOWGUARD, LOCUST AND FALCON, WHO HAD GONE AHEAD TO HELP PEOPLE IN DANGER.
WHEN THEY ARRIVED, THEY FOUND A COUNTRY UNDER SIEGE, A RELENTLESS CHARGE OF THE UNDEAD MOVING TOWARD SÃO PAULO, DESTROYING EVERYTHING IN THEIR PATH.
DEAD AHEAD
THEY'VE BEEN FIGHTING THEM BACK EVER SINCE.

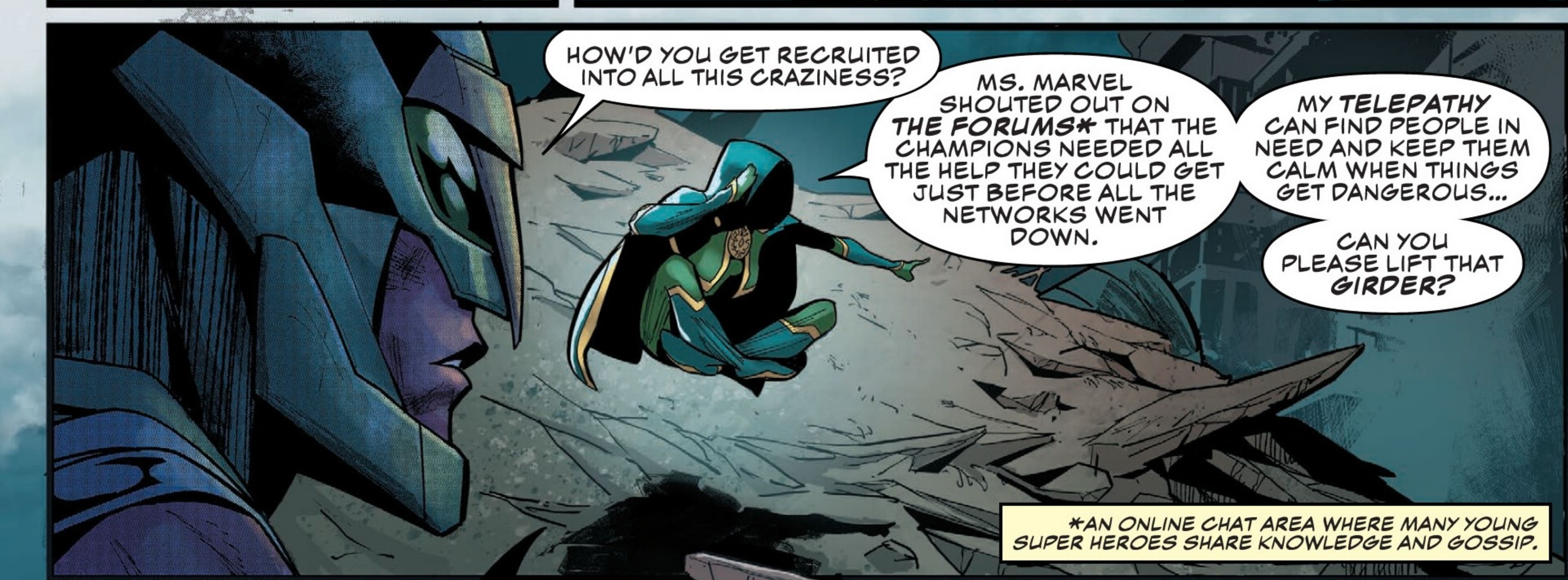
FALCON! CHECK ON LOCUST AND THE OTHERS! DON'T LET THEM GET SEPARATED!
I'M A FIGHTER, M.M., NOT A MESSENGER!
THERE'S NO TIME TO ARGUE!
SIGH

IT'S NOT TOUGH TO FIND BOMBSHELL WHEN SHE'S ON A ROLL...
GRAH!
GUUUH!
THOOM

THOOM
DON'T LOOK BACK! WE'LL KEEP YOU SAFE, JUST GO THROUGH THE PORTAL!
THOOM

WHAT CAN I DO?
WE'RE OKAY HERE, JOAQUIN! GO HELP DUST AND HUMMINGBIRD GET MORE PEOPLE WE CAN EVACUATE.
DUST AND WHO?
JUST GO!
THOOM





THANK YOU.

NNFF!

IS THAT EVERYONE?

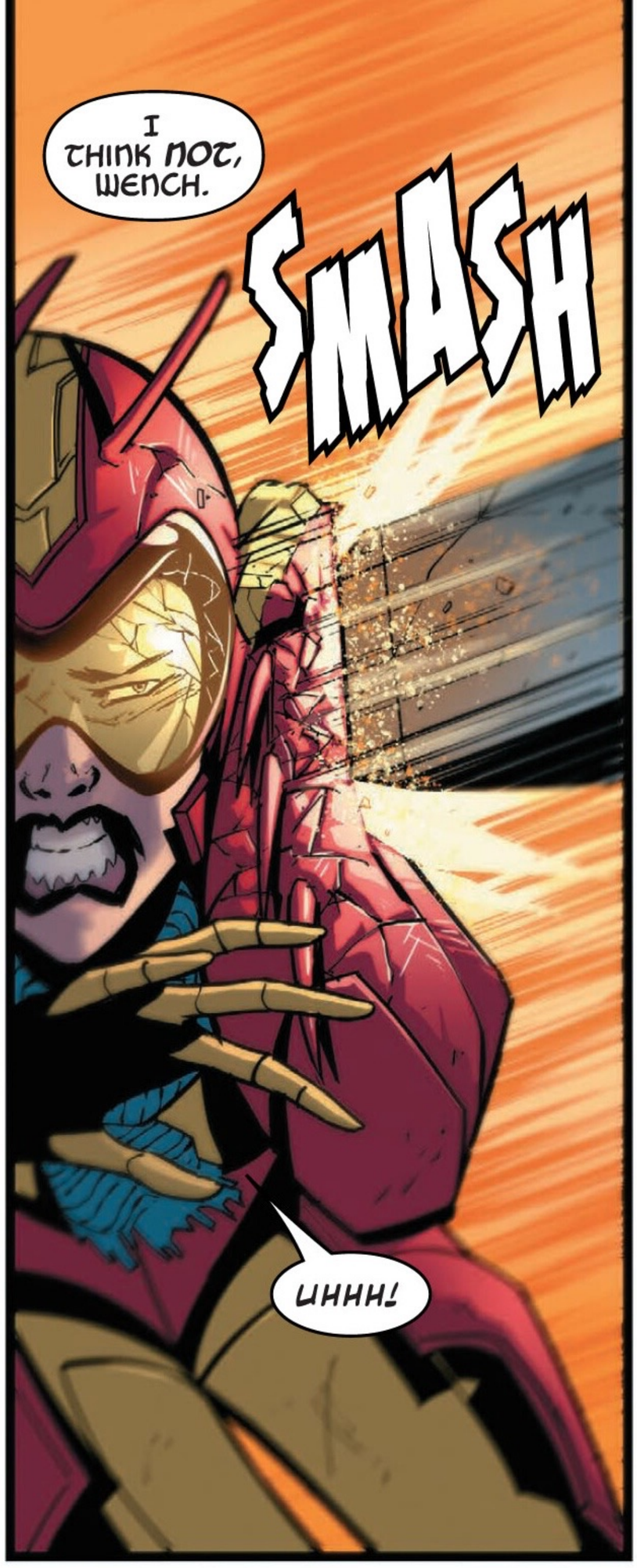
I THINK SO. LET'S REGROUP WITH THE OTHERS.

HALT, WARRIORS OF NIFFLEHEIM!
FALL BACK AND AWAIT NEW ORDERS!
WELL, THAT SOUNDS OMINOUS.
YEAH...
WE SHALL DEAL WITH THESE INTERLOPERS!
FWOOOOOSH
UH, DO YOU RECOGNIZE THEM?
NO, PATRIOT, BUT WHOEVER THEY ARE, THEY'RE CLEARLY TOUGHER THAN THE UNDEAD ARMY WE'VE BEEN FIGHTING, SO THAT'S...NOT GOOD.

ARE YOU THE LEADER OF THIS BAND OF WARRIORS?
YEAH...
...I AM.
LET'S GET 'EM.
WAIT.
HOPEFULLY MS. MARVEL CAN SOLVE THIS WITHOUT ANY MORE VIOLENCE.
I AM BRÜN, FIRST OF THE DISIR.
WE HAVE FOUGHT FOR CENTURIES AND SLAIN COUNTLESS ENEMIES.
YOU HAVE DONE WELL TO HOLD BACK THE HORDES OF NIFFLEHEIM. WE ARE IMPRESSED.
SURRENDER NOW AND THERE SHALL BE NO DISHONOR.
I'M SORRY, BUT THAT...THAT'S NOT AN OPTION.
WE DON'T WANT TO FIGHT, BUT IF THAT'S WHAT IT TAKES TO STOP YOU FROM HURTING INNOCENT PEOPLE, THEN THAT'S WHAT WE'LL DO.
VERY WELL.
PREPARE FOR YOUR DEMISE.

CHAMPIONS CHARGE!
SLAY THEM ALL!
WHOOM
LET'S DO THIS!
ROAR!
TASTE ASGARDIAN STEEL, WHELP!
AHHH!
YOU'RE STRONGER THAN YOU LOOK, GIRL!
ARE YOU SOME KIND OF GOLEM?!
I AM AS MY FATHER MADE ME.

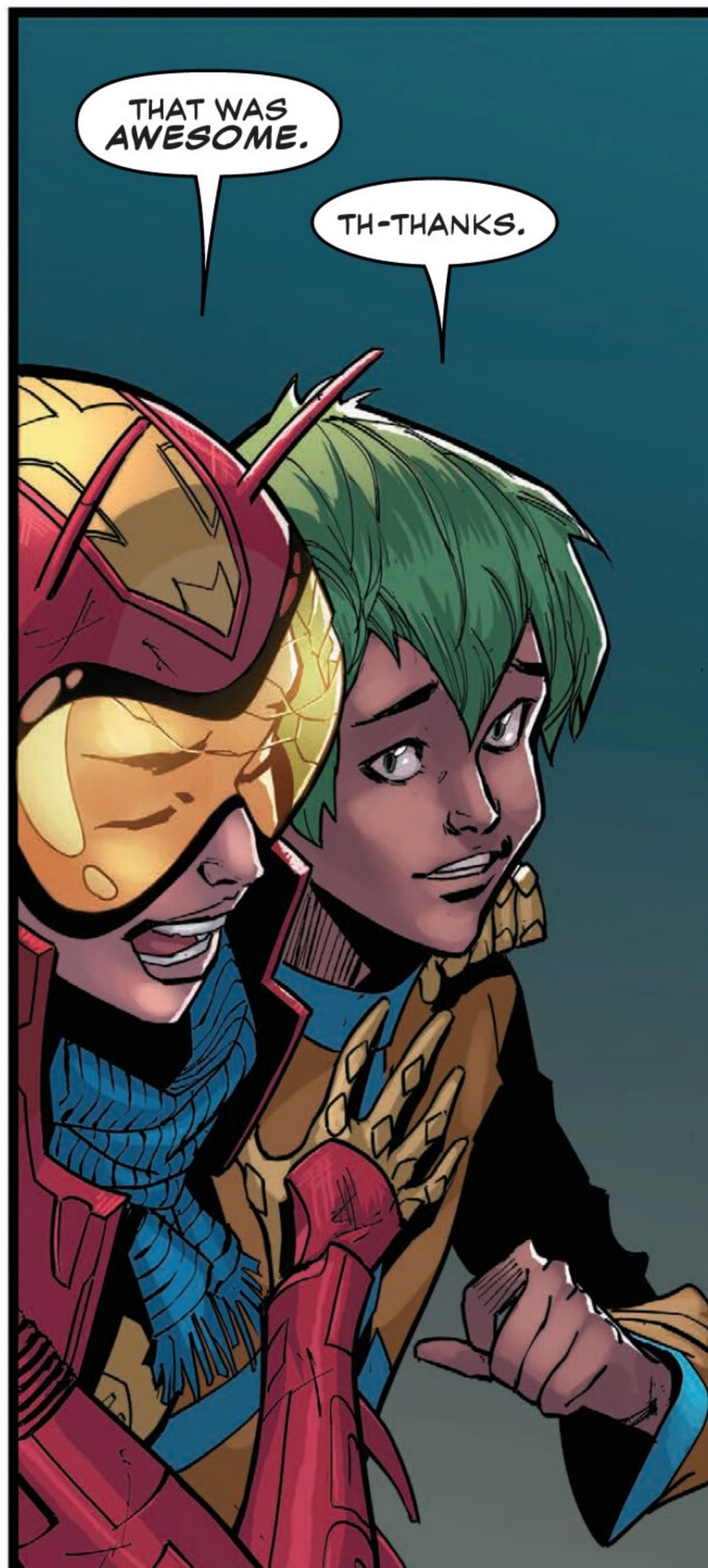
SHE LOOKS VERY ANGRY!
DON'T WORRY, PINPOINT, THE LOCUST WILL DEFEND YOU!


I THINK NOT, WENCH.
SMASH
UHHH!

LEAVE US ALONE!
WHAAAA!

WELL DONE, QURESHI! WHERE'D YOU SEND HER?
IT ALL HAPPENED SO FAST...I--I DIDN'T HAVE TIME TO THINK OF SOMEWHERE SPECIAL, SO I JUST...UH...
...I SENT HER UP.
UP?

WAY UP IN THE SKY...
WHAM
OOOF!


THAT WAS AWESOME.
TH-THANKS.

WHATEVER SORCERY YOU'RE USING, IT WILL FADE, AND THEN MY SWORD WILL STRIKE YOU DOWN!
WHY ARE YOU DOING THIS?
WHY DO YOU HAVE TO FIGHT?
DON'T ACT INNOCENT, GIRL! YOU CANNOT TRICK ONE WHO HAS CARRIED THE SOULS OF THE FALLEN!
I CAN FEEL THAT YOU HAVE BEEN TOUCHED BY DEATH ITSELF!
AS MS. MARVEL STRAINS TO KEEP THE LEADER OF THE DISIR FROM BREAKING FREE, BRÛN'S EYES BEGIN TO GLOW.
AND THERE, WITHIN THOSE GHOSTLY ORBS OF THE CURSED VALKYRIE...

...KAMALA SEES A VISION OF **DEATH.**

A GLIMPSE OF THE TIMELINE THAT WAS WIPED AWAY, BUT WHOSE ECHOES STILL REMAIN...*

*FROM THE ALREADY INFAMOUS **CHAMPIONS #2.** --TOM

IT'S A SIGHT THAT SHAKES THE YOUNG HERO TO HER **CORE.**

N-NO!

IF YOU CANNOT FACE THE END THAT COMES FOR US ALL, THEN YOU WILL **NEVER** BE **STRONG** ENOUGH TO **ENDURE!**

WHAT'D YOU **DO** TO HER?!

WHAM

I DID NOTHING.
THE GIRL HAS ALREADY FACED FOREVER, AND IT LEFT ITS MARK UPON HER...
LET'S SEE IF YOU FARE ANY BETTER!
BRING IT ON, SMURFETTE!
YOUR TONE IS PLAYFUL, BUT I SENSE THE FEAR BENEATH!
NNNG!
RAAAGH!
AND NOW, OF COURSE, YOU RESPOND WITH RAGE.
RAGE WITHOUT FOCUS OR SKILL...
HOW DISAPPOINTING.

DID YOU REALLY THINK YOU COULD DEFEAT US?
Y-YOU... KILLED HIM!

OF COURSE, YOU FOOL.
THIS IS WAR.
COLD-BLOODED, EH?
I GUESS THAT'S HOW IT'S GONNA BE...
HOW?
MY POWER COMES FROM AMBIENT CHI ENERGY...
...SPIRITS, CULTURE AND MAGIC.
THIS KICKIN' SWORD YOU'VE GOT HERE IS QUITE THE ARTIFACT, AIN'T IT?
A RELIC LIKE THAT DOESN'T HURT ME AT ALL...IT JUST PUMPS ME UP.

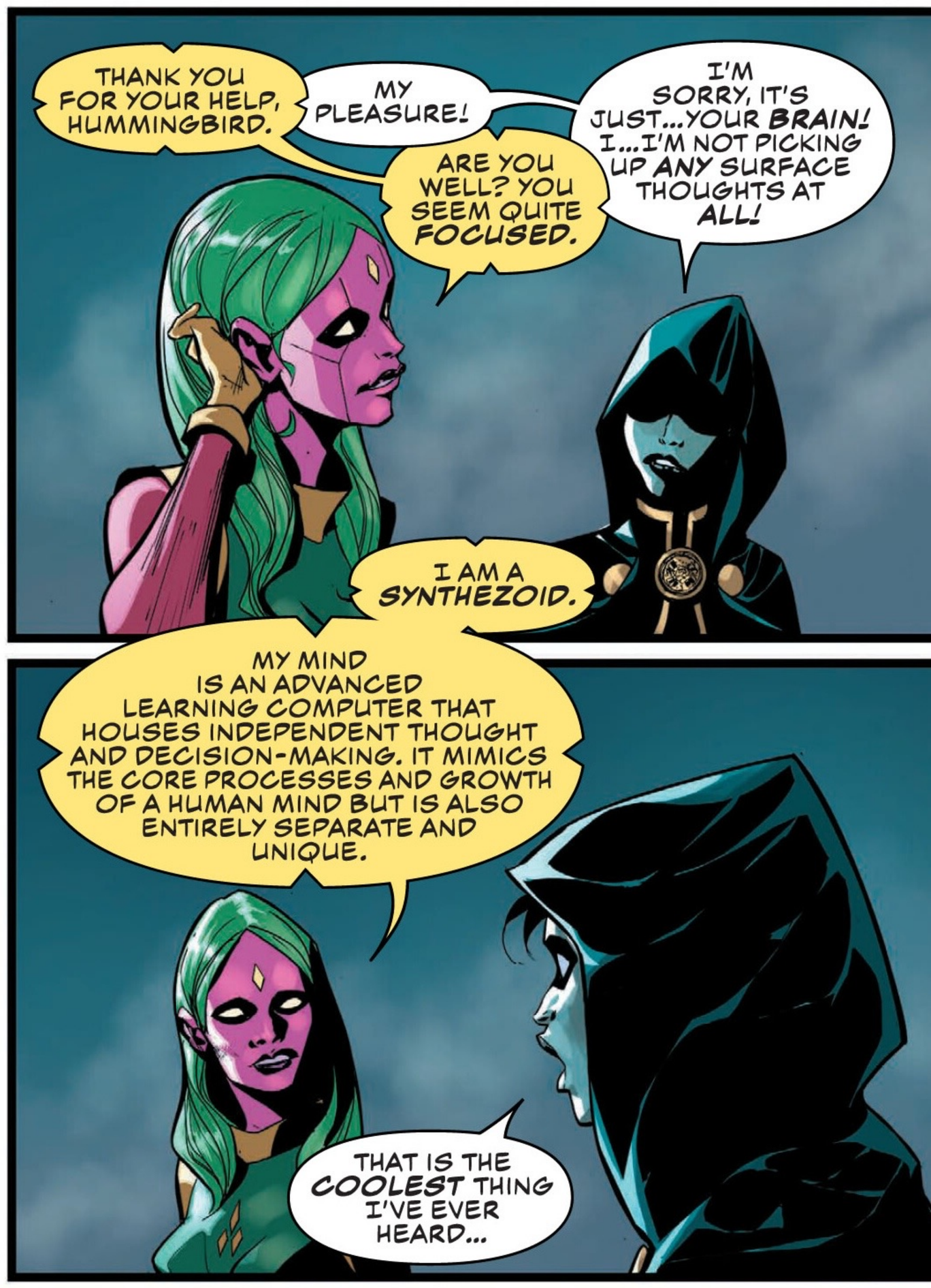
MYTHOLOGICAL WARRIORS, ANCIENT HISTORY...
...YOUR WHOLE DAMN ARMY IS JUST FUEL FOR MY CHI MACHINE.
UH...
DID YOU KNOW POWER MAN COULD DO THAT?
I WAS UNAWARE OF THIS APPLICATION OF VICTOR'S POWER, BUT I'M UPDATING HIS PROFILE IN OUR DATABASE AS WE SPEAK.
Y'ALL READY FOR ROUND TWO?

OVER THE CENTURIES, THE DISIR HAVE FOUGHT MONSTERS AND GODS ALIKE...
...BUT THEY ARE WOEFULLY UNPREPARED FOR THIS THREAT.
THEIR WEAPONS CANNOT HURT VICTOR ALVAREZ.
IN FACT, THEIR VERY EXISTENCE EMPOWERS HIM.
AND HIS ALLIES ARE POTENT IN THEIR OWN RIGHT.

EVEN STILL, THE BLOOD OF THE DISIR STIRS TO FACE SUCH WORTHY ADVERSARIES.
THEY EXIST TO WAGE WAR...
...AND THUS, WHEN BATTLE IS JOINED AND THEIR SKILLS ARE TESTED, THOSE ARE THE FLEETING MOMENTS THEY REMEMBER WHAT IT WAS TO BE ALIVE.

HEL.
KARNILLA AND HELA. QUEENS OF HEL.
DO YOU FEEL THAT, MY QUEEN?
INDEED, MY QUEEN. I DO...
HOW ODD.
MY FAITHFUL WARRIORS RETURN FROM PARTS UNKNOWN, DEFEATED BY FOES I DID NOT SEND THEM TO FIGHT...
BRÜN, DARLING...
...I TRUST YOU HAVE AN EXPLANATION FOR THIS STRANGE TRANS-GRESSION?
WE...
...WE SHALL MAKE AMENDS, MY MISTRESS.
OF THAT, I AM MOST CERTAIN.

THAT WAS THE CRAZIEST THING I HAVE EVER SEEN.
PRETTY SWEET, RIGHT?
IT WAS WILD.
GOOD WORK, MAN. YOU REALLY SAVED OUR BUTTS.


THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP, HUMMINGBIRD.
MY PLEASURE!
ARE YOU WELL? YOU SEEM QUITE FOCUSED.
I'M SORRY, IT'S JUST...YOUR BRAIN! I...I'M NOT PICKING UP ANY SURFACE THOUGHTS AT ALL!
I AM A SYNTHEZOID.
MY MIND IS AN ADVANCED LEARNING COMPUTER THAT HOUSES INDEPENDENT THOUGHT AND DECISION-MAKING. IT MIMICS THE CORE PROCESSES AND GROWTH OF A HUMAN MIND BUT IS ALSO ENTIRELY SEPARATE AND UNIQUE.
THAT IS THE COOLEST THING I'VE EVER HEARD...

DID YOU KNOW YOU WERE GOING TO SURVIVE WHEN THAT SWORD LADY GUTTED YOU?
HONESTLY? NO.
I'VE ABSORBED BIG CHI LIKE THAT BEFORE, BUT I WASN'T SURE I COULD DO IT AGAIN, LET ALONE WITH A BIG OL' BLADE IN MY CHEST.
I GUESS I LUCKED OUT.

YOU COULD'VE DIED.
BUT I DIDN'T.

THAT WASN'T TEAMWORK, VICTOR. IT WAS RECKLESS.
YEAH, BUT IT WORKED.
DON'T GET BENT OUT OF SHAPE, SNOW-STYLE. I'LL LET YOU GET SOME OF THE GLORY NEXT TIME...

THE DISIR ARE GONE AND THE SKELETONS HAVE RETREATED, MS. MARVEL. I THINK WE WON.
THAT'S... THAT'S GREAT, DUST...
ARE YOU OKAY?

YEAH, I'M FINE. I'M...
...I...

I...
ACTUALLY, NO. THAT'S A LIE. I'M NOT OKAY...
...NOT AT ALL.

I...
...I CAN'T LEAD THE CHAMPIONS ANYMORE.

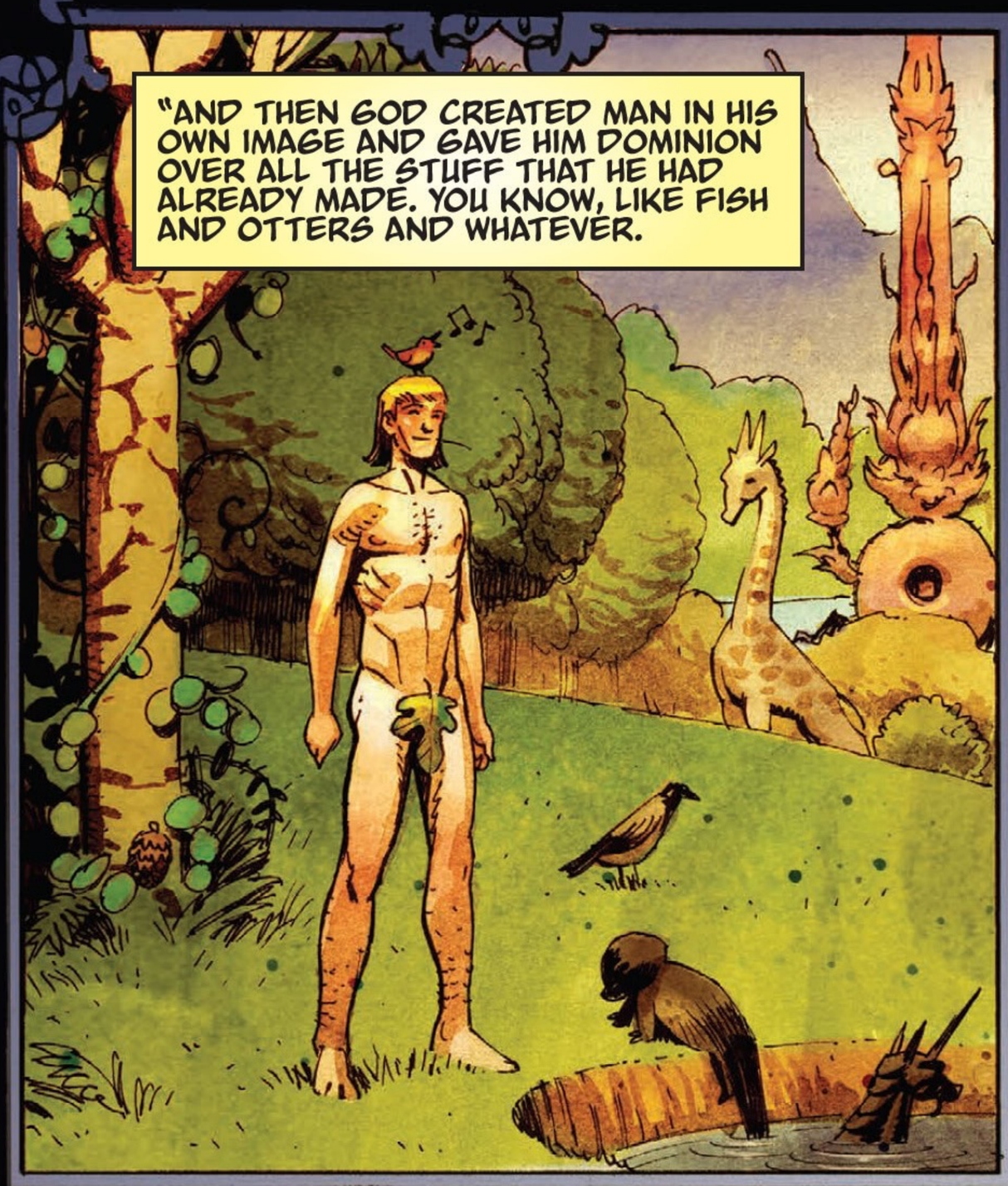
WAR OF THE REALMS:
NEW AGENTS OF ATLAS #1 VARIANT BY
Patch Zircher & Jason Keith

WAR OF THE REALMS:
NEW AGENTS OF ATLAS #2 VARIANT BY
Ron Lim, Cory Hamscher & Federico Blee

WAR OF THE REALMS:
NEW AGENTS OF ATLAS #3 VARIANT BY
Annie Wu

WAR OF THE REALMS:
NEW AGENTS OF ATLAS #4 VARIANT BY
Leinil Francis Yu

Deadpool #13


"AND THEN GOD CREATED MAN IN HIS OWN IMAGE AND GAVE HIM DOMINION OVER ALL THE STUFF THAT HE HAD ALREADY MADE. YOU KNOW, LIKE FISH AND OTTERS AND WHATEVER.

"THEN, THE BIG GUY WAS ALL LIKE, 'HOLD UP, YOU LOOK SUPER LONELY. YOU NEED A FRIEND. LET ME BORROW ONE OF YOUR RIBS!'

"HE WAVED THAT RIB AROUND LIKE HARRY %$#& POTTER AND SPOKE UNTO ADAM...
"'*BOOM, I JUST MADE A LADY!* HOW BADASS WAS THAT?'"
"WHAT IN THE HELL ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?"

WHAT? YOU ASKED ME TO TELL YOU THE WHOLE STORY!
YEAH, ABOUT WHY YOU'RE BEING SENT TO *AUSTRALIA*.
OH, YOU DIDN'T WANT TO KNOW HOW MAN WAS CREATED?
NO.
YOU SURE? IT'S *GAME OF THRONES*-LEVEL WACKY AND *WAY* MORE BRUTAL. PRETTY FUN!
NO.

"FINE. WAR OF THE REALMS. LET'S SEE...
"MALEKITH GOT ALL THE REALMS TOGETHER AND WAS LIKE...
WE SHOULD TOTALLY TEAM UP AND GO TO NEW YORK. IT'S SUPER SMALL BUT LIKE 90% OF EARTH'S HEROES LIVE IN A CLUMP THERE, MAKING IT SUPER EASY FOR US TO KILL THEM ALL.
"HE HAD A GOOD POINT. I FEEL LIKE REED RICHARDS AND DOC STRANGE ARE SMART ENOUGH TO HAVE THOUGHT OF THAT EARLIER. ANYHOO...
"THE VALKYRIES TRIED TO COME STOP MALEKITH...
"...BUT THAT DIDN'T GO WELL FOR THEM.
"EVENTUALLY, ALL THE SUPER HEROES RAN OFF TO HIDE FROM MALEKITH AT THE AVENGERS' NEW HOUSE. YOU KNOW, THE GIANT ROBOT IN THE MOUNTAIN, UP BY SANTA'S CRIB.

"MALEKITH SENT HIS MINIONS ALL OVER THIS WORLD...
HEY YOU, GO OVER THERE AND DO SOME EVIL STUFF AND LET IT BE KNOWN THAT I'M THE BOSS OF THEM NOW, SO THEY BETTER JUST SHUT THEIR DUMB MOUTHS.
"THE QUEEN OF CINDERS GOT ASIA.
"THE QUEEN OF HEVEN WAS ASSIGNED AFRICA.
"NORTH AMERICA WAS GIVEN TO THE FROST GIANTS.
"DARIO AGGER WAS HANDED ANTARCTICA.
"ENCHANTRESS WENT TO SOUTH AMERICA.
"THE DARK ELVES WERE SENT TO EUROPE.
"AND THEN HE POINTED AT HIS MOST FEARED LIEUTENANT AND SAID..."
YOU, LICK--
"UGH. FINE! REALLY %$#& MY STORY-TELLING FLOW HERE."
"DO YOU MEAN ULIK?"
ULIK, YOU ARE LEADER OF THE TROLLS OF ASS GUARD, THE MOST BRUTAL GROUP IN THIS WHOLE DAMN KERFUFFLE. YOU WILL RULE OVER AUSTRALIA!
I WILL NOT LET YOU DOWN, MALEKITH!
UNLESS THE AVENGERS GET INVOLVED AND SEND DEADPOOL, WHO IS KNOWN AMONGST ALL THE REALMS TO BE THE FIERCEST OF ALL WARRIORS. IF HE SHOWS UP I'LL FOR SURE LET YOU DOWN BECAUSE HE'LL KILL THE &$#@ OUT OF ME.
"HE SAID ALL THAT, HUH?"
"YES, HE DID! GAH! NOW, CAN I FINISH, PLEASE?"
"KNOCK YOURSELF OUT."

"I SAID I WOULD NEVER JOIN ANY MORE TEAMS, BUT I GUESS THAT BEARDED, EYEBALL-OBSESSED WRITER DECIDED TO NOT CARE WHAT I WANT AND PUT ME ON ANOTHER COBBLED-TOGETHER AVENGERS. HENCE THE SWEET NEW WAR-TIME DIGS HERE.
"THEN CAPTAIN MARVEL STARTED GETTING WEIRD AND SAYING THINGS LIKE...
THAT'S NOT A KNIFE, THIS IS A KNIFE!
"AND..."
LET'S THROW ANOTHER SHRIMP ON THE BARBIE.
CRIKEY! THIS IS THE MOST POISONOUS SNAKE KNOWN TO MANKIND. WHY AM I EVEN HOLDING IT...
"TOO SOON. IT WILL ALWAYS BE TOO SOON WITH STEVE."
"YOU'RE RIGHT. OKAY, WELL, BOTTOM LINE...
"...SHE ASKED ME IF I'D SAVE THE PLANET BY GOING TO AUSTRALIA AND DEFEATING THE TROLLS.
"I WAS ALL LIKE, 'YEAH, SURE, I GUESS. WHATEVER.'"

I CAN'T SEE, BUT I'D BE WILLING TO BET WITH ALL THAT'S BEEN GOING DOWN, THE TROLLS YOU DESCRIBED ARE *NOT* THE TROLLS YOU'LL BE FACING IN AUSTRALIA.

WHY IS THIS IN HERE?

HELLO?
I'M HERE.

WHERE?
HERE, HERE! THE-PLACE-YOU-TOLD-ME-TO-COME-PICK-YOU-UP *HERE!*

ARE YOU SURE YOU'RE AT THE RIGHT PLACE? LAST TIME I GOT AN UBER THEY TOTALLY WENT TO THE WRONG ADDRESS.

WELL, I'M NOT YOUR PERSONAL *UBER*, AND YES...

...I'M PRETTY SURE I'M AT THE RIGHT ADDRESS.

HEY, GIRL! DID YOU MISS ME?
NOT REALLY.
OH, COME ON, NOW. I KNOW I MISSED *YOU!* BLIND AL IS GOOD AND ALL, BUT YOU'RE MY JOAN CUSACK IN *GROSSE POINTE BLANK* ALL THE WAY!

SPEAKING OF MOVIES, WE HAVE A LONG FLIGHT, SO I BROUGHT PLENTY OF ENTERTAINMENT.

HAHAHAHA
HAHAHA
AHHAHA
AHHAHA
AHA
:SNIFF: DON'T DO IT, GIRL! DON'T LEAVE HIM! :SNIFF:
ARE YOU SERIOUS? DON'T SLEEP WITH HIM! HE'S GOT HIS POLO TUCKED IN!
HA HA :SNIFF: HA HA, I LOVE YOU, TOO!
australia

I KNOW WE'RE HERE, BUT WHAT DO YOU SAY WE JUST TAKE ONE MORE SPIN AND PUT IN ONE OF MY FAVORITE FILMS OF ALL TIME!
COME ON!
KATHERINE HEIGL IS A NATIONAL TREASURE!
OOF!
WHAT'S THAT?
I DON'T KNOW. BUT HE LOOKS SOFT AND MUSHY. WE SHOULD SEE WHAT HE TASTES LIKE.

HUH?
OH...

...%@#&.
THIS MUSHY HUMAN IS STILL ALIVE.
DO YOU THINK HE'LL TRY TO RUN AWAY? I LIKE WHEN THEY TRY TO RUN AWAY.
ME TOO. ALWAYS TASTES BETTER WHEN THEY GET CAUGHT.

THERE'S MORE WHERE THAT CAME FROM!

WHAT?

BLOOP BLOOP

OKAY! FINE! I WON'T END YOUR ALREADY INSANELY SHORT, USELESS LIFE!

GET 'IM!

HA! TRY AND CATCH ME, LOSERS!
RRRMMBBBLLL!

OH...HI.

I'M SURE WE'LL BE FINE IF WE JUST HEAD OVER HERE...

FISH, LOOKS LIKE WE'RE BOTH ABOUT TO VISIT THE BIG TOILET BOWL IN THE SKY!
HEY, DEADPOOL...

...COME WITH ME IF YOU WANT TO LIVE!

ROARRROARR

ARE YOU SERIOUS?

PSSSH PSSSH

SKOTRICK, I KNOW THE KIDS WERE HOME FOR TWO WEEKS ON BREAK AND YOU AND THE WIFE WERE PROBABLY ROCK-PAPER-SCISSORING WHICH KID SHOULD GET SOLD ON CRAIGSLIST FIRST, BUT ARE YOU REALLY LEANING ON ARNIE ONE-LINERS FOR NEW CHARACTER REVEALS?

DOOM

YOINK!

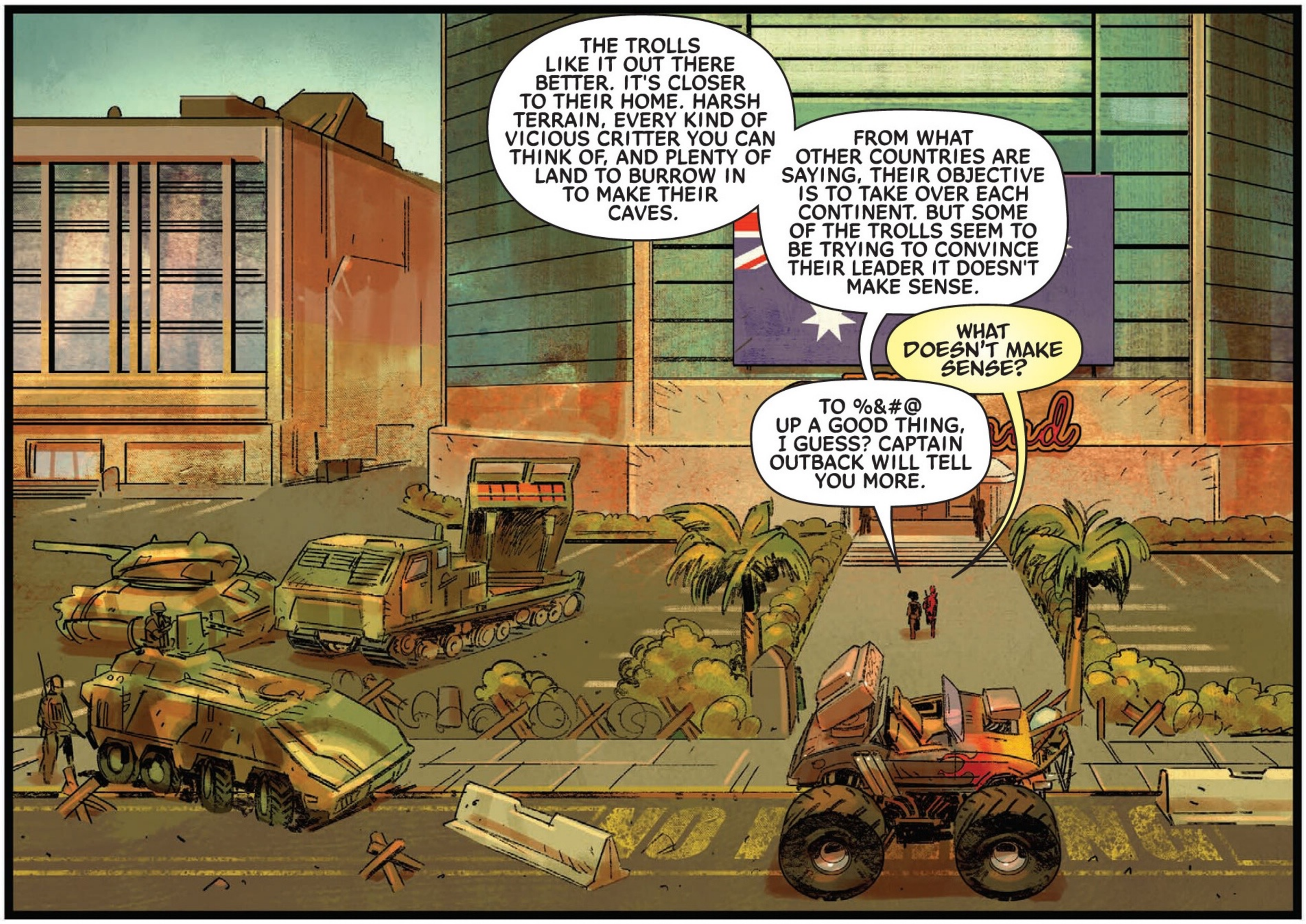
HOW DID YOU KNOW MY NAME? AM I THAT FAMOUS DOWN UNDER?
YOU WERE SUPPOSED TO BE DROPPED OFF AT OUR FIELD BASE, BUT OUR TRACKER SHOWED YOU LANDING BEHIND THE DMZ.

MY REPUTATION PRECEDES ME!
YEAH, YOU IDIOT.

I'LL LET CAPTAIN OUTBACK EXPLAIN WHEN WE GET TO HQ.
CAPTAIN OUTBACK, HUH? CAN'T WAIT.

OKAY, I HAVE TO ASK. WHAT'S THE DEAL WITH THE FISH?
IT'S A LONG STORY. OR NOT REALLY. BUT DEFINITELY NOT INTERESTING.
FAIR ENOUGH.

WE'VE DONE A DECENT JOB OF KEEPING THE TROLLS OUT OF THE CITY AND AWAY FROM MOST OF THE POPULATION.
SOME OF OUR SCIENTISTS HAVE STUDIED THEM A BIT AND THINK IT'S LESS ABOUT US HOLDING THEM OFF AND MORE ABOUT THEM NOT REALLY ATTACKING FULL-FORCE YET.
WHY DO THEY THINK THAT?


THE TROLLS LIKE IT OUT THERE BETTER. IT'S CLOSER TO THEIR HOME. HARSH TERRAIN, EVERY KIND OF VICIOUS CRITTER YOU CAN THINK OF, AND PLENTY OF LAND TO BURROW IN TO MAKE THEIR CAVES.
FROM WHAT OTHER COUNTRIES ARE SAYING, THEIR OBJECTIVE IS TO TAKE OVER EACH CONTINENT. BUT SOME OF THE TROLLS SEEM TO BE TRYING TO CONVINCE THEIR LEADER IT DOESN'T MAKE SENSE.
WHAT DOESN'T MAKE SENSE?
TO %&#@ UP A GOOD THING, I GUESS? CAPTAIN OUTBACK WILL TELL YOU MORE.

THAT NAME IS KILLING ME. WHAT DO THEY CALL YOU, PRIVATE POST-APOCALYPSE?
HA, VERY FUNNY, DEADPOOL!
NO, MY NAME IS--

...NANCY NUKE. I CAN TURN ALMOST ANYTHING INTO A NUCLEAR BOMB.

THIS IS CAPTAIN OUTBACK. HE CAN FLY AND HE'S PRETTY STRONG.

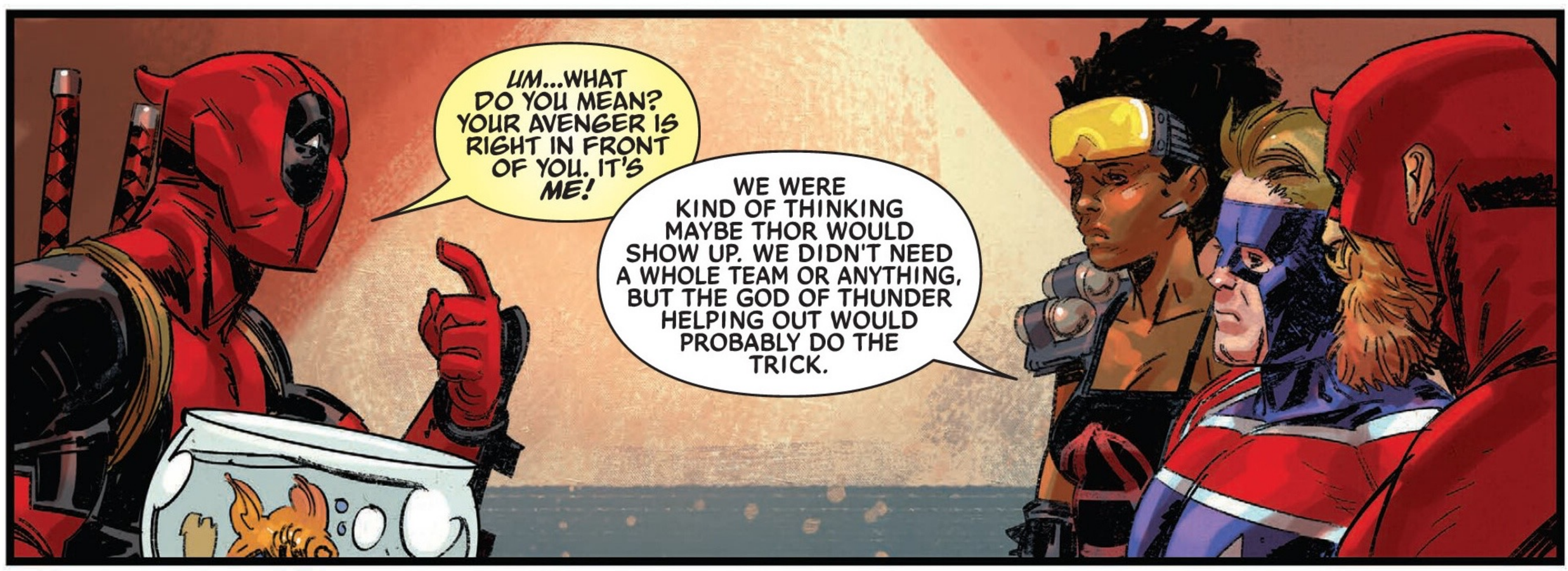
REALLY STRONG.

KIND OF SOMEWHAT STRONG.

AND THIS IS TASMANIAN ~~DEVIL~~.

WAIT, YOU TWO ARE MARRIED?
YES!!!

OKAY, YOU TWO. CAN WE *NOT* DO THIS? JUST FOR ONE DAY?
AT LEAST UNTIL AFTER WE MEET THE *ACTUAL AVENGERS* CAPTAIN MARVEL SAID SHE'D BE SENDING.


UM...WHAT DO YOU MEAN? YOUR AVENGER IS RIGHT IN FRONT OF YOU. IT'S *ME!*
WE WERE KIND OF THINKING MAYBE THOR WOULD SHOW UP. WE DIDN'T NEED A WHOLE TEAM OR ANYTHING, BUT THE GOD OF THUNDER HELPING OUT WOULD PROBABLY DO THE TRICK.

WELL, THIS WHOLE PROBLEM IS KIND OF THOR'S THING SO HE'S TIED UP IN THE *CENTER* OF IT ALL. TROLLS IN AUSTRALIA ARE A BIT ON THE FRINGE OF THIS MESS.
SO YOU GET *ME!*

OH, AND *FISH* HERE. HE'S PROVEN TO BE QUITE THE LITTLE TROOPER.

SORRY, NO *PUNNY* NAMES HERE. THESE &$%# DIE TOO QUICK, AND I KNOW IF I GIVE HIM A NAME THEN I'LL CATCH ALL THE FEELS AND BE DEVASTATED WHEN I FIND HIM BELLY-UP IN THIS BOWL ONE DAY.

YOU CAN'T BE ALL THEY SENT WHEN I SAID WE'LL NEED HEAVY-DUTY SUPER HERO HELP.

YEAH, I MEAN, SO FAR IT SEEMS LIKE YOU'RE GOOD AT MOVING YOUR ONE EYE FROM BIG AND ROUND TO SQUINTY.
AND HOLDING A FISHBOWL.

YOU KNOW WHAT, *GENE?* MY EYE GAME IS HELLA TIGHT, SO WHY DON'T YOU TAKE YOUR *LOOK-LIKE-YOU-MIGHT-GIVE-ME-RABIES* ASS AND HAVE A COKE AND A SMILE, BECAUSE...

...WE ARE GOING TO BE THE BEST DAMN *TROLLBUSTERS* THE WORLD HAS EVER SEEN!
ORIGINAL

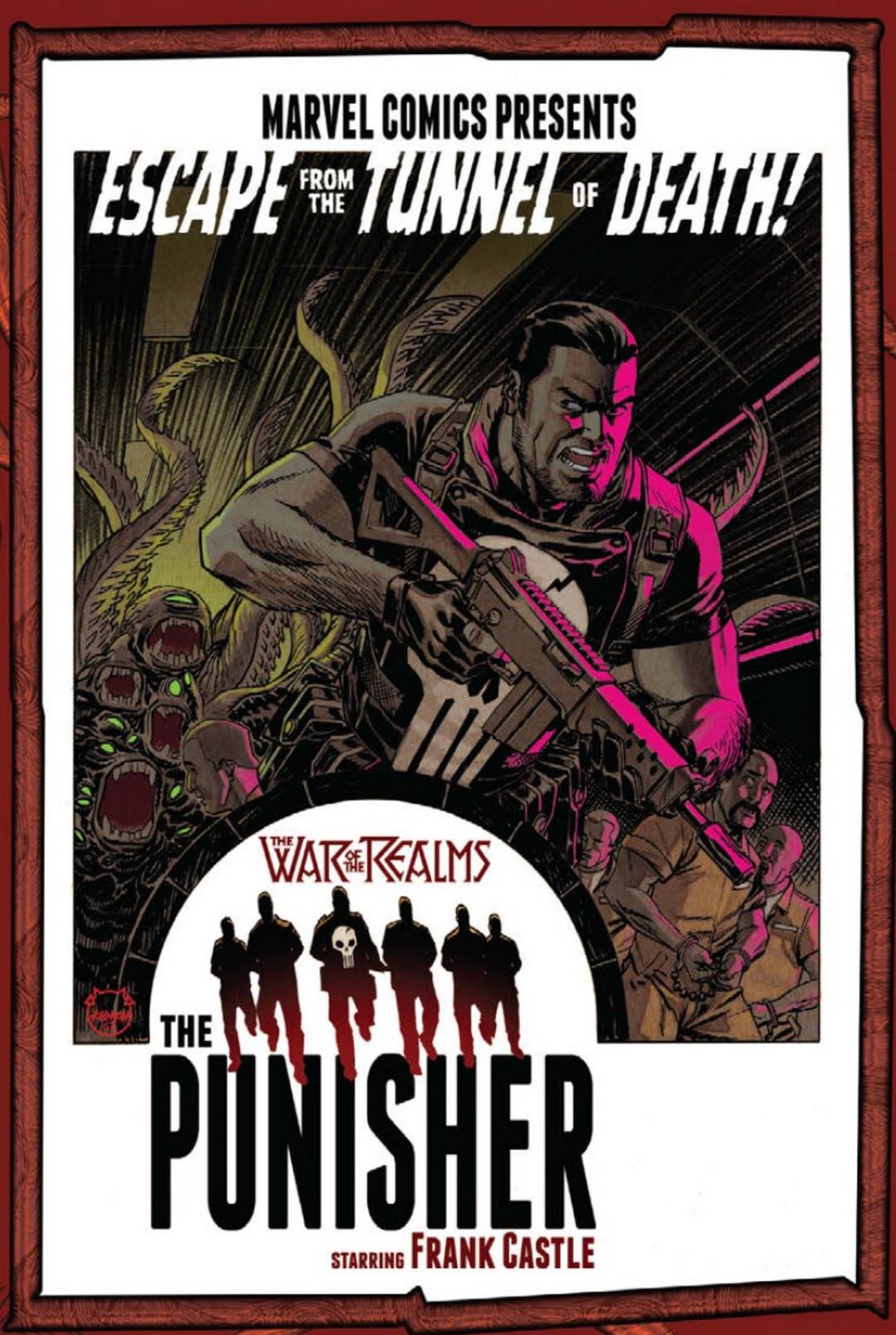
WE'LL JUST ROLL UP ON THESE BIG LUGS AND NANCY CAN NUKE 'EM!

"YOU SAID THEY'RE JUST CHILLING IN THE DESERT, RIGHT? THIS SHOULD BE EASY!
WE HAVE ENJOYED THIS HORRID LAND FOR LONG ENOUGH!
WE ARE MANY, AND THE HUMANS ARE TOO FEW!
"SURE, THERE MIGHT ONLY BE FOUR OF US. BUT I'M PRETTY SURE GENE HERE HAS ENOUGH RAGE IN HIM TO LAY A FEW OF THESE *LORD OF THE RINGS* CASTOFFS ON THEIR ASSES.
"NANCY THE NUKE REALLY SHOULDN'T BE ALLOWED TO LIVE AND I'M NOT QUITE SURE WHY SHE GETS TO BE OUT IN THE WORLD FREELY, BUT WHATEVER, SHE'S ON MY SIDE AND I'M COOL WITH THAT.
"AND YOU SAID CAP HERE IS PRETTY STRONG.
"PRETTY STRONG IS *PRETTY GREAT* IF YOU ASK ME.
WE WILL WAIT NO LONGER! OUR TIME IS NOW.
WE WILL TAKE THIS LAND AS OURS! *NOW, GO FORTH...*

"I MEAN, WHAT ARE WE TALKING? A HUNDRED TROLLS? MAYBE TWO?
"I'VE SEEN *THE HOBBIT: BATTLE OF THE FIVE ARMIES*. IT SUPER SUCKED, BUT THOSE LITTLE FOOLS HANDLED MORE THAN THAT. WE CAN DO THIS!"
...AND LEAVE NO HUMAN ALIVE!

WAR OF THE REALMS:
THE PUNISHER #1 VARIANT BY
Mark Texeira & Rachelle Rosenberg

WAR OF THE REALMS:
THE PUNISHER #1 VARIANT BY
Gerardo Zaffino



WAR OF THE REALMS:
THE PUNISHER #1 VARIANT BY
Dave Johnson

WAR OF THE REALMS:
THE PUNISHER #1 VARIANT BY
John McCrea & Mike Spicer

Deadpool #14

Australia.

WE'RE ALMOST THERE. A FEW MORE BLOCKS AND WE'LL BE AT THE DOCKS.

HOW DO WE KNOW THERE'S REALLY A BOAT THERE WAITING FOR US?

WE DON'T, BUT WHAT CHOICE DO WE HAVE? IT'S EITHER TAKE OUR CHANCES GETTING TO THE BOAT OR STAY HERE AND GET SLAUGHTERED BY THE TROLLS.

I VOTE FOR THE SLAUGHTERING OPTION.

I WAS HOPING WE COULD DO A LITTLE *EATING* AS WELL.

I'M AFRAID THE PEOPLE BUFFET IS *CLOSED* TODAY.

HUH?

WHY DO YOU BIG DUMMIES LOOK SO SURPRISED? DO YOU THINK YOU'RE THE ONLY ONES WHO CAN DO THE WHOLE *VOICE-COMES-IN-FROM-OFF-PANEL* SURPRISE MOVE?
I MEAN REALLY, SKOTTIE. HOW MANY TIMES ARE YOU GONNA USE THAT TRICK?
THE ANSWER IS A *LOT*, RIGHT?
THOUGHT SO. WHAT A HACK.

HAVE NO FEAR, MY FELLOW AUSSIES, THE *TROLL BUSTERS* ARE HERE TO SAVE YOU.

HOW MANY TIMES DO I HAVE TO TELL YOU, YOU *ARE NOT* AN *AUSSIE*.

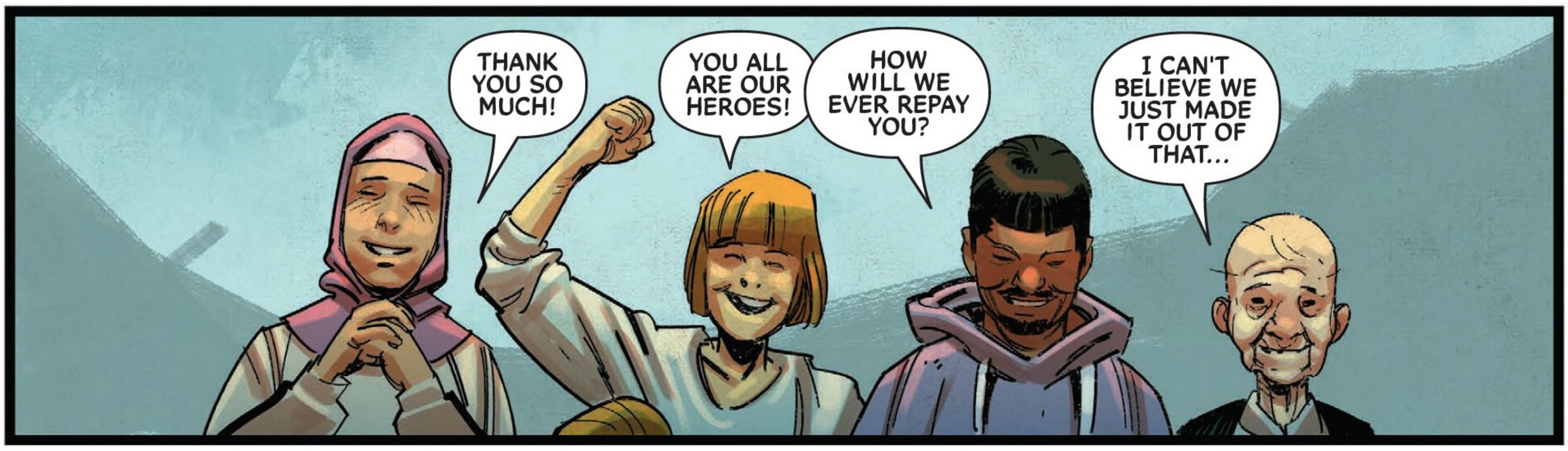
HOWEVER, IF YOU WOULD FOLLOW ME UP AND OVER THE PILE OF DEAD TROLLS, WE CAN PROVIDE YOU WITH LESS-THAN-COZY QUARTERS IN ONE OF OUR LAST FEW SECRET HIDEOUTS HIDDEN THROUGHOUT THE CITY.
BLM!

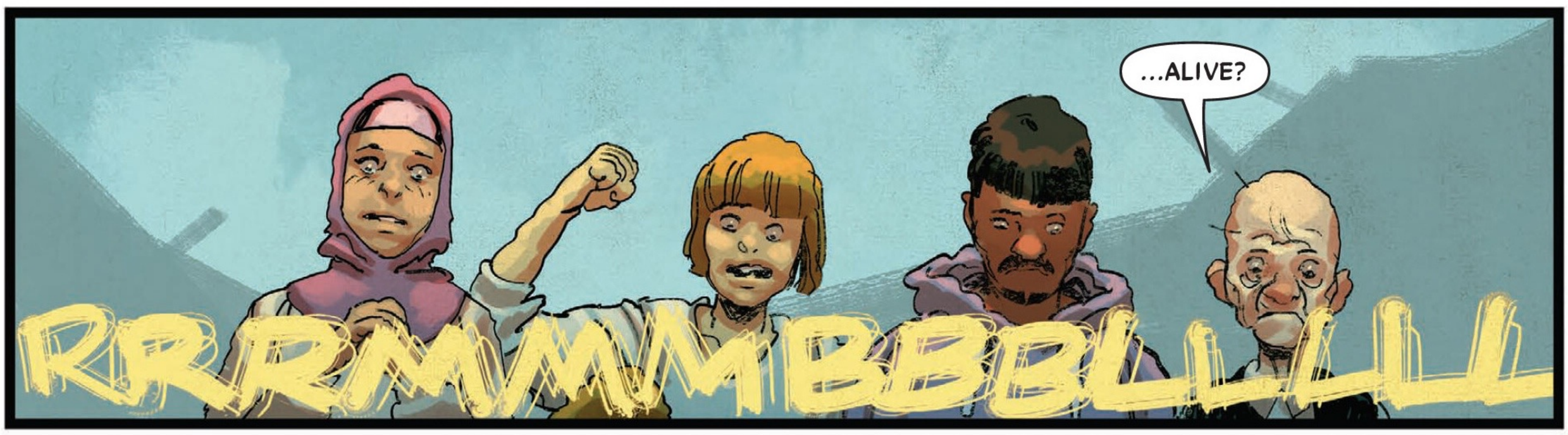
WAIT! THEY'RE NOT ALL DEAD!
OOPS!

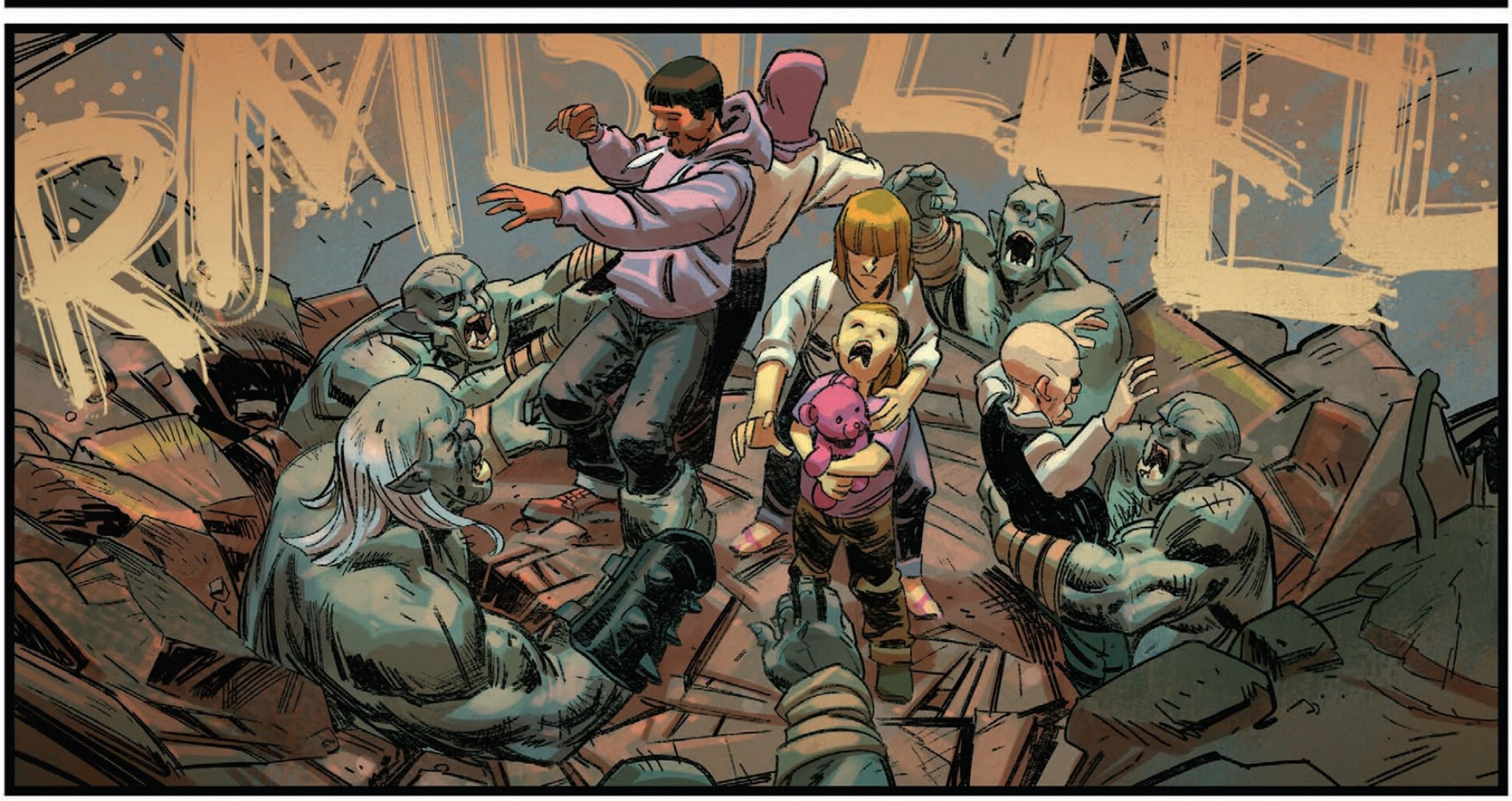
WE SHOULD PROBABLY *NOT* ADVISE THE HUMANS WITH NO POWERS OR HEALING FACTORS TO CLIMB ON THE ENEMIES...ALIVE OR NOT SO MUCH.
KRAF

MAN, FOR A TRIO OF HEROES WHO WERE BEGGING FOR HELP, YOU SURE HAVE A LOT OF *NOTES*.
BLAM

CAN WE KNOCK OFF THE ARGUING LONG ENOUGH TO TAKE OUT THESE LAST FEW TROLLS AND GET BACK TO HQ?!







CRNCK
CRNCH
CRNCH
CRNCH

LOOKS LIKE WE'RE BACK ON THE CLOCK!
LET'S *BUST SOME TROLLS!*
NOPE. I'M DONE. *DUNZO.* FINISHED.
FINIIIIIIIITOOOOOOO.

WHAT? NO *WAY!* I'M NOT HEARING THAT, MATE!
YEAH, WE'RE THE *TROLL BUSTERS*, AND YOU KNOW WHAT THAT MEANS...
BOOM

♫...BUSTIN' MAKES US FEEL GOOD! ♫

NOT ANYMORE. MAKES ME FEEL LIKE A COMPLETE %$#& *FAILURE*.
YOU ALL WERE RIGHT FROM THE BEGINNING. YOU NEVER WANTED ME.

YOU'D BE MUCH BETTER OFF WITH SOME-ONE LIKE...

...LUKE CAGE, IRON FIST, AND DAREDEVIL???
OH NO. THIS IS DEFINITELY GOING TO WREAK HAVOC ON MY LEGAL SITUATION.

I HAVE TO SAY, IT'S VERY EXCITING TO FINALLY BE FIGHTING ALONGSIDE A *REAL AVENGER*.

WELL, LUKE ISN'T *TECHNICALLY* A *REAL* AVENGER AT THE MOMENT. JUST KIND OF A--

NEVER MIND. *REAL AVENGER*. RIGHT HERE.

THAT'S A PRETTY GREAT SWO--
PROBABLY BEST THAT WE JUST DEAL WITH THESE TROLLS AND NOT TALK TO ONE ANOTHER WITHOUT ATTORNEYS PRESENT.
RIGHT.

THANKS FOR JOINING US. MIGHT'VE BEEN A BIT BETTER IF YOU'D HAVE COME DOWN... YOU KNOW...WHEN WE FIRST ASKED FOR HELP.

I'M *RIGHT HERE*, NANCY! AND I HAVE FEELINGS, IN CASE YOU WERE WONDERING.

SHE'S RIGHT. WHAT THE HELL HAVE YOU BEEN DOING DOWN HERE? SEEMS LIKE WE WOULD HAVE BEEN BETTER OFF MAKING A DEAL WITH THE *RING OF THE LORDS* TOURS OVER IN NEW ZEALAND.
HA. THAT WOULD BE GREAT, RIGHT? "WE'VE GOT BOBBIT HOLES, VOLCANOES, AND *REAL LIVE TROLLS!*"

WHERE THE %$#@ IS HE GOING?

YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE TO EXPLAIN THIS TO ME AGAIN.

SURE THING. INSTEAD OF FIGHTING IT OUT HERE ON THIS OLD-ASS EX-PRISON COLONY, TRYING TO HOLD ON TO WHATEVER GROUND YOU CAN...

...LIVE IT UP IN NEW ZEALAND AS A PART OF THE INTERACTIVE TOURS THROUGH THE SETS OF THE HIT MOVIE FRANCHISE *RING OF THE LORDS*.
RING OF THE LORDS
TOUR

NO MORE BATTLES, NO MORE DYING. YOU WILL BE GIVEN SANCTUARY, ALL THE FOOD AND LAND YOU NEED. YOU WILL BE TREATED LIKE A *KING!*

DECIDING ***NOT*** TO TAKE THE ***KILL 'EM ALL*** ROUTE AND WORKING OUT A BUSINESS DEAL THAT SOLVES EVERYONE'S PROBLEMS?

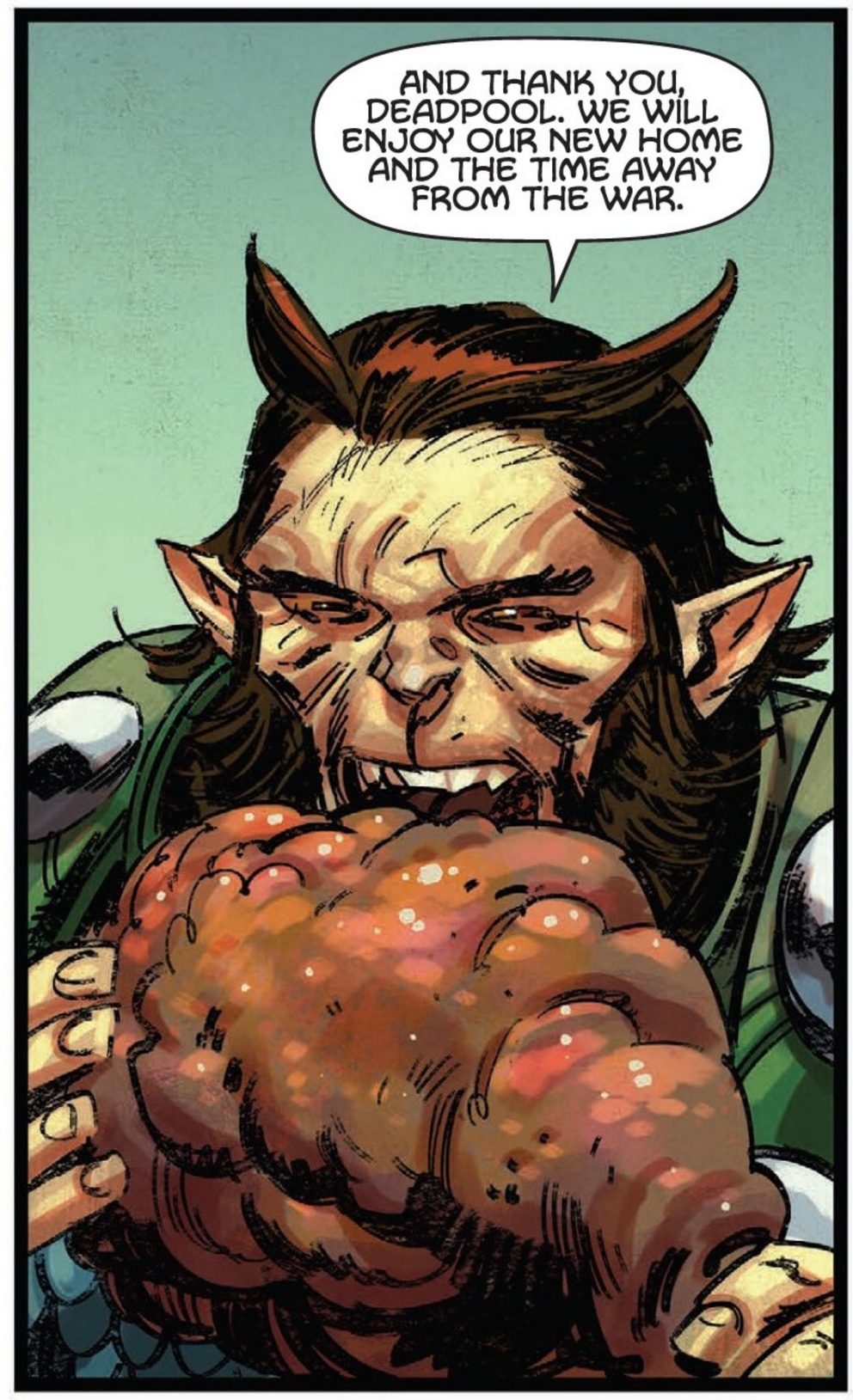
I'M IMPRESSED.

I CAN'T THANK YOU ENOUGH. OUR SALES HAVE GONE THROUGH THE ROOF SINCE WE ANNOUNCED THAT *REAL LIVE TROLLS* WERE BEING ADDED TO THE PARK.
MY PLEASURE!

JUST REMEMBER, THESE *AREN'T* LIKE GREMLINS. YOU *CAN* FEED THEM AFTER MIDNIGHT. IN FACT, MAKE SURE YOU FEED THEM BEFORE, RIGHT AT, AND AFTER MIDNIGHT.
JUST FEED THEM ALL THE TIME OR &%#$ MIGHT GO SIDEWAYS.
OTHER THAN THAT...

"...ENJOY YOUR NEW ATTRACTION!"

BREAK ROOM
WELL, MY WORK HERE IS DONE. THANKS FOR BEING OPEN TO THE DEAL. I THINK YOU'RE GOING TO ENJOY THIS NEW, CUSHY LIFESTYLE.


AND THANK YOU, DEADPOOL. WE WILL ENJOY OUR NEW HOME AND THE TIME AWAY FROM THE WAR.

NOM NOM NOM
SPEAKING OF WAR, GOOD LUCK WITH *ULIK*. YOU ARE GOING TO NEED IT.

HUH?
WHAT THE %@$# ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
YOU *ARE* ULIK.

HA HA HA. YES, BUT I'M *ULIK THE CONQUERABLE*.
I WAS JUST THE FIRST PHASE OF THE INVASION. MY JOB WAS TO PAVE THE WAY FOR...

ULIK THE UNCONQUERABLE!!!
APPARENTLY ULIK IS LIKE JOE FOR TROLLS. WHO KNEW?

AH, MY RIDE IS FINALLY HERE!
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
I CALLED NEGASONIC TO DROP BY AND TAKE ME HOME. I DID MY BEST, BUDDY, BUT I'M TIRED OF ALL THIS AVENGER-ING. IT'S JUST NOT MY THING.
DON'T WORRY, JASON WILL FINISH THIS HOT MESS OF A STORY IN THE MAIN BOOK.
I GOT MY OWN KNOTTED BALL OF LOOSE ENDS TO TIE UP IN THIS ONE.
LATER, NERDS!
YES! YOU BROUGHT THE STORY OF US! YOU KNOW ME SO WELL!

WAR OF THE REALMS STRIKEFORCE:
THE DARK ELF REALM VARIANT BY
Rod Reis

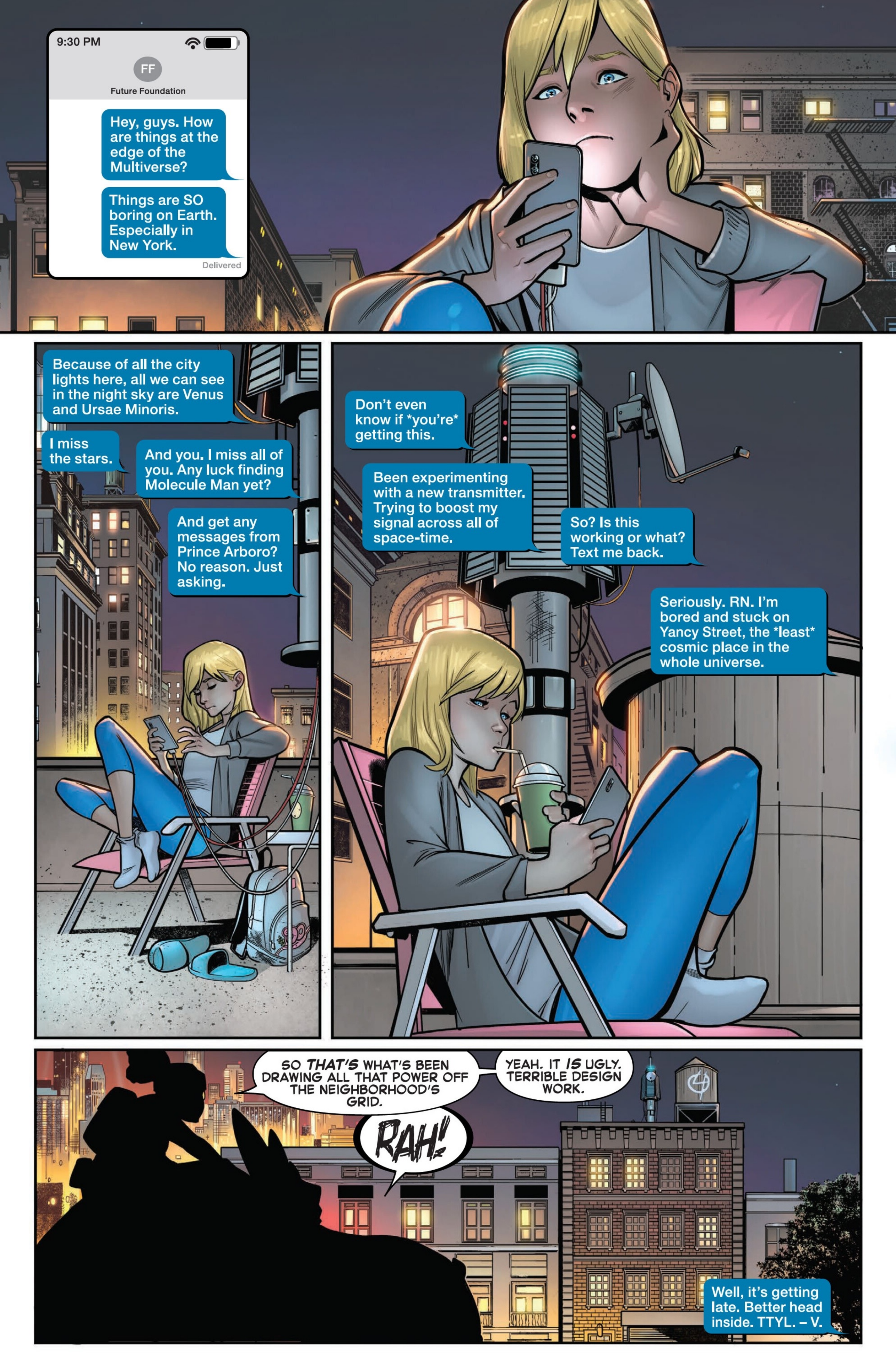
WAR OF THE REALMS STRIKEFORCE:
THE LAND OF GIANTS VARIANT BY
Cully Hamner & Morry Hollowell

WAR OF THE REALMS STRIKEFORCE:
THE WAR AVENGERS VARIANT BY
Nick Bradshaw & Laura Martin

THOR #8 VARIANT BY
Kaare Andrews

FANTASTIC FOUR #10

Neighboring Realm


9:30 PM
FF
Future Foundation
Hey, guys. How are things at the edge of the Multiverse?
Things are SO boring on Earth. Especially in New York.
Delivered
Because of all the city lights here, all we can see in the night sky are Venus and Ursae Minoris.
I miss the stars.
And you. I miss all of you. Any luck finding Molecule Man yet?
And get any messages from Prince Arboro? No reason. Just asking.
Don't even know if *you're* getting this.
Been experimenting with a new transmitter. Trying to boost my signal across all of space-time.
So? Is this working or what? Text me back.
Seriously. RN. I'm bored and stuck on Yancy Street, the *least* cosmic place in the whole universe.
SO THAT'S WHAT'S BEEN DRAWING ALL THAT POWER OFF THE NEIGHBORHOOD'S GRID.
YEAH. IT IS UGLY. TERRIBLE DESIGN WORK.
RAH!
Well, it's getting late. Better head inside. TTYL. – V.

RAAA RAAA

RAAA RAAA RAAA

HUH? WELL, IF THERE'S ONE SOUND I'M WAY TOO FAMILIAR WITH...

...IT'S THE FF'S SMOKE DETECTOR.

IS THAT COMING FROM... FRANKLIN'S ROOM? KEEP FORGETTING HE'S A TEENAGER NOW.

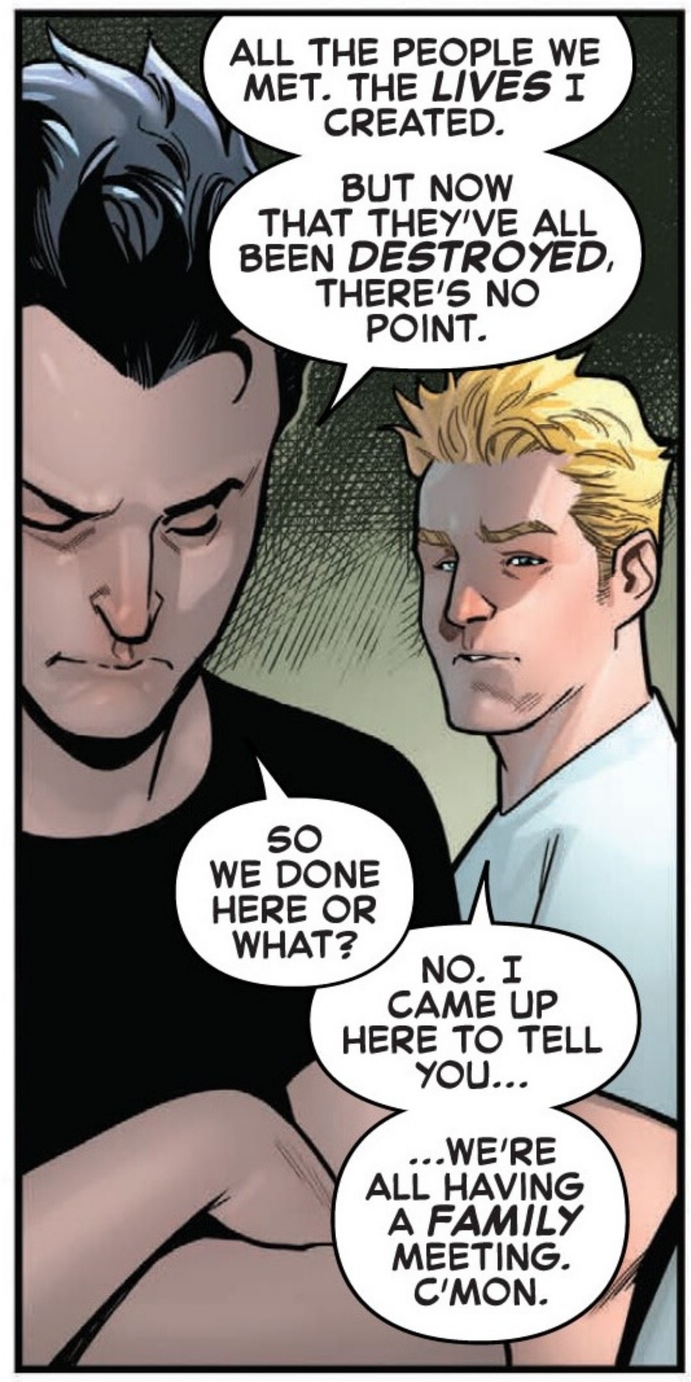
PLEASE DON'T BE SMOKING SOMETHING. PLEASE DON'T BE...

AH. OKAY. THIS'S ACTUALLY WORSE.

FRANK, WHAT'RE YOU DOING, MAN?

YOU'RE BURNING BOOKS NOW? WHAT?

UNCLE JOHNNY?! HOW 'BOUT A LITTLE PRIVACY? GOD.



FRANKLIN. VALERIA. WE NEED TO HAVE A TALK.

IT'S ABOUT YOUR BEHAVIOR WHEN WE WERE VISITING WITH UNCLE JAKE AND AUNT PETUNIA.*

FRANKIE, WHILE YOU WERE GROUNDED, YOU DIDN'T JUST SNEAK OUT...

...YOU TOOK *ADVANTAGE* OF THE FACT ALICIA'S BLIND. THAT'S PRETTY *LOUSY*, KID.

AND VAL, YOU TOOK APART YOUR UNCLE JAKE'S TRUCK. AND WHEN YOU REASSEMBLED IT...

...YOU TURNED IT INTO A *FLYING MACHINE.*

*IN OUR LAST FEW ISSUES. --TOM

TO BE FAIR, *FIRST* SHE TURNED IT INTO A TELEPOD AND USED IT TO SAVE US FROM DOCTOR DOOM.

THEN SHE MADE IT A FLYING TRUCK.

I'M WITH REED. I DON'T SEE THE PROBLEM.

AND WHO *WOULDN'T* WANT A FLYING TRUCK?

BUT AS FOR *YOU*, MISTER, WE RAISED YOU BETTER THAN THAT.

AGREED. WE'LL HAVE TO COME UP WITH AN APPROPRIATE PUNISHMENT.

WHAT? THIS IS *SO UNFAIR!*

IF IT WEREN'T FOR *ME* POWERING VAL'S TELEPORT, YOU'D *STILL* BE IN LATVERIA! DON'T YOU GET WHAT I *DID?*

EVERY TIME I USE MY POWER, *PART* OF IT GOES *AWAY. FOREVER.*

YOU SHOULD ALL BE *THANKING* ME. AND, DAD, YOU SHOULD BE FIGURING OUT HOW TO *FIX* IT!

THERE'S NOTHING TO "FIX," SON. MY SCANS SHOW THAT THIS IS A *NATURAL* PROGRESSION.

HOW IT *SHOULD* BE. THE *HEALTHIEST* OPTION IS TO LET IT RUN ITS COURSE.

SPEAKING OF HOW THINGS SHOULD BE...

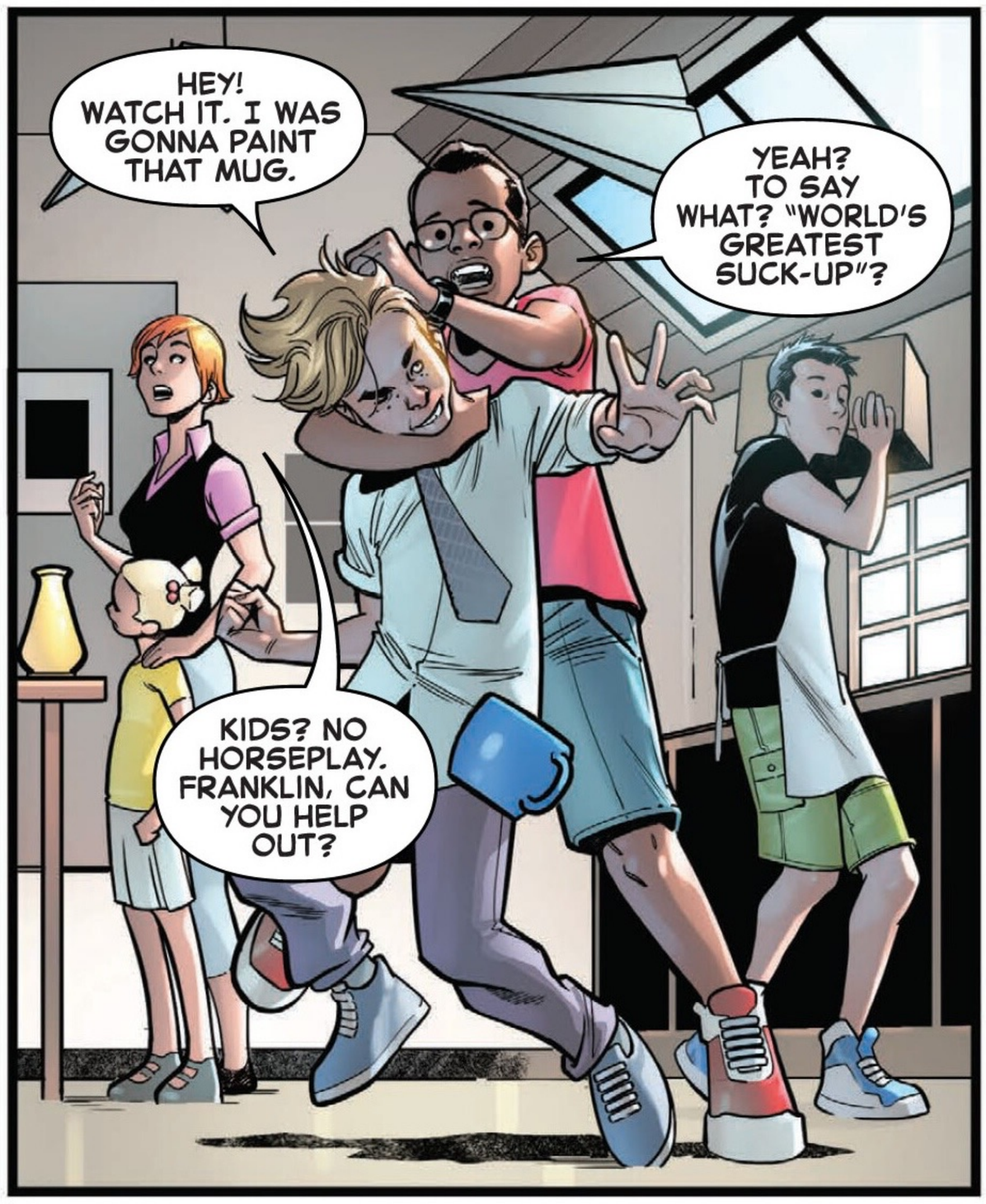
MR. AND MRS. GRIMM? HOW DO *YOU* THINK FRANKLIN SHOULD MAKE AMENDS?

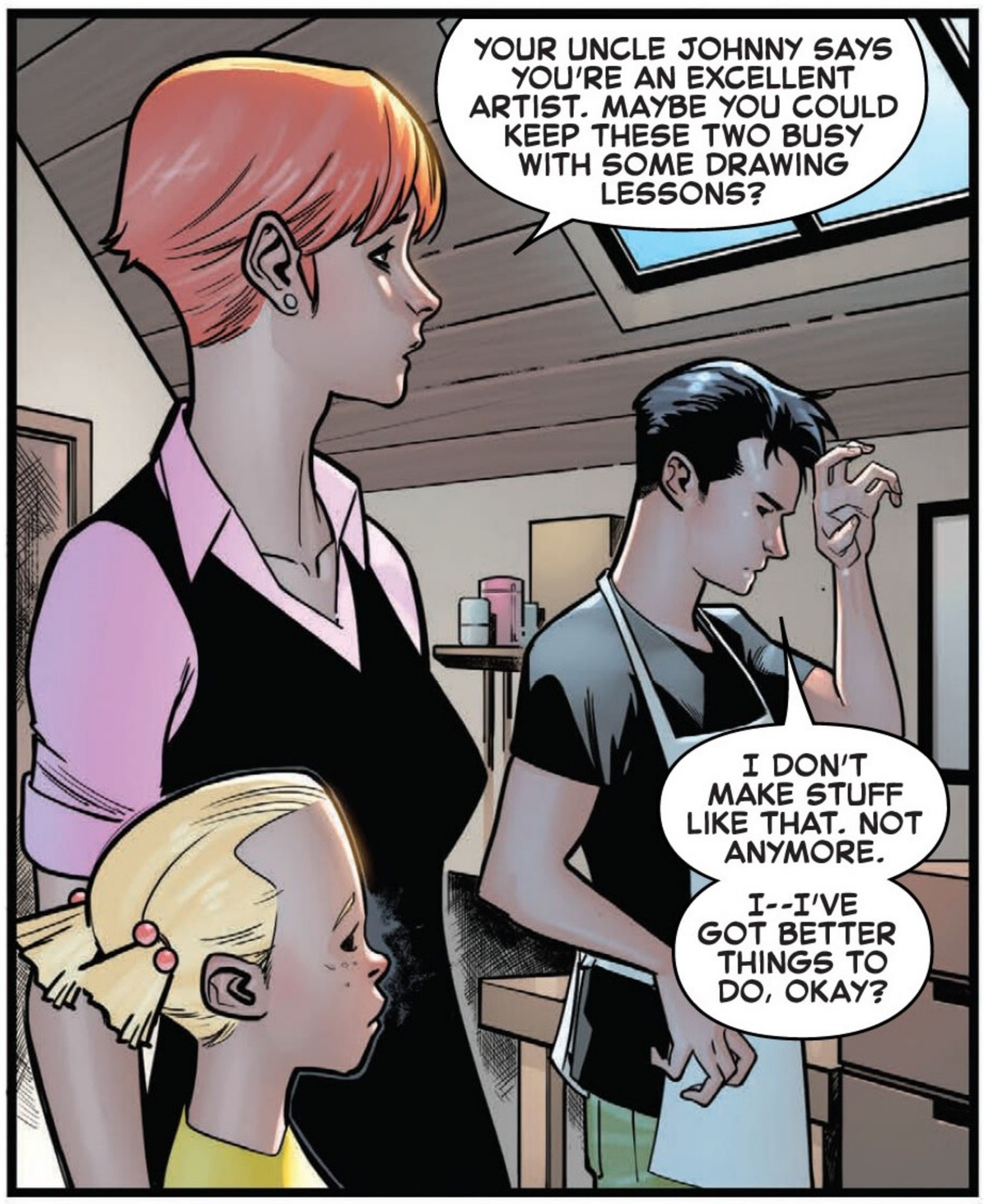
I'M NOT SURE.

LEAVE THAT TO ME, SWEETIE. I GOT ALL *KINDS* 'A IDEAS.

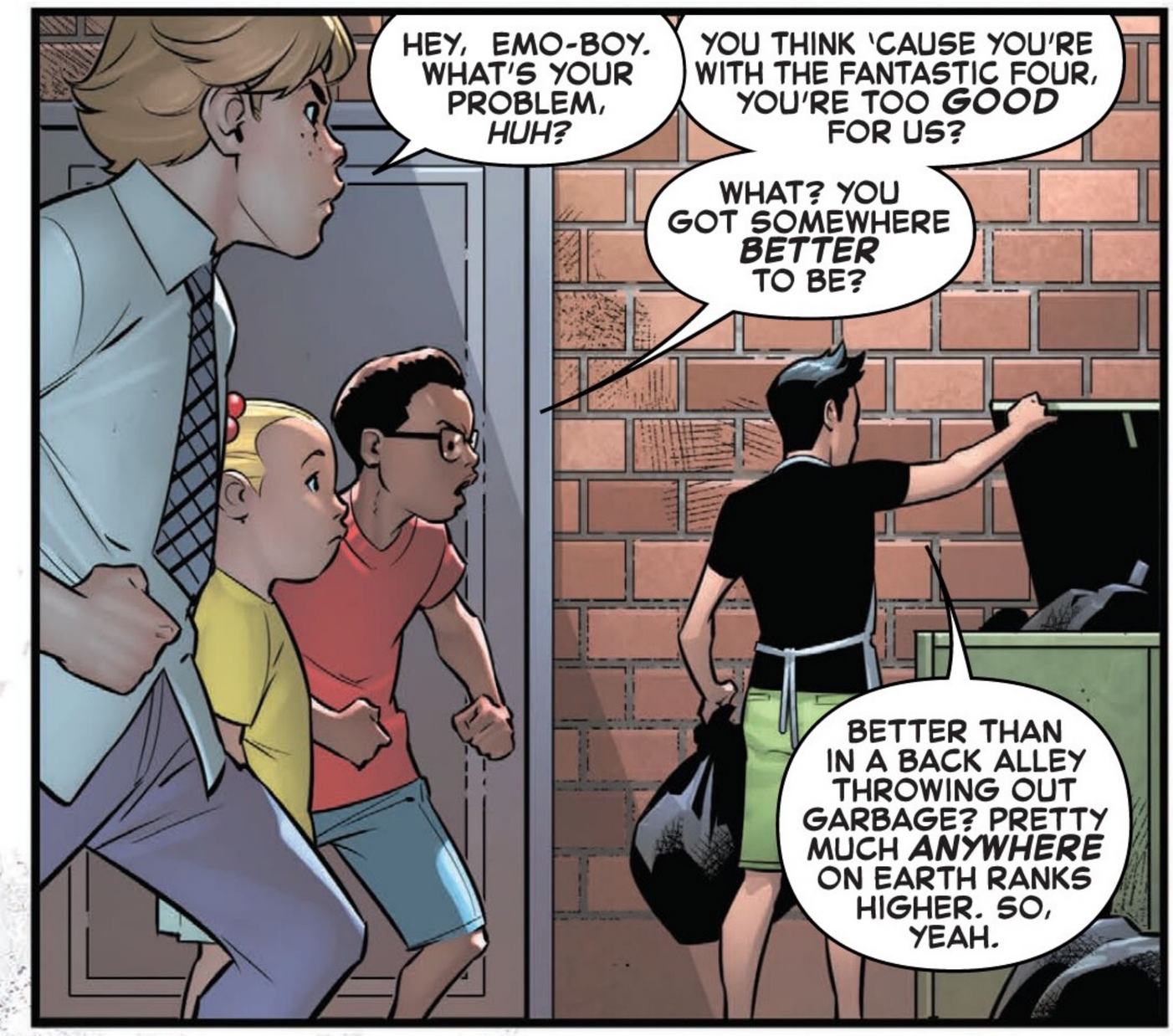
GOOD MORNIN', SUNSHINE.
AND WELCOME TO THE GRIMM YOUTH CENTER.*
WHERE YOU'LL BE SPENDIN' EVERY WAKIN' HOUR FOR THE NEXT FEW DAYS...
...GIVIN' BACK TO THIS FAIR COMMUNITY. WHADDYA THINK?
"DAYS"? HOW LONG DO I HAVE TO DO THIS?
FER ASKIN' LIKE THAT, A FEW DAYS MORE THAN BEFORE. NOW HOP TO IT.
PARKING
*LAST SEEN IN THING #6. --TOM

THERE. THAT WASN'T SO HARD. AND WE'RE ALL SET UP FOR MY FIRST ART CLASS.
YOU KNOW, AFTER ALL MY YEARS BABYSITTING YOU, I'VE MISSED OUR TIME TOGETHER. THIS IS NICE.
I GUESS.


HEY! WATCH IT. I WAS GONNA PAINT THAT MUG.
YEAH? TO SAY WHAT? "WORLD'S GREATEST SUCK-UP"?
KIDS? NO HORSEPLAY. FRANKLIN, CAN YOU HELP OUT?


YOUR UNCLE JOHNNY SAYS YOU'RE AN EXCELLENT ARTIST. MAYBE YOU COULD KEEP THESE TWO BUSY WITH SOME DRAWING LESSONS?
I DON'T MAKE STUFF LIKE THAT. NOT ANYMORE.
I--I'VE GOT BETTER THINGS TO DO, OKAY?

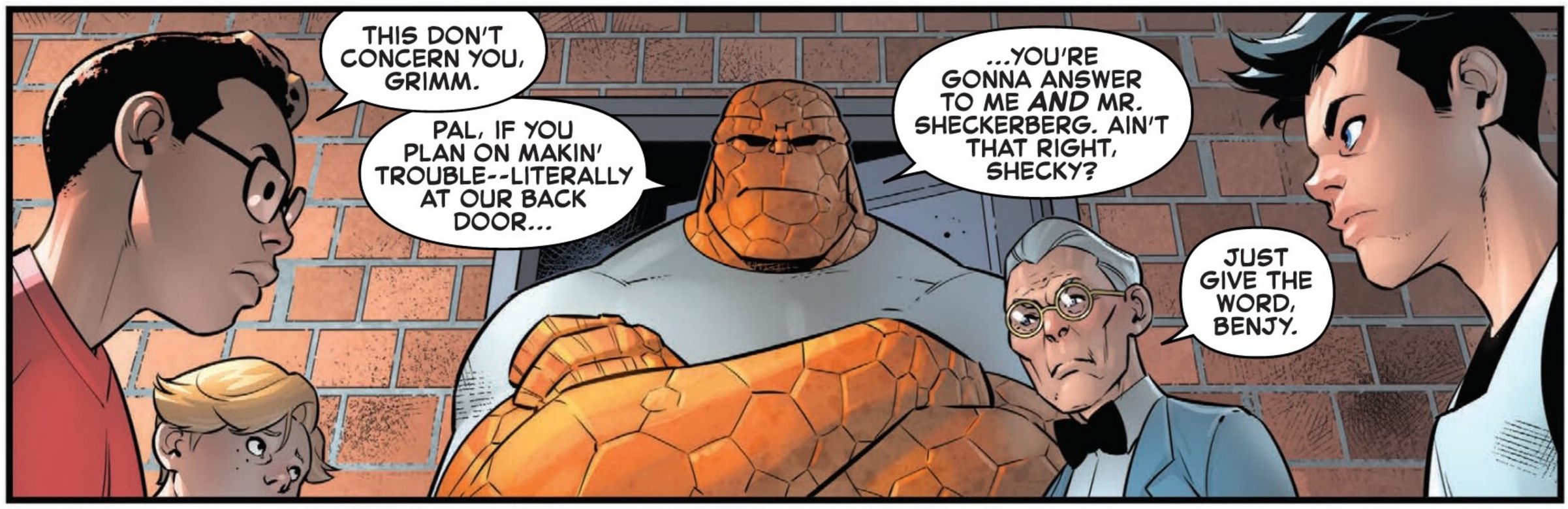
WELL, FRANKLIN RICHARDS, IF YOU DON'T WANT TO HELP THAT WAY...
...THERE ARE OTHER WAYS TO PUT YOU TO GOOD USE. LIKE CLEANING UP.
WHATEVER.

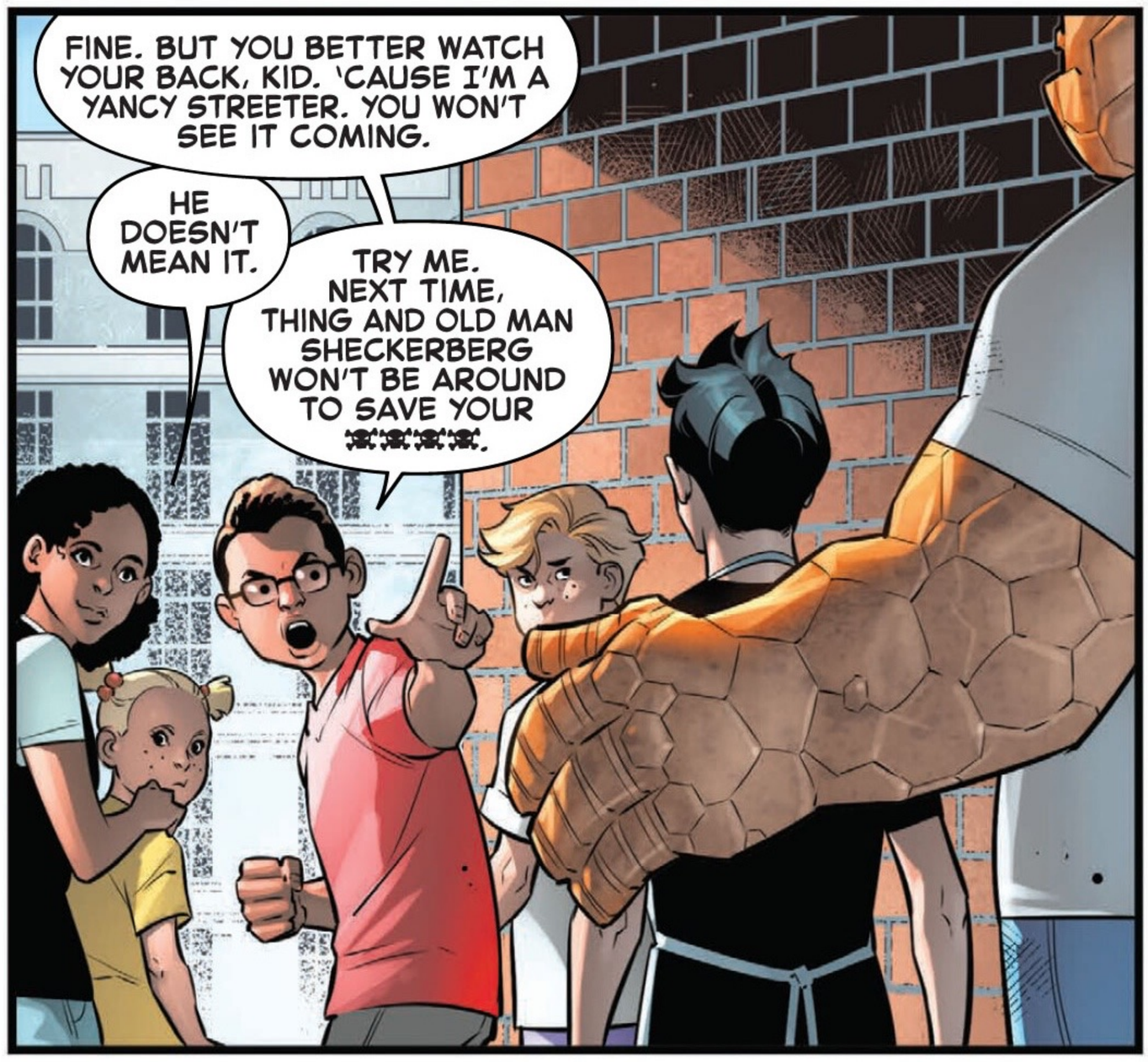

HEY, EMO-BOY. WHAT'S YOUR PROBLEM, HUH?
YOU THINK 'CAUSE YOU'RE WITH THE FANTASTIC FOUR, YOU'RE TOO GOOD FOR US?
WHAT? YOU GOT SOMEWHERE BETTER TO BE?
BETTER THAN IN A BACK ALLEY THROWING OUT GARBAGE? PRETTY MUCH ANYWHERE ON EARTH RANKS HIGHER. SO, YEAH.

MAN, THAT IS IT. YOU ACTUALLY THINK YOU'RE BETTER THAN EVERYBODY ELSE.
BRICE, MAYBE WE SHOULD JUST LEAVE HIM ALONE.
WAP
HEY, I'M TALKIN' TO YOU.

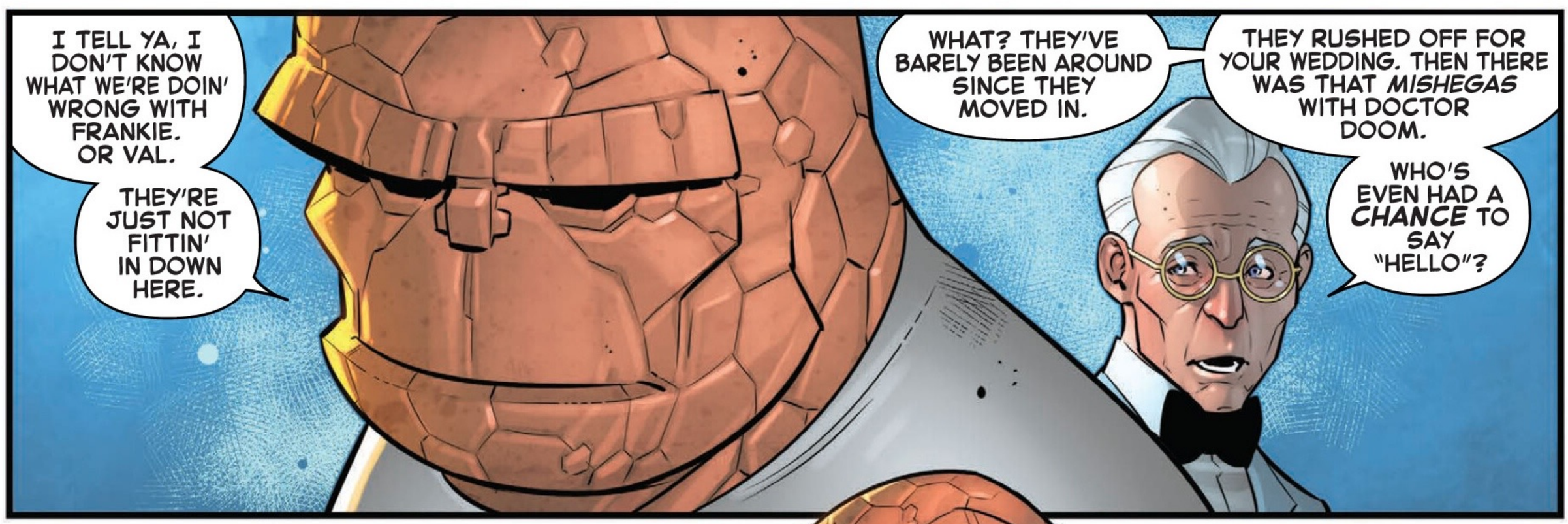
REALLY? YOU WANT TO MESS WITH ME? YOU KNOW I'VE GOT GODLIKE POWERS, RIGHT?
I'VE CREATED PLANETS WITH MY MIND. STARS! WHOLE GALAXIES! YOU REALLY WANT TO DO THIS?!
YEAH?! PROVE IT! TAKE YOUR BEST SHOT!

I--
YOU...YOU WERE RIGHT. YOU'RE NOT WORTH IT.
MAN, THAT'S NOT HOW WE DO THINGS ON YANCY STREET.
YOU DON'T MAKE THREATS YOU CAN'T BACK UP. C'MON, LET ME SHOW YOU HOW IT'S DONE!
COOL IT.


THIS DON'T CONCERN YOU, GRIMM.
PAL, IF YOU PLAN ON MAKIN' TROUBLE--LITERALLY AT OUR BACK DOOR...
...YOU'RE GONNA ANSWER TO ME AND MR. SHECKERBERG. AIN'T THAT RIGHT, SHECKY?
JUST GIVE THE WORD, BENJY.


FINE. BUT YOU BETTER WATCH YOUR BACK, KID. 'CAUSE I'M A YANCY STREETER. YOU WON'T SEE IT COMING.
HE DOESN'T MEAN IT.
TRY ME. NEXT TIME, THING AND OLD MAN SHECKERBERG WON'T BE AROUND TO SAVE YOUR ☠☠☠☠.

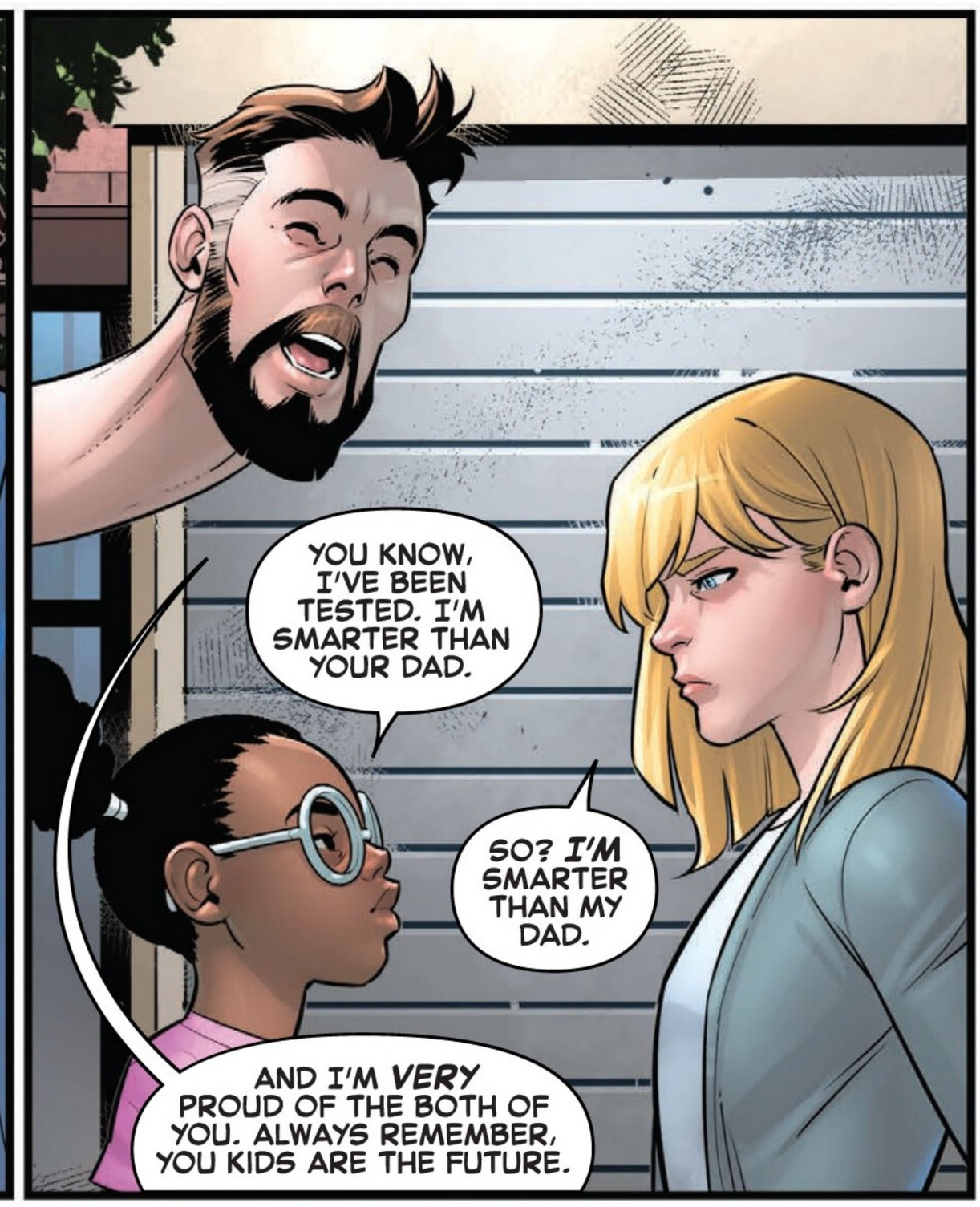
GREAT NEIGHBORHOOD YOU MOVED US INTO, UNCLE BEN.
REAL FRIENDLY PLACE.

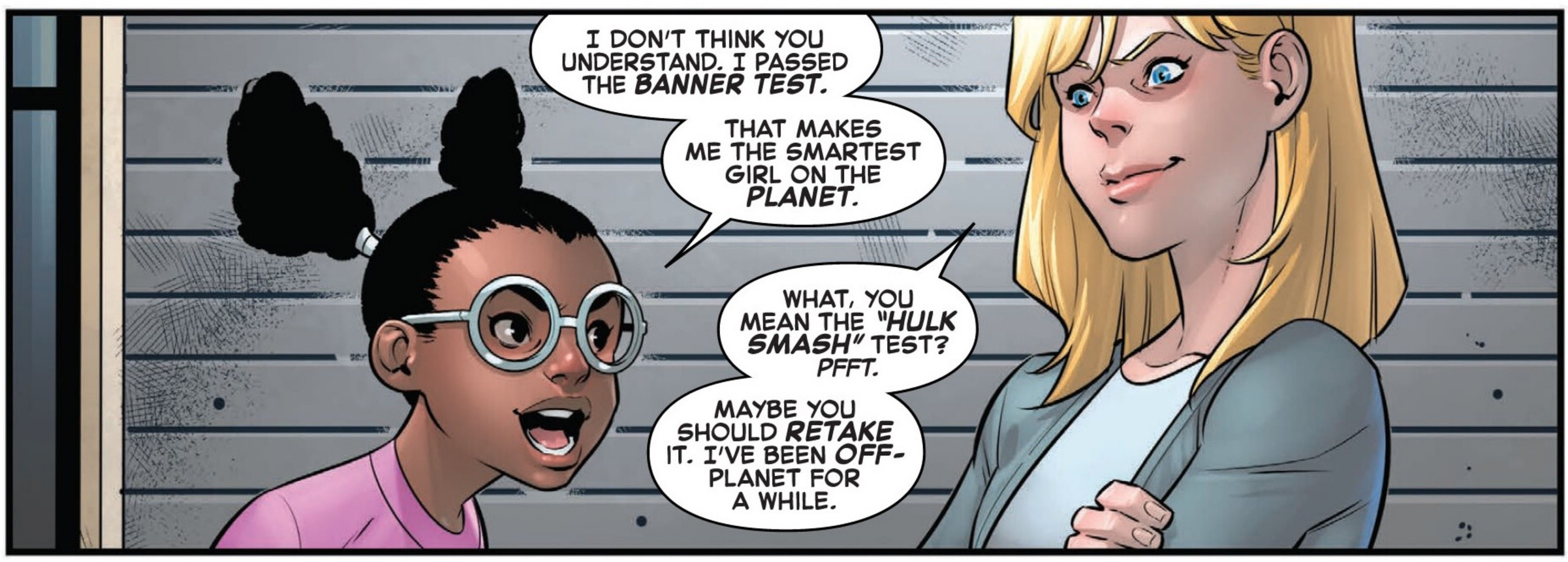

I TELL YA, I DON'T KNOW WHAT WE'RE DOIN' WRONG WITH FRANKIE. OR VAL.
THEY'RE JUST NOT FITTIN' IN DOWN HERE.
WHAT? THEY'VE BARELY BEEN AROUND SINCE THEY MOVED IN.
THEY RUSHED OFF FOR YOUR WEDDING. THEN THERE WAS THAT MISHEGAS WITH DOCTOR DOOM.
WHO'S EVEN HAD A CHANCE TO SAY "HELLO"?

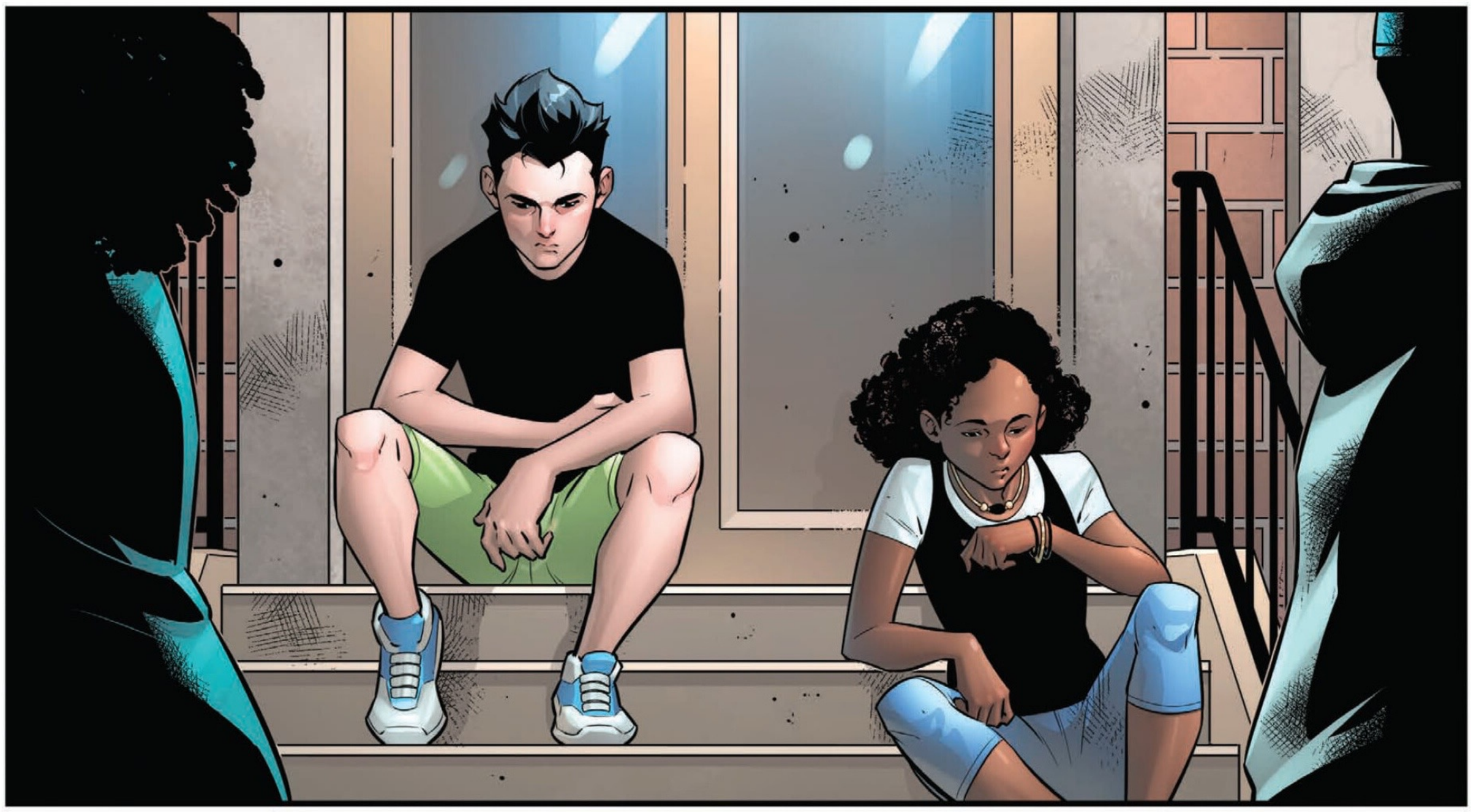
I THINK YOU'RE ON TO SUMTHIN'. THE WHOLE FAMILY--THEY AIN'T BEEN PROPERLY INTRODUCED YET.
YA KNOW WHAT'D FIX THAT RIGHT UP? IF YOU AND ME SET UP A GOOD, OLD-FASHIONED...

...YANCY STREET BLOCK PARTY!
REED. SUSAN. THIS IS MISHKA FROM TWO DOORS DOWN. SHE BROUGHT BLINTZES.
IT'S SO NICE TO MEET YOU. MY HUSBAND LOVES BLINTZES.
PRACTICALLY LIVED ON THEM WHILE I WAS BUILDING MY FIRST ROCKET.
WORD OF ADVICE, DO NOT TRY TO EAT THEM IN ZERO G.
REED.
AH. RIGHT. KEEP EVERYTHING DOWN TO EARTH.
SO, HOW LONG HAVE YOU AND OUR BEN BEEN MARRIED?
NINE WONDERFUL DAYS.
THAT LONG? SO WHEN ARE WE SEEIN' SOME KIDS, HUH?
OH, FOR THE LUVVA... MR. PAPADAKIS! WE ALREADY GOT TWO CATS. C'MON.

LUNELLA. MR. AND MRS. LAFAYETTE. ME AND BEN YOU ALREADY KNOW.
THIS'S MY SISTER, SUE, MY BROTHER-IN-LAW, REED, AND MY NIECE, VAL.
YOU'RE GONNA LOVE HER--SHE'S A SUPER-GENIUS TOO.
PRRRR...
WHO'S A GOOD DEVIL DINOSAUR? *YOU* ARE.
NOW WHO WANTS A BELLY RUB? THERE YA GO!



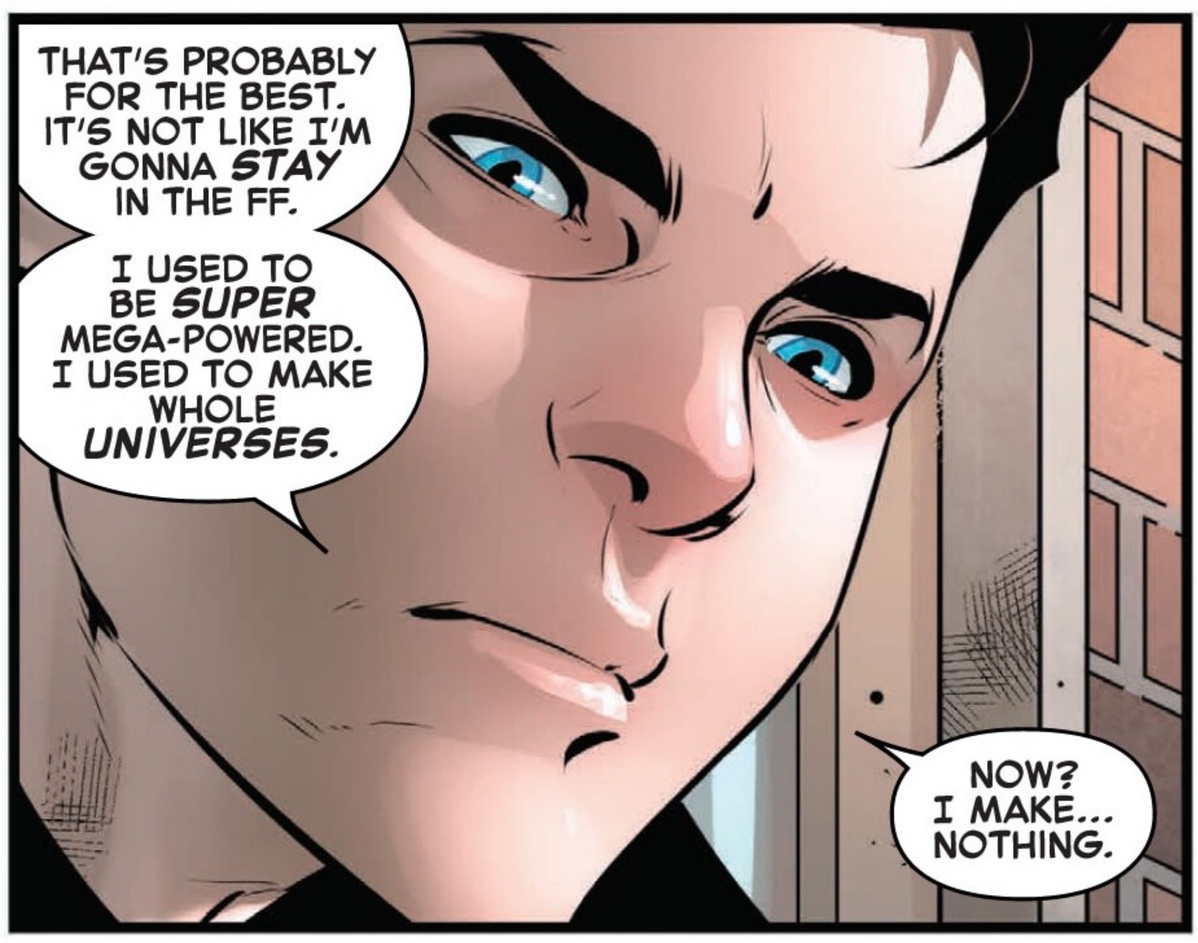




♫

HEY. I'M IZZY.
HEY.
SO...

YOU, LIKE, A STEPKID OR SOMETHING? I MEAN, YOU DON'T LOOK LIKE THE REST OF YOUR FAMILY.
OR SEEM LIKE YOU'RE IN THE FANTASTIC FOUR. OR ACT LIKE THEM. AT ALL.


THAT'S PROBABLY FOR THE BEST. IT'S NOT LIKE I'M GONNA STAY IN THE FF.
I USED TO BE SUPER MEGA-POWERED. I USED TO MAKE WHOLE UNIVERSES.
NOW? I MAKE... NOTHING.

COOL, YOU'RE IN THE RIGHT PLACE, THEN. 'CAUSE NOTHING HAPPENS HERE.
HEH. YOU GUYS HAVE A DINOSAUR.
OKAY... BUT OUTSIDE OF LUNELLA'S DINOSAUR? NADA.

UM. YOU WERE SAYING?
EXCEPT FOR THAT.
RMMMMMMBL
THE BLACK BIFROST IS OPEN!
THE WALLS BETWEEN REALMS ARE TORN ASUNDER!
WITNESS OUR UNHOLY ALLIANCE, MIDGARD!
LOOK UPON IT AND DESPAIR!
"BIFROST"? "MIDGARD"? YOU KNOW WHAT THAT MEANS, OF COURSE?
THIS IS SOME THOR-RELATED THING.
NAH. WHATEVER IT IS, WHEN IT COMES TO THIS STREET, IT'S A ME-RELATED THING!
OUR THING.
OR, IN OTHER WORDS...
FLAME ON!

EVERYONE, BE CAREFUL. THESE ARE MAGICAL BEINGS...
...WITH LITTLE-TO-NO BASIS IN SCIENCE. ANY SUGGESTIONS?
I SAY WE TAKE A PAGE OUT OF BEN'S BOOK!
HA! NOW YER TALKIN'!
WHAT STRANGE CREATURES. I WONDER WHAT THEY'LL TASTE LIKE.
I WOULDN'T GO STRAPPIN' ON YER BIB JUST YET, PAL! 'CAUSE IT AIN'T SUPPER TIME...

...IT'S CLOBBERIN' TIME!
POW
RAHH!
YEAH? YOU LIKE THAT, RED? ME TOO!

UNHH!
TORCH, LISTEN UP! MAYBE WE CAN USE THEIR MYSTIC ENERGIES AGAINST ONE ANOTHER.
WHOA. TEN SECONDS AGO YOU SAID THEY HAD "LITTLE-TO-NO BASIS IN SCIENCE."
THWAK!
APOLOGIES. I WAS AT A BLOCK PARTY. THAT WAS DOWN TIME.
THOSE "DEMONS" BEHIND YOU ARE FROM A FIRE REALM CALLED MUSPELHEIM. SEE IF YOU CAN EXTRACT THEIR FLAME...

GOTCHA! I KNOW WHERE YOU'RE GOING WITH THIS.
GYARHH!
YOU WANT ME TO USE IT AGAINST FROSTY THE GIANT OVER HERE!
GOOD WORK, JOHNNY.
SUE, YOUR BROTHER'S DRIVEN A LOT OF THEM BACK TO THE NEXT BLOCK.
AND YOU'D LIKE TO KEEP IT THAT WAY.
BUT A FORCE-FIELD AROUND ALL OF YANCY STREET? THAT'S A TALL ORDER. I'LL SEE WHAT I CAN DO.
NOT BAD! YOU SEE THAT? MY BIG SISTER DID THAT!
WELL... YOU CAN'T SEE IT. IT'S INVISIBLE. BUT YOU GET THE IDEA.

YOU SHOULD REALLY GET YOURSELF A LASER. IF YOU WANT, I CAN MAKE YOU ONE.

I CAN MAKE MY OWN LASER.

WHAT? SO YOU'RE GONNA POKE 'EM WITH A COUPLE OF IRON BARS?

YOU GOT A BETTER IDEA? HI-YAH!

OW! QUITTETH THAT!

ACTUALLY...

NO SIGNAL! WHY CAN'T WE CALL OUT? LET'S GET THE COPS OVER HERE!

OR THE FRICKIN' AVENGERS! C'MON! WHY ISN'T THIS WORKING?! I GOT A FULL CHARGE!

GUYS! MORE ARE COMING! I GOT A GOOD AERIAL VIEW...

...AND WHILE THIS MAY BE GOING DOWN ACROSS THE CITY...

...IT LOOKS LIKE THEY'RE ALL HEADING HERE! DO ANY OF YOU COPY?

UNCLE JOHNNY, IT'S VAL...

...ALL OUR FF COMMUNICATORS ARE STILL WORKING. CAN YOU TELL WHAT THEY WANT?

OUT OF EVERY PLACE IN NEW YORK, WHY DO THEY CARE SO MUCH ABOUT YANCY STREET?

BY YMIR'S ICY BONES! YOU CAN'T KEEP US OUT FOREVER, WITCH!

BOOM

YEAH, TINY? DOESN'T MEAN I'M NOT GOING TO TRY!

HEY, LADY! IT'S ALL RIGHT!

DROP THE FORCE-FIELD!

YEAH, WE DON'T RUN FROM FIGHTS HERE.

WE LOOK AFTER EACH OTHER.

AND WE GIVE BETTER THAN WE GET!

TRUST US.

JUST LET 'EM TRY TO MESS WITH YANCY STREET!

WOW! SHE'S REALLY DOING IT. THEY'RE COMING THROUGH!

DON'T THINK SHE HAD A CHOICE. MOM CAN ONLY KEEP A FORCE-FIELD *THAT* BIG GOING FOR SO LONG.

YOU GONNA COME INTO OUR BACKYARD WITH THIS ☠☠☠☠?

BRING IT!

ALL TOGETHER!

LET'S SHOW 'EM HOW WE DO THINGS ON THE *LOWER EAST SIDE!*

UMPPH!

FWAK!

POP?!

IT'S NUTHIN', GEORGIE. THIS'S YANCY STREET. SOMEONE KNOCKS US DOWN, WHAT DO WE DO?

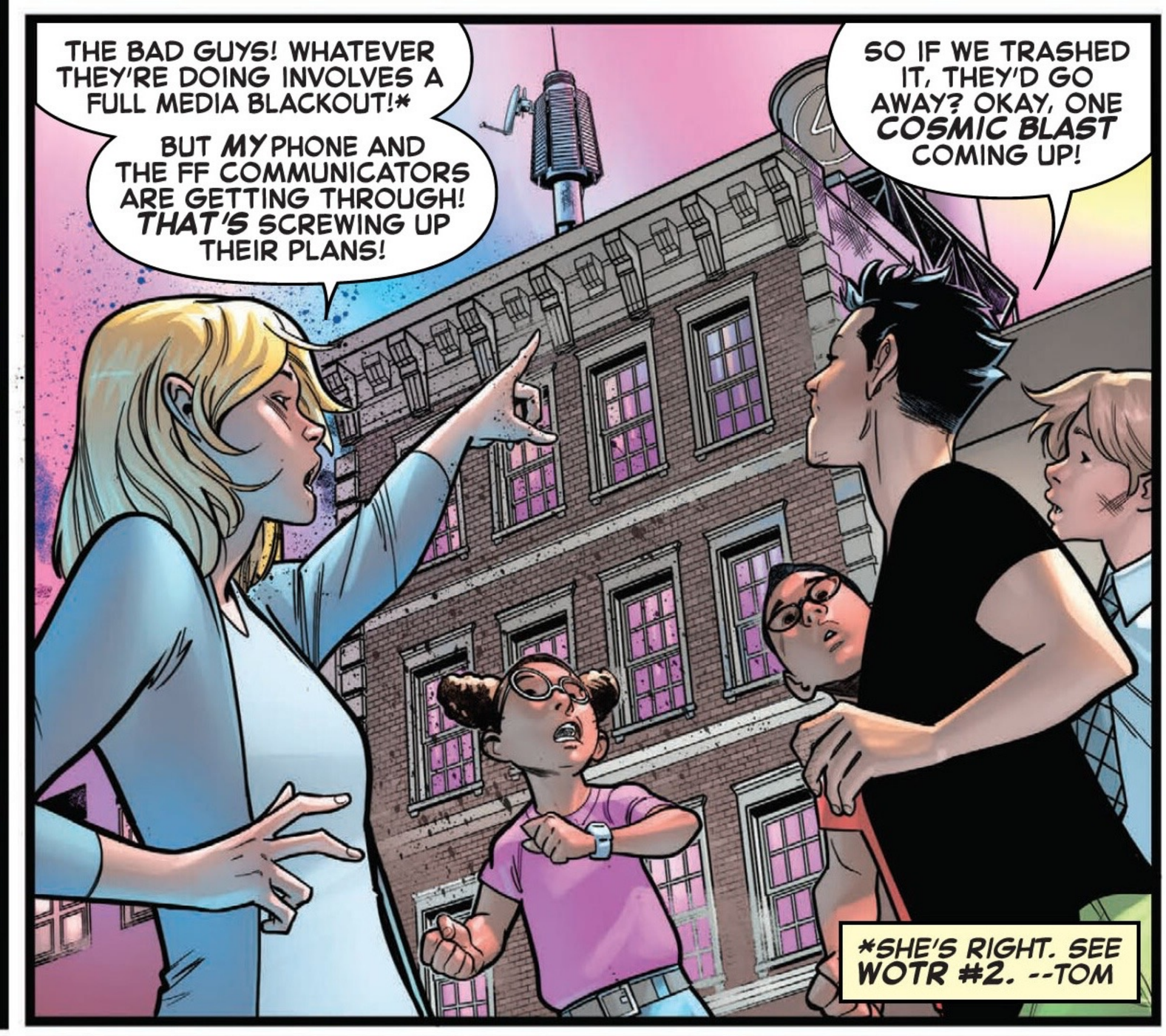
WE GET *BACK UP!*

THIS--THIS IS WHERE *UNCLE BEN* GETS THAT FROM.

EVERYTHING HE'S PASSED ON TO ME. I SHOULD'VE KNOWN BETTER.

ALL RIGHT. LET'S DO THIS. **HEY!**

KRAKAKOOM
YOU LOSERS HAVE GONE UP AGAINST THOR, RIGHT?
AND ASGARDIANS? AND ALL KINDS OF GODS?
WELL, YOU'VE NEVER FACED ONE LIKE ME-- POWERHOUSE!
I'M THE GOD WHO MAKES SACRIFICES!
WITH EVERY SHOT, I GIVE UP MY POWER! I THROW IT AWAY!
ALL THAT I HAVE! EVERYTHING THAT MAKES ME SPECIAL!
TAKE IT!
KID, STOP BEING STUPID.
WHAT?
YEAH. YOU DON'T NEED TO BE A GOD, A SUPER HERO OR ANY 'A THAT.
YOU'RE A YANCY STREETER NOW. AND THERE AIN'T NOTHING BETTER THAN THAT!
ALL RIGHT. MESSAGE RECEIVED.



FRANKLIN, WAIT! DON'T--

SHRAKOWWW

SORRY. TOO LATE. PEW PEW PEW.

UGH. YOU'RE THE WORST. THIS IS WHY I STOPPED BUILDING SANDCASTLES AROUND YOU WHEN I WAS THREE.

THAT'S RIGHT, PAL. KEEP WALKING.

YOU BELIEVE THOSE BIG ?!

EH. I SEEN BIGGER.

SO, THIS IS STILL A THING?

JOHNNY, JUST BECAUSE THEY'RE OFF *OUR* DOORSTEP DOESN'T MEAN OUR WORK'S OVER. IT'S HERO TIME.

HMM. VAL WAS RIGHT. ALL COMMUNICATIONS *ARE* DOWN.

SO WE GOT NO IDEA WHAT'S GOING ON--OR IF ANY OF OUR OTHER SPANDEX-SPORTIN' PALS ARE ON THE CASE?

WELL, THAT'S JUST PEACHY.

BEN'S GOT A POINT, REED. WE'RE IN THE DARK. IS IT EVEN SAFE TO LEAVE THE KIDS HERE?

WRONG QUESTION, MRS. RICHARDS. RIGHT, VAL?

YUP. YOU *SHOULD* BE ASKING--IS IT SAFE FOR *YANCY STREET* IF WE'RE *NOT* HERE?

GO. WE'VE *GOT* THIS. WE CAN HOLD DOWN THE FORT.

FOR HOW LONG?

EVERY WAKING HOUR. AS LONG AS IT TAKES.

GOOD ANSWER, KIDDO!

Hey. It's me again. I don't know if you got my last message...

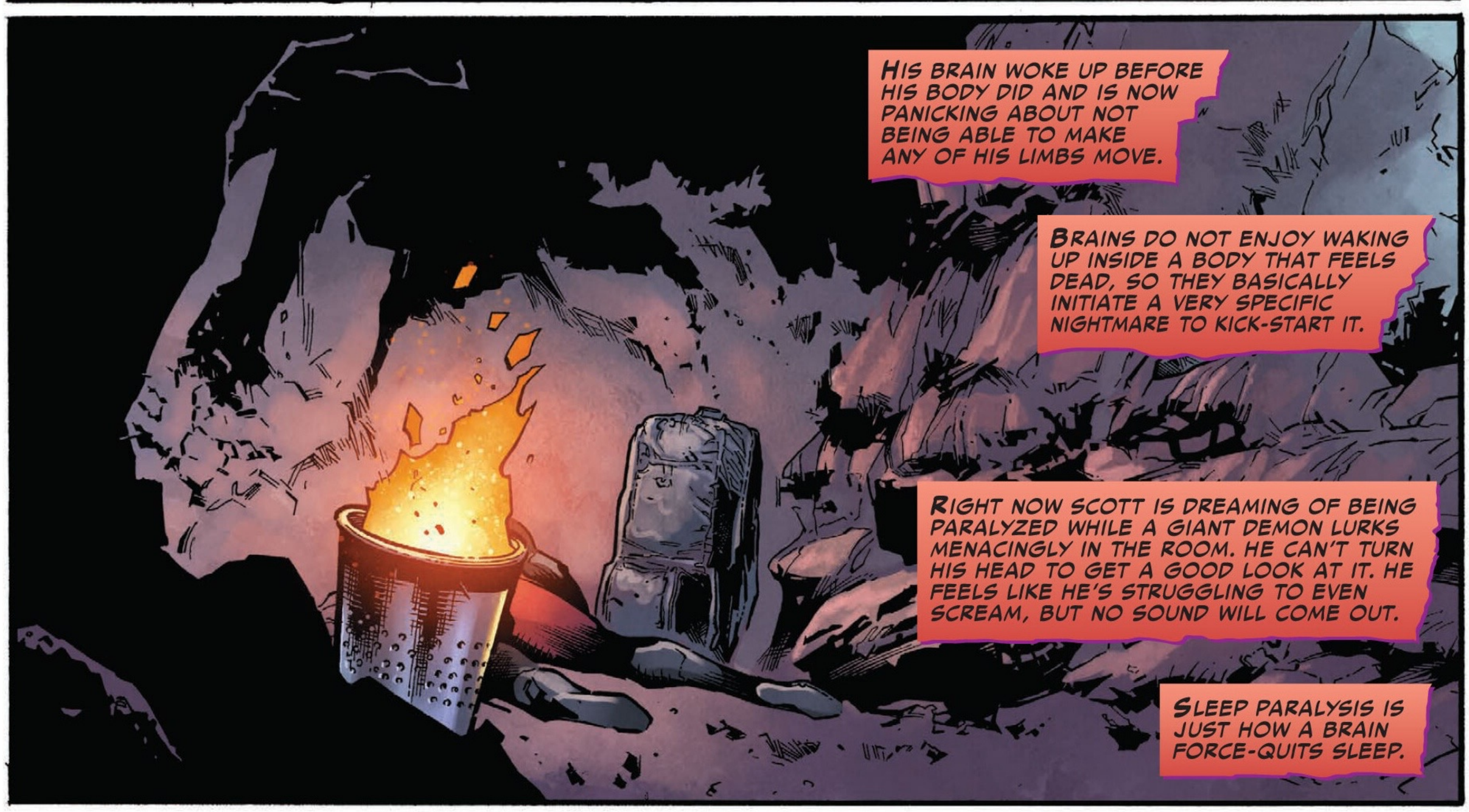
...or if you'll even *see* this one, but I wanted to set the record straight...

...I was wrong before. You *can* see some stars over Yancy Street.
You just need to know where to look.

GIANT-MAN #1

A Few Giant Men

SCOTT LANG, FLORIDA RESIDENT AND FORMER FELON, IS CURRENTLY EXPERIENCING A SLEEP PARALYSIS DREAM.


HIS BRAIN WOKE UP BEFORE HIS BODY DID AND IS NOW PANICKING ABOUT NOT BEING ABLE TO MAKE ANY OF HIS LIMBS MOVE.
BRAINS DO NOT ENJOY WAKING UP INSIDE A BODY THAT FEELS DEAD, SO THEY BASICALLY INITIATE A VERY SPECIFIC NIGHTMARE TO KICK-START IT.
RIGHT NOW SCOTT IS DREAMING OF BEING PARALYZED WHILE A GIANT DEMON LURKS MENACINGLY IN THE ROOM. HE CAN'T TURN HIS HEAD TO GET A GOOD LOOK AT IT. HE FEELS LIKE HE'S STRUGGLING TO EVEN SCREAM, BUT NO SOUND WILL COME OUT.
SLEEP PARALYSIS IS JUST HOW A BRAIN FORCE-QUITS SLEEP.

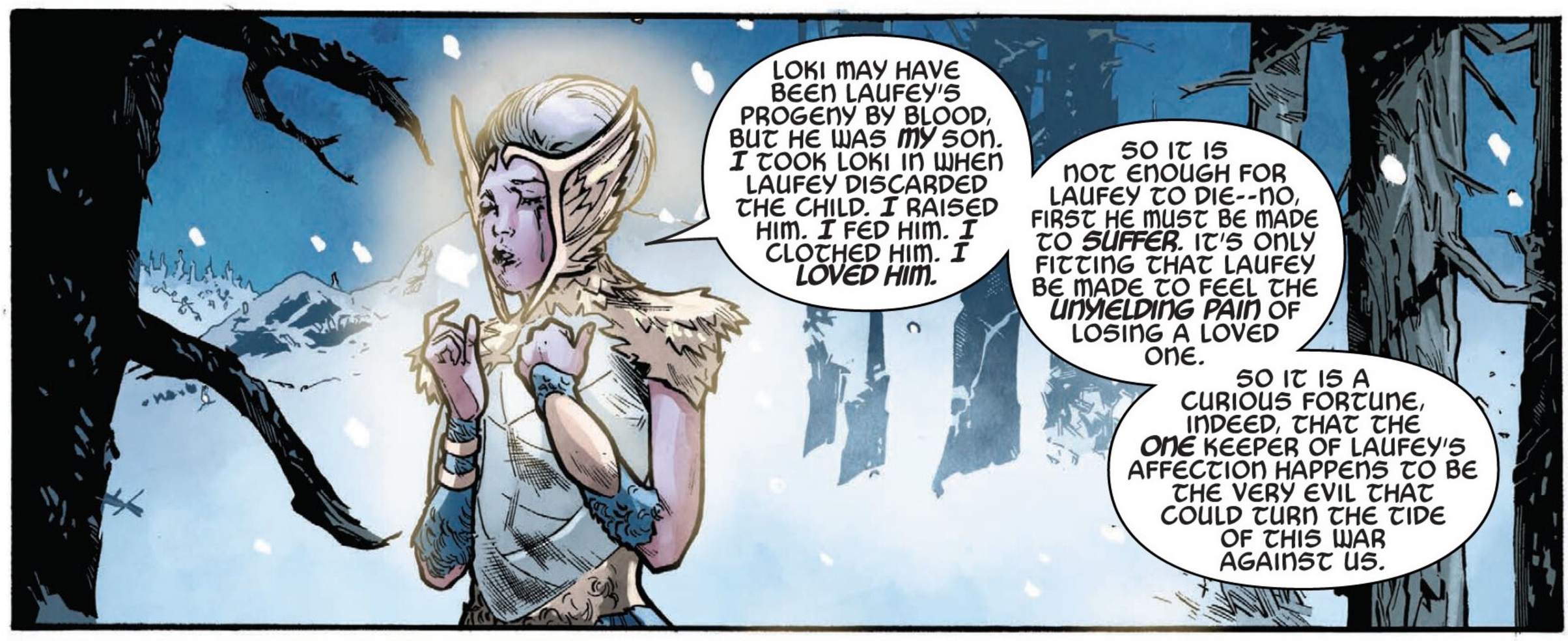
SCOTT LANG, ANT-MAN OF MIDGARD--

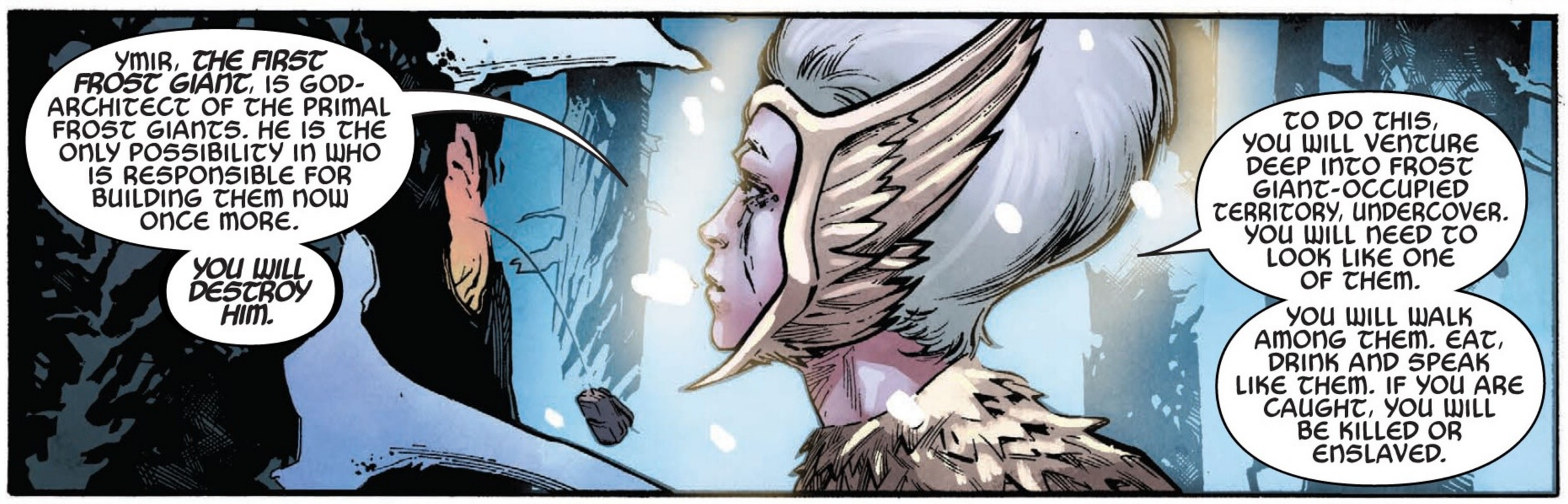
÷GASP÷ HUH--WHUS? WH-WHAT? I'M UP, I'M UP!

--I AM FREYJA FREYRDOTTIR, ALL-MOTHER OF ASGARD.
DO YOU KNOW WHY I'VE COME?

÷HUFF÷
NO, BUT GO AHEAD AND GIVE ME THE FULL RUN-DOWN WHILE MY PULSE GETS A CHANCE TO CHILL OUT.
YOU ALMOST MADE ME PEEPEE MY PYM-PANTS.

LAUFEY, THE KING OF THE FROST GIANTS, HAS JUST KILLED MY SON LOKI BY DEVOURING HIM WHOLE.*
SO NOW I AM ASSEMBLING A SMALL TEAM OF VERY PARTICULAR INDIVIDUALS FOR AN EXECUTION MISSION BECAUSE I AM NOT INCLINED TO LET THE MURDER OF MY CHILD GO UNPUNISHED.
*SEE THE WAR OF THE REALMS #1. --CROB


LOKI MAY HAVE BEEN LAUFEY'S PROGENY BY BLOOD, BUT HE WAS MY SON. I TOOK LOKI IN WHEN LAUFEY DISCARDED THE CHILD. I RAISED HIM. I FED HIM. I CLOTHED HIM. I LOVED HIM.
SO IT IS NOT ENOUGH FOR LAUFEY TO DIE--NO, FIRST HE MUST BE MADE TO SUFFER. IT'S ONLY FITTING THAT LAUFEY BE MADE TO FEEL THE UNYIELDING PAIN OF LOSING A LOVED ONE.
SO IT IS A CURIOUS FORTUNE, INDEED, THAT THE ONE KEEPER OF LAUFEY'S AFFECTION HAPPENS TO BE THE VERY EVIL THAT COULD TURN THE TIDE OF THIS WAR AGAINST US.

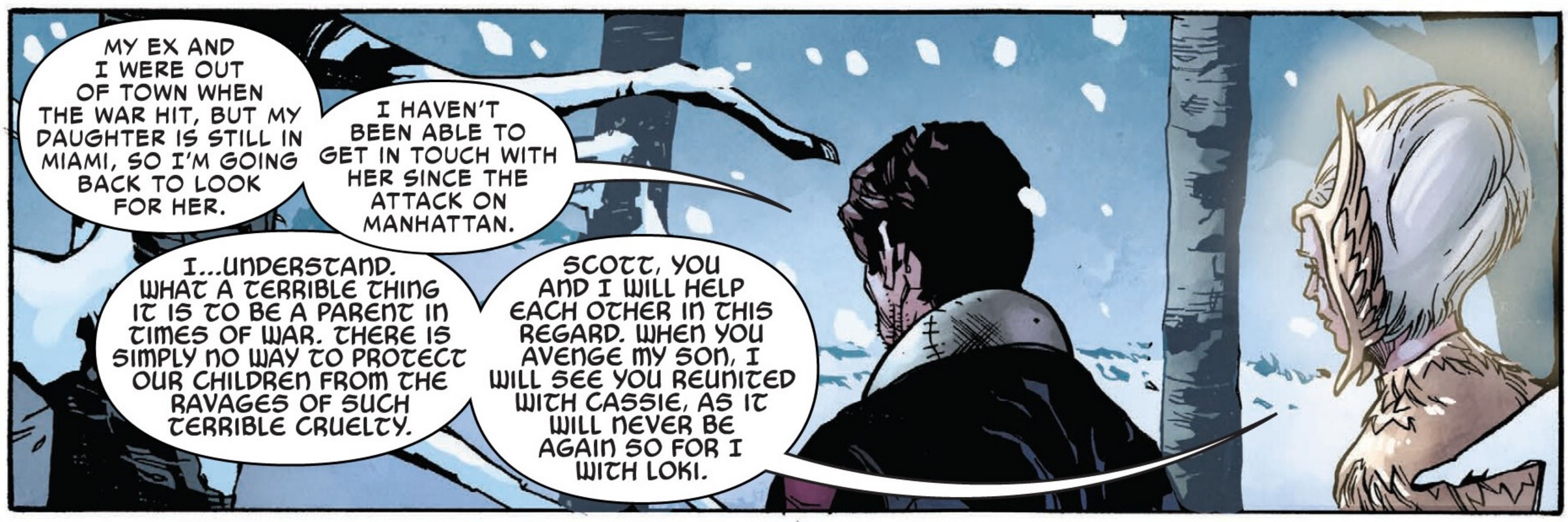

YMIR, THE FIRST FROST GIANT, IS GOD-ARCHITECT OF THE PRIMAL FROST GIANTS. HE IS THE ONLY POSSIBILITY IN WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR BUILDING THEM NOW ONCE MORE.
YOU WILL DESTROY HIM.
TO DO THIS, YOU WILL VENTURE DEEP INTO FROST GIANT-OCCUPIED TERRITORY, UNDERCOVER. YOU WILL NEED TO LOOK LIKE ONE OF THEM.
YOU WILL WALK AMONG THEM. EAT, DRINK AND SPEAK LIKE THEM. IF YOU ARE CAUGHT, YOU WILL BE KILLED OR ENSLAVED.

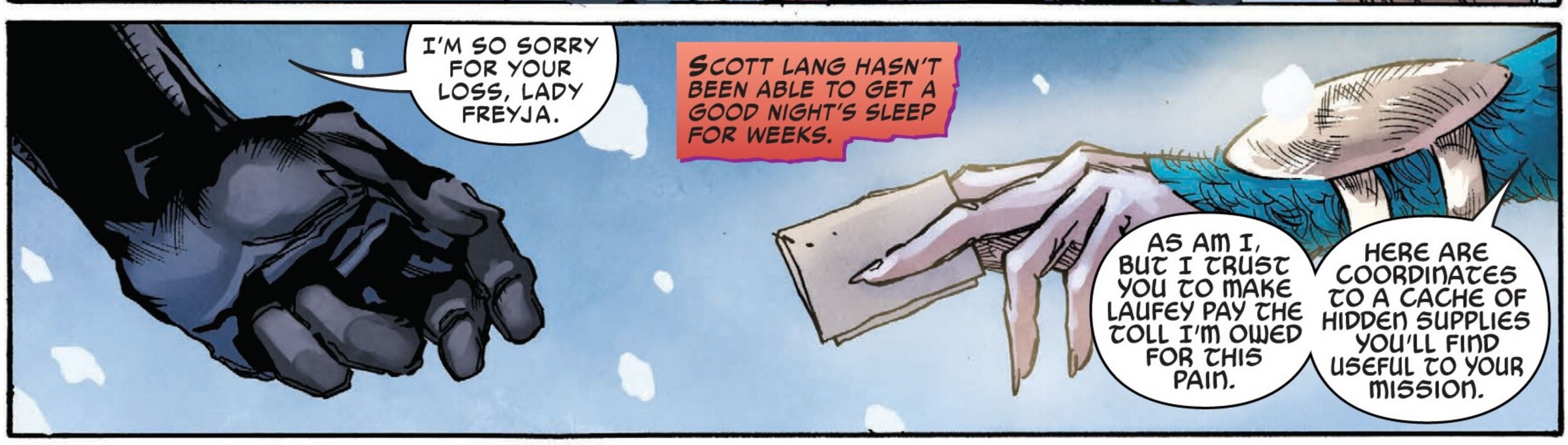
YOU WILL REMAIN IN DEEP COVER WHILE NAVIGATING A LANDSCAPE SO HOSTILE IT WAS KNOWN FOR BEING A SAVAGE PLACE FULL OF DANGERS EVEN BEFORE LAUFEY'S HORDES BRUTALLY COLONIZED IT.
FLORIDA.

ILLUSION SPELLS AND SORCERY WILL BE USELESS TO YOU IN THIS MISSION.
IT WILL BE A DEADLY JOURNEY; OF THIS I ASSURE YOU.

SO WHAT SAY YOU, MAN OF ANT? DO YOU ACCEPT?
AFT

OH, SURE. ASSASSINATIONS AREN'T NORMALLY MY THING, BUT I SURE CAN MAKE AN EXCEPTION IN THIS CASE.
I MEAN, HECK, I'M ALREADY HEADED DOWN THAT WAY ANYWAY.
SCOTT LANG, A.K.A. ANT-MAN
HEIGHT: 6'0" RESTING, DOWN TO MICROSCOPIC, UP TO 65 FT.
EXPERTISE: ENGINEERING, ELECTRONICS, AND BEING A GOOD DAD.


MY EX AND I WERE OUT OF TOWN WHEN THE WAR HIT, BUT MY DAUGHTER IS STILL IN MIAMI, SO I'M GOING BACK TO LOOK FOR HER.
I HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO GET IN TOUCH WITH HER SINCE THE ATTACK ON MANHATTAN.
I...UNDERSTAND. WHAT A TERRIBLE THING IT IS TO BE A PARENT IN TIMES OF WAR. THERE IS SIMPLY NO WAY TO PROTECT OUR CHILDREN FROM THE RAVAGES OF SUCH TERRIBLE CRUELTY.
SCOTT, YOU AND I WILL HELP EACH OTHER IN THIS REGARD. WHEN YOU AVENGE MY SON, I WILL SEE YOU REUNITED WITH CASSIE, AS IT WILL NEVER BE AGAIN SO FOR I WITH LOKI.


I'M SO SORRY FOR YOUR LOSS, LADY FREYJA.
SCOTT LANG HASN'T BEEN ABLE TO GET A GOOD NIGHT'S SLEEP FOR WEEKS.
AS AM I, BUT I TRUST YOU TO MAKE LAUFEY PAY THE TOLL I'M OWED FOR THIS PAIN.
HERE ARE COORDINATES TO A CACHE OF HIDDEN SUPPLIES YOU'LL FIND USEFUL TO YOUR MISSION.

"YOU AND YOUR TEAMMATES WILL CONVENE THERE TO BEGIN. YOU WERE ALL SELECTED NOT JUST FOR YOUR UNIQUE POWERS, BUT BECAUSE THE JOURNEY WILL PROVIDE SOMETHING YOU EACH LACK."
AHHHHHHH!!!

OPERATION: ASSEMBLE
MISSION OBJECTIVE: MEET THE OTHER "HIGHLY SPECIALIZED" MEMBERS OF THIS UNIT.
RAZ! I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!
HEY, SCOTT...

GOD, IT'S GOOD TO FINALLY SEE A FAMILIAR FACE OUT HERE.
KYLE?
HOW ARE YOU? ARE YOU OKAY? EVERYONE OKAY? HOW'RE THE FOLKS? HOW'S UH, HOW'S UH--WHAT'S HIS NAME?
RAZ MALHOTRA, A.K.A. GIANT-MAN
HEIGHT: 6'2" RESTING, UP TO 65 FT.
EXPERTISE: ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE, ROBOTICS, AND A BIT OF BIOCHEMISTRY.

YEAH! KYLE! HOW'S KYLE?
WE BROKE UP.
OH. I'M SORRY TO HEAR THAT.

IT'S OKAY! IT WAS A LONG TIME AGO. HE ACTUALLY DUMPED ME WHEN I GOT BACK FROM TRAINING WITH YOU IN FLORIDA, AND TOLD ME--
YOU MIND TELLING ME WHAT THE HELL THIS IS?

DO YOU TWO THINK THIS IS SOME KIND OF SUMMER CAMP?
TOM FOSTER, A.K.A. GOLIATH
HEIGHT: 6'1" RESTING, UP TO 25 FT.
EXPERTISE: BIOCHEMISTRY, PARTICLE PHYSICS, AND MOLECULAR QUANTUM MECHANICS.
SUMMER CAMP IS WHOLESOME AND FUN. HI, I'M SCOTT.
TOM.
THOOM

WHAT IS THAT?! THE GROUND IS TREMBLING!
SOUNDS LIKE GIANT-SIZED FOOTSTEPS IF YOU ASK ME.
THUM THUM THUM

TCH. CAUGHT ALREADY. MAYBE IF YOU TWO HADN'T BEEN PLAYING SLUMBER PARTY CATCH-UP, WE COULD HAVE--
HEY.

MISS FREYJA TOLD ME TO TELL YOU I WAS THE LAST ONE COMING. I'M ERIK.
ERIK JOSTEN, A.K.A. ATLAS
HEIGHT: 6'4" RESTING, UP TO 65 FT.
EXPERTISE: PUNCHING.
YOU WANNA GET DOWN HERE INSTEAD OF BLOWING OUR COVER BEFORE THE MISSION EVEN BEGINS?!
FORMERLY EVIL, CURRENTLY-EVIL-TOO HAVIN' @^# MOTHER OF ↯%^&#@...

I KIND OF RESPECT THAT HE INTRODUCED HIMSELF TO US &!@#-FIRST.
SORRY.
FIRST THINGS FIRST, WE GET THE SUPPLIES.
UM, SHOULD WE FIND THE--
YEAH, I'M GUESSING THAT'S WHERE THE DISGUISES ARE.

OPERATION: MASTERS OF DISGUISE
MISSION OBJECTIVE:
LOCATE AND DON FROST GIANT DISGUISES.
UM...IF NO ONE MINDS ME ASKING, HOW TALL CAN EVERYONE GET? ARE WE EVEN SURE WE CAN ALL PASS FOR FROST GIANTS?
MISS FREYJA SAID NORMAL FROST GIANTS ARE ABOUT 65 FEET TALL AND THE PRIMAL ONES ALMOST TWICE THAT, HOWEVER MUCH THAT IS.
130 FEET.
ALSO ABOUT 43 YARDS.
ALSO ABOUT 39.624 METERS.
I CAN GET REAL BIG. I'VE NEVER BOTHERED TO MEASURE.
YOU'RE ROUGHLY AS TALL AS MY GIANT-MAN HEIGHT-- THAT'S ABOUT 65 FEET, SO WE'LL BE FINE.
HEH, I'M A LITTLE NERVOUS NOW. I'M ANT-MAN. IT'S BEEN A WHILE, YOU KNOW?
I'M GOLIATH, SO, NO.

WELL, LOOK AT THAT. NO PROBLEM AT ALL.
YOU'RE UP, TOM.

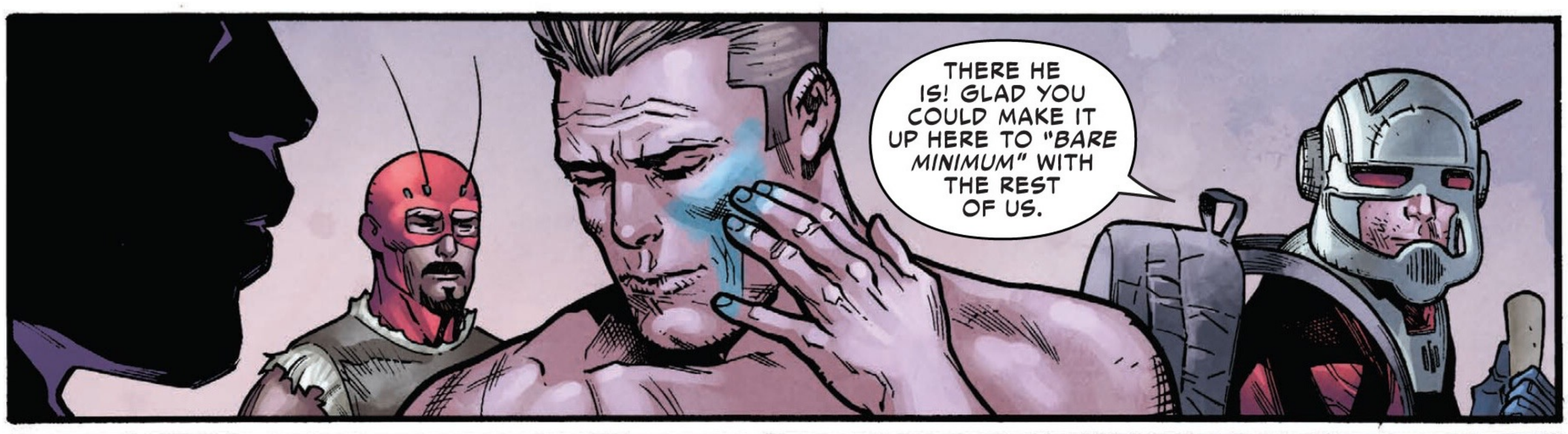
NO PROBLEMS HERE EITHER.
TOM, NEPHEW TO THE ORIGINAL GOLIATH, HAS NEVER FELT AS IF HE WILL MEASURE UP TO HIS UNCLE'S LEGACY.

ARE YOU SURE?
HE IS ALWAYS CHASING SOMETHING LARGER THAN HIMSELF.

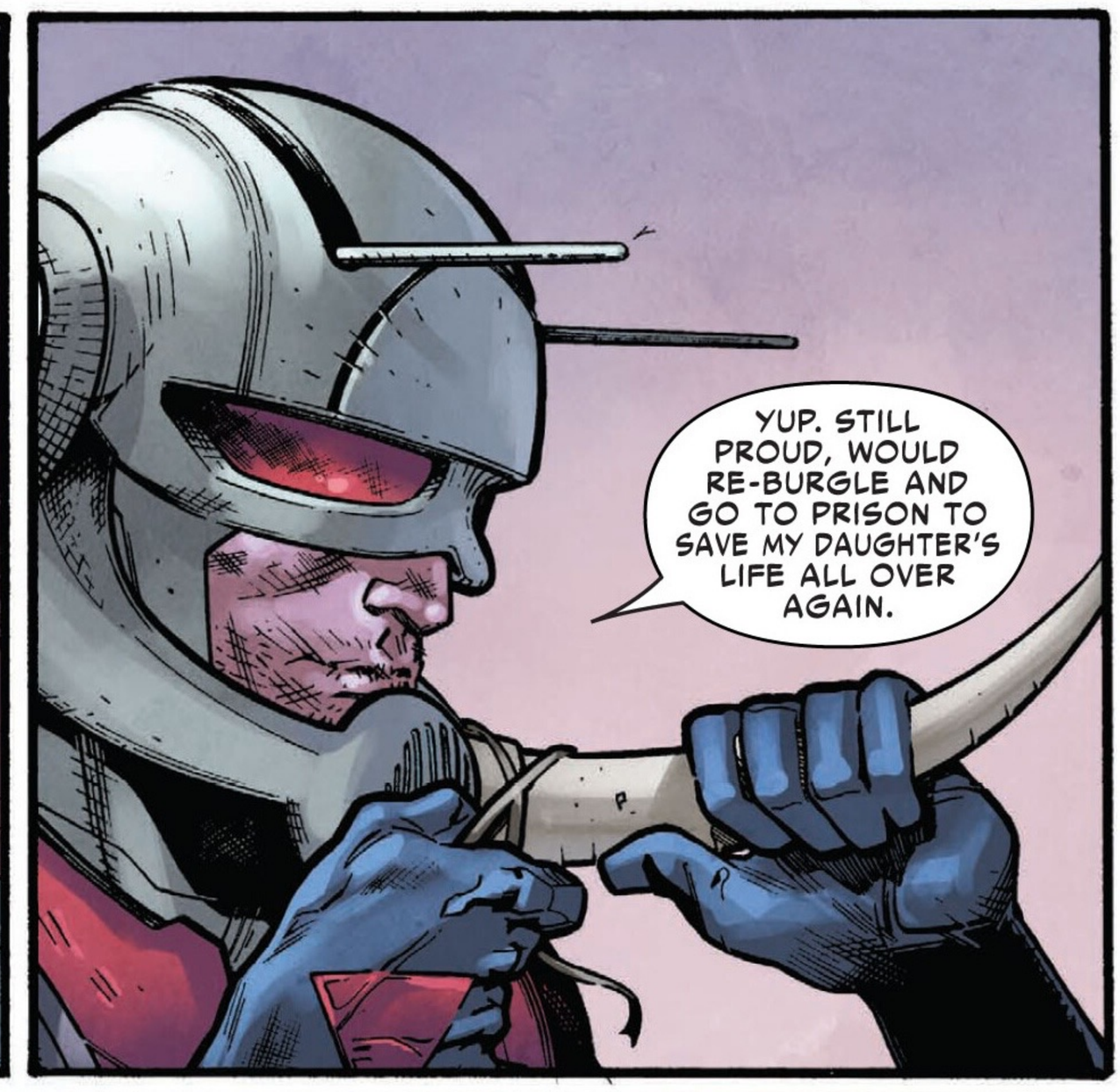
MAYBE WE CAN PRETEND WE'RE TRAVELING WITH A FROST GIANT CHILD?
YEAH, YOU KNOW--JUST THREE FROST GIANT DADS SIGHTSEEING WITH OUR ONE TINY SON. I LOVE IT, LET'S GO.

I'M 25 FEET TALL RIGHT NOW!
AND YOU KNOW EXACTLY HOW MUCH BIGGER A FROST GIANT IS, SO LET'S PUT THOSE STOLEN PYM PARTICLES OF YOURS TO GOOD USE AND REACH FOR THE STARS, LITTLE MAN.
GO TO HELL.

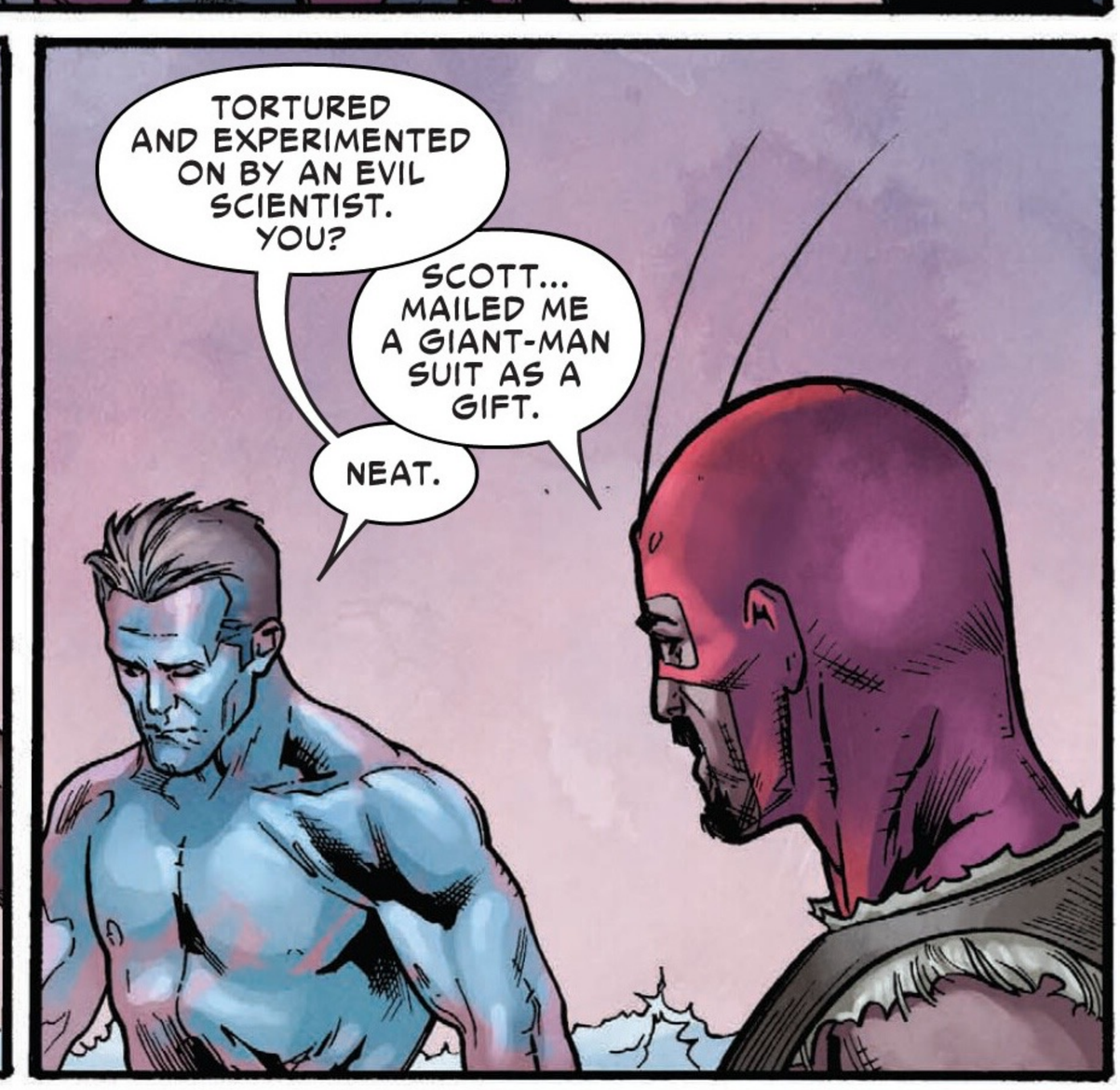
HE PICTURED THE MASSIVE PIT IN THE GROUND WHERE THEY BURIED HIS UNCLE, AND CONCENTRATED...
HNNN--


THERE HE IS! GLAD YOU COULD MAKE IT UP HERE TO "BARE MINIMUM" WITH THE REST OF US.

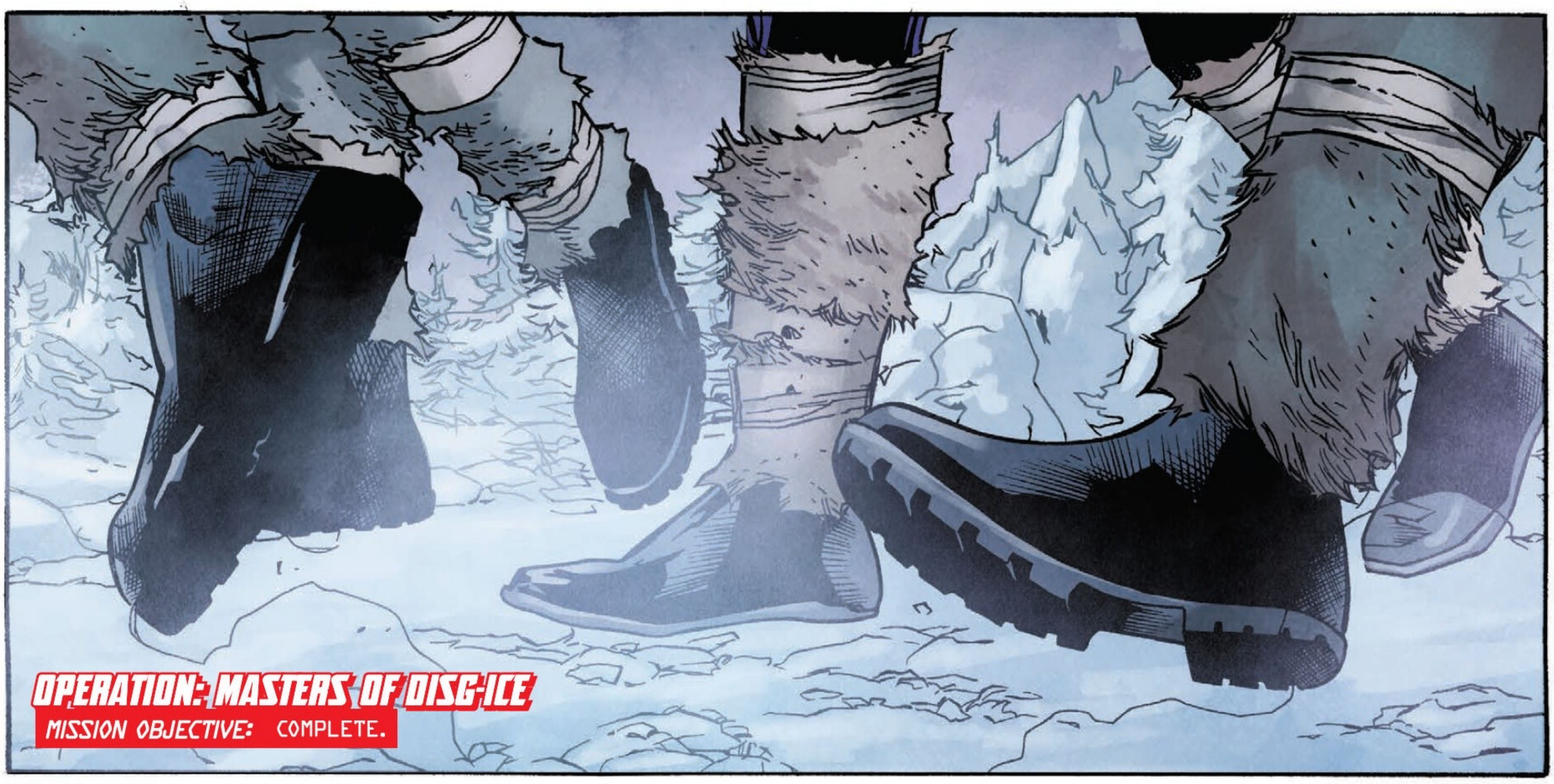
YOU ÷HUFF÷ STOLE YOURS TOO, IF I RECALL CORRECTLY. ÷PUFF÷

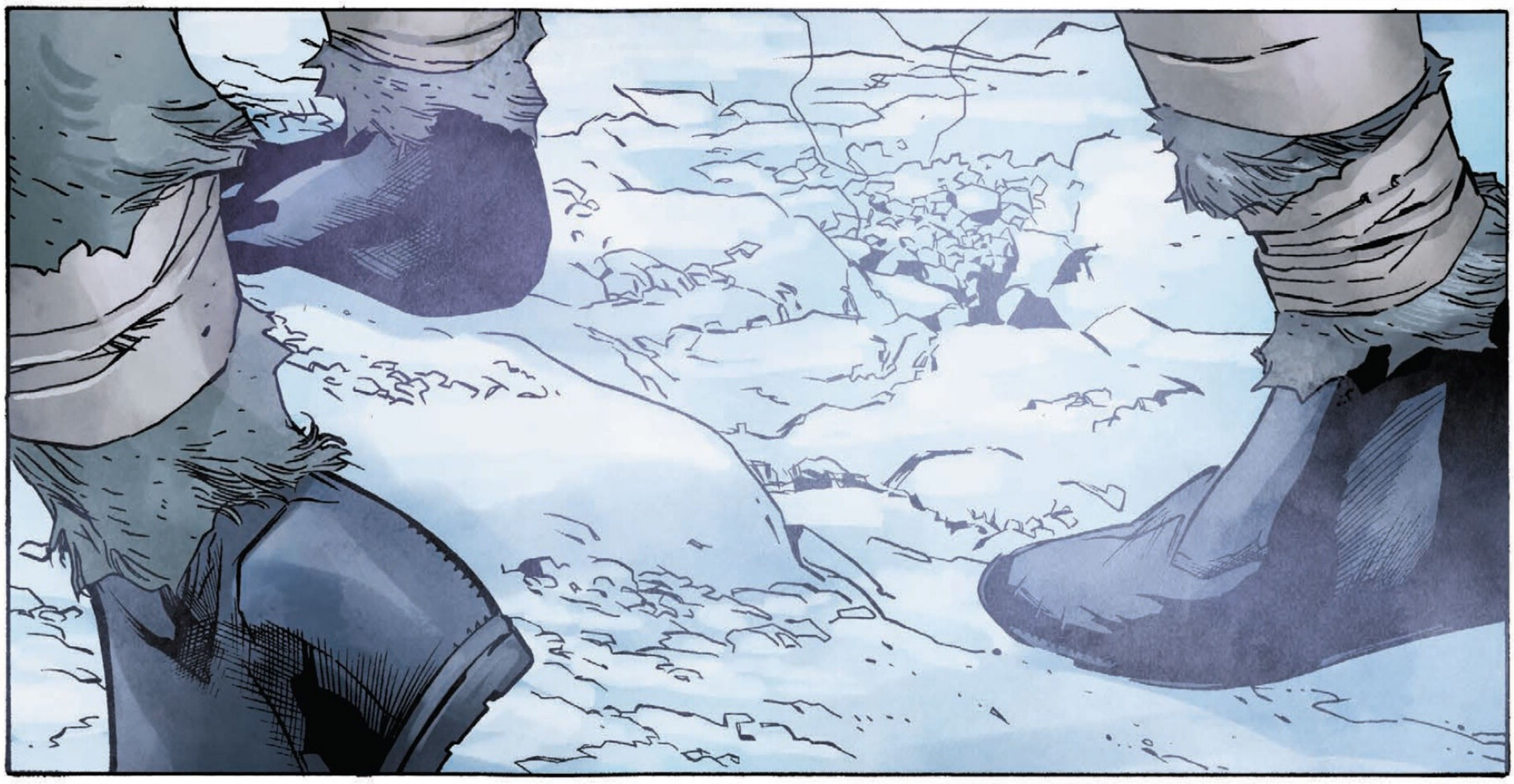

YUP. STILL PROUD, WOULD RE-BURGLE AND GO TO PRISON TO SAVE MY DAUGHTER'S LIFE ALL OVER AGAIN.

ER, WHAT ABOUT YOU, ERIK? WHERE'D YOU GET YOUR VARIABLE-HEIGHT POWERS?
IF YOU DON'T MIND.


TORTURED AND EXPERIMENTED ON BY AN EVIL SCIENTIST. YOU?
SCOTT... MAILED ME A GIANT-MAN SUIT AS A GIFT.
NEAT.

ALL RIGHT, SO A LITTLE DRESS-UP AND THEN WE...HIT THE ROAD? THAT THE PLAN?


OPERATION: MASTERS OF DISG-ICE
MISSION OBJECTIVE: COMPLETE.



THIS IS IT, RIGHT? NO TURNING BACK NOW...
441
60
Yeehaw Jct
2 MILES

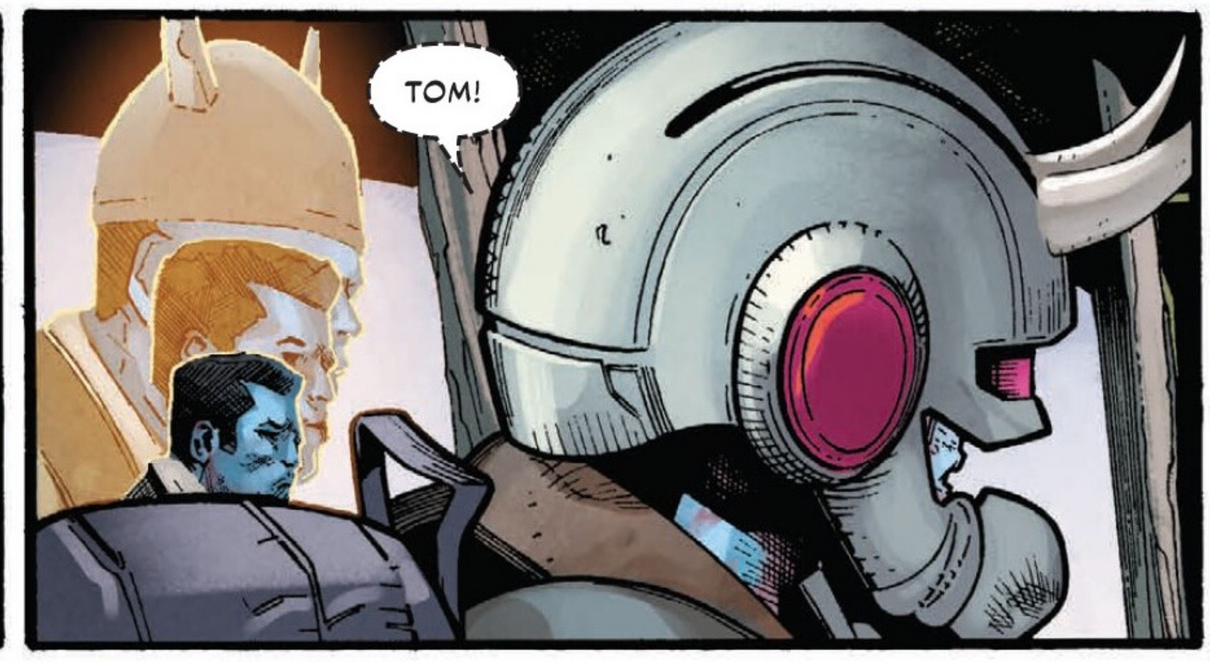
OPERATION: STORM THE CASTLE
MISSION OBJECTIVE:
INFILTRATE FROST GIANT TERRITORY, PURCHASE SUPPLIES, NAVIGATE FROZEN WASTES AND REACH LAUFEY'S STRONGHOLD--ALL WHILE UNDERCOVER.
DO FROST GIANTS EVEN SPEAK &#%&$#@ ENGLISH?

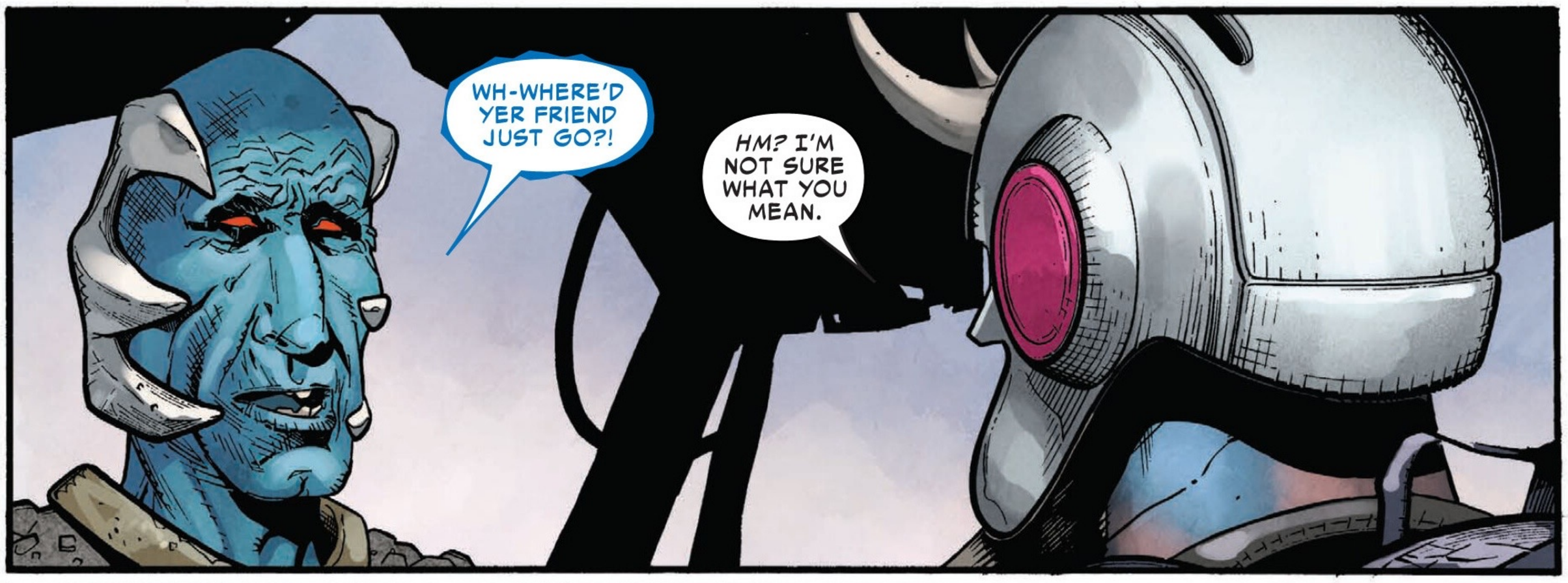
FORMERLY YEEHAW JUNCTION, CURRENTLY A THRIVING FROST GIANT MARKETPLACE.

WHAT NOW?

WE NEED TO BUY FOOD, CASKS OF WATER AND BEDROLLS TO SURVIVE TRAVELING DEEPER THROUGH THE ICE WILDS.

COME ON, IT'S THIS WAY.




WH-WHERE'D YER FRIEND JUST GO?!
HM? I'M NOT SURE WHAT YOU MEAN.

OY! YER TRYIN' TO HOODWINK AN HONEST MERCHANT, YOU ARE!
GUARDS-- THESE'NS HERE SMELL MORE LIKE ELVES THAN A FROST GIANT--AND I JUST SAW ONE OF'M SHRINK!

LOOK! THAT LITTLE HUMAN THERE!

OH, HIM? RIGHT THERE? THAT'S JUST MY MANSERVANT.
WHY IS HE NAKED?
÷SCOFF÷ DOST THOU CLOTHE THINE OWN MANSERVANT?

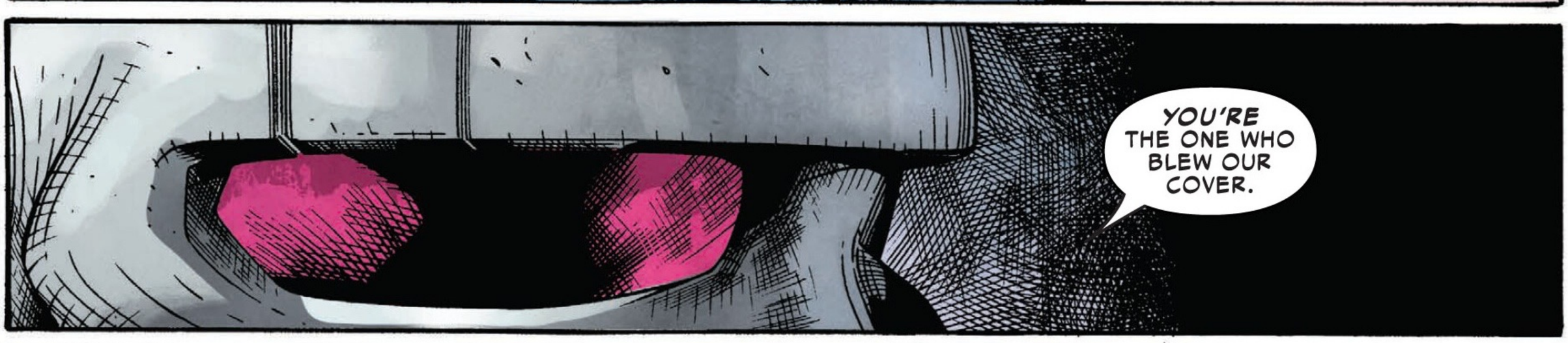
K-THUNK

ARE YOU GOING TO GIVE US WHAT WE PAID FOR, OR DO I HAVE TO CUT WHAT'S OWED FROM YOUR STINKING FLESH?

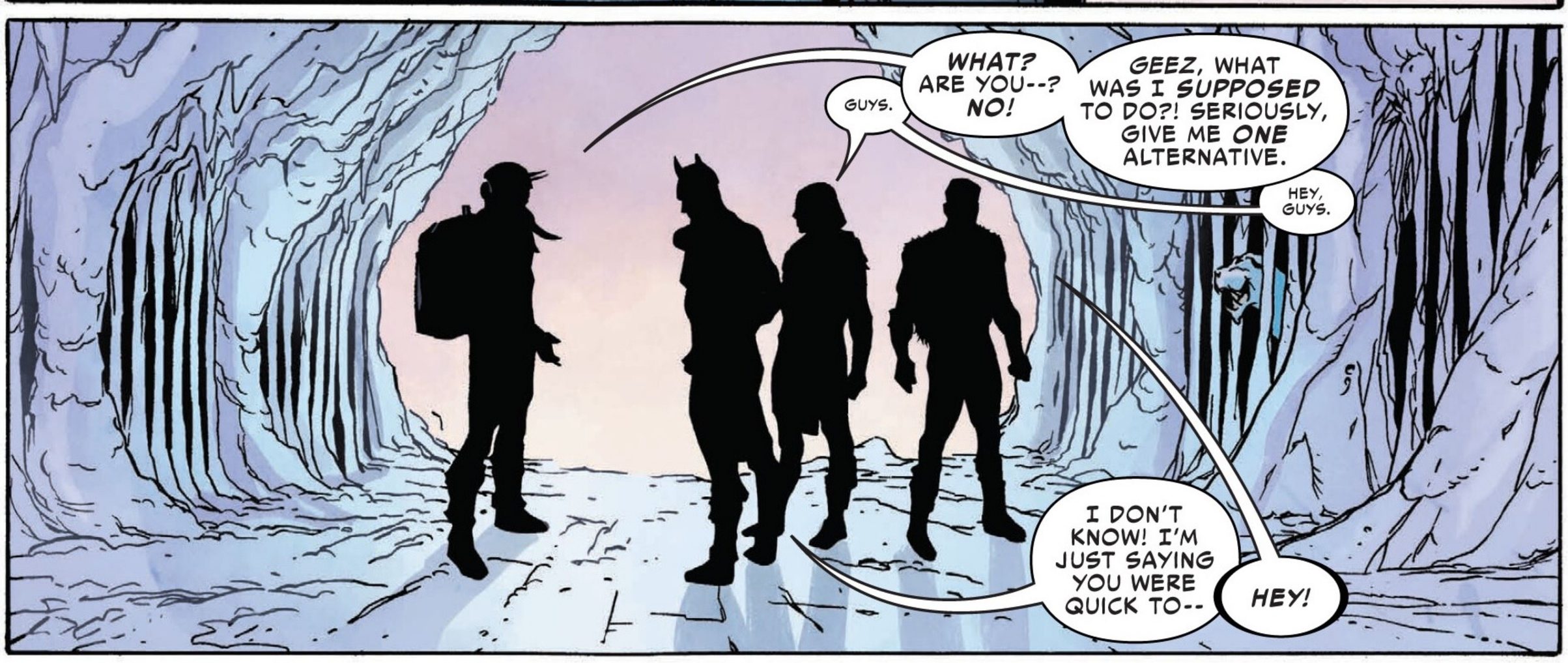
SOON...
LOOK, TOM, I KNOW YOU'RE NOT USED TO MISSIONS WITH THE BIG-BOY SQUAD, BUT THERE'S NO REASON TO BE SO TESTY WITH ME.
SURE.

I MEAN, YOU'RE THE ONE WHO ALMOST JUST GOT US KILLED BACK THERE.

OKAY.


YOU'RE THE ONE WHO BLEW OUR COVER.

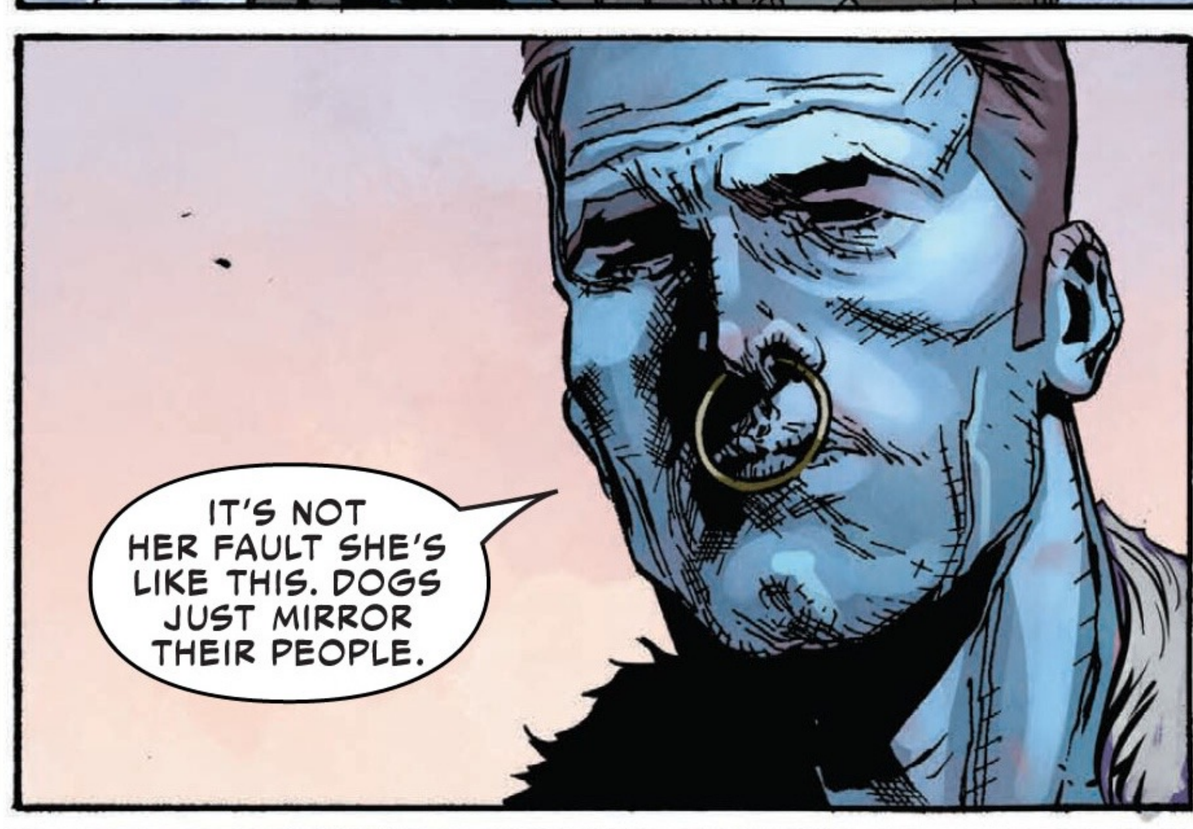
FINE.
I LIED TO COVER FOR YOU!
AND YOU WERE SO GOOD AT IT TOO! DAMN, THAT "MANSERVANT" BS ROLLED OFF YOUR TONGUE FAST.
ALMOST LIKE THE WORDS WERE ALREADY THERE.

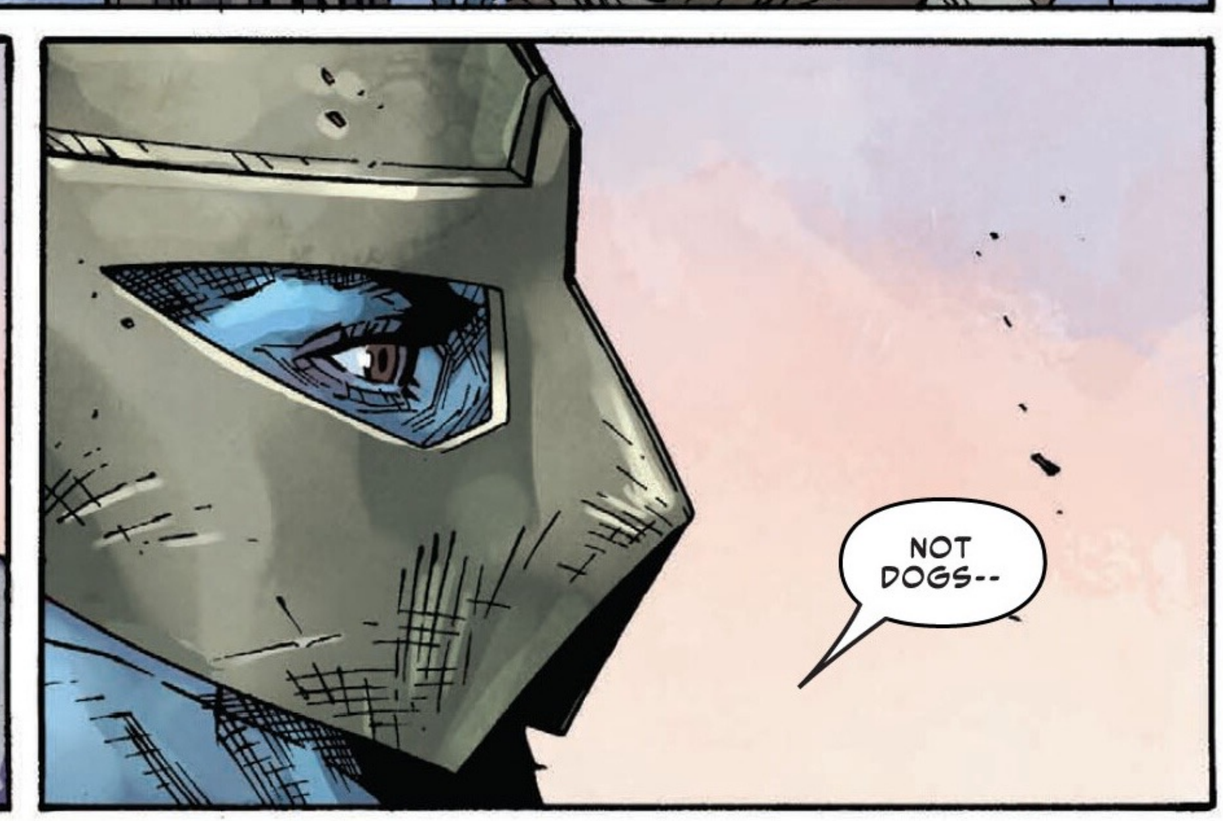

GUYS.
WHAT? ARE YOU--? NO!
GEEZ, WHAT WAS I SUPPOSED TO DO?! SERIOUSLY, GIVE ME ONE ALTERNATIVE.
HEY, GUYS.
I DON'T KNOW! I'M JUST SAYING YOU WERE QUICK TO--
HEY!

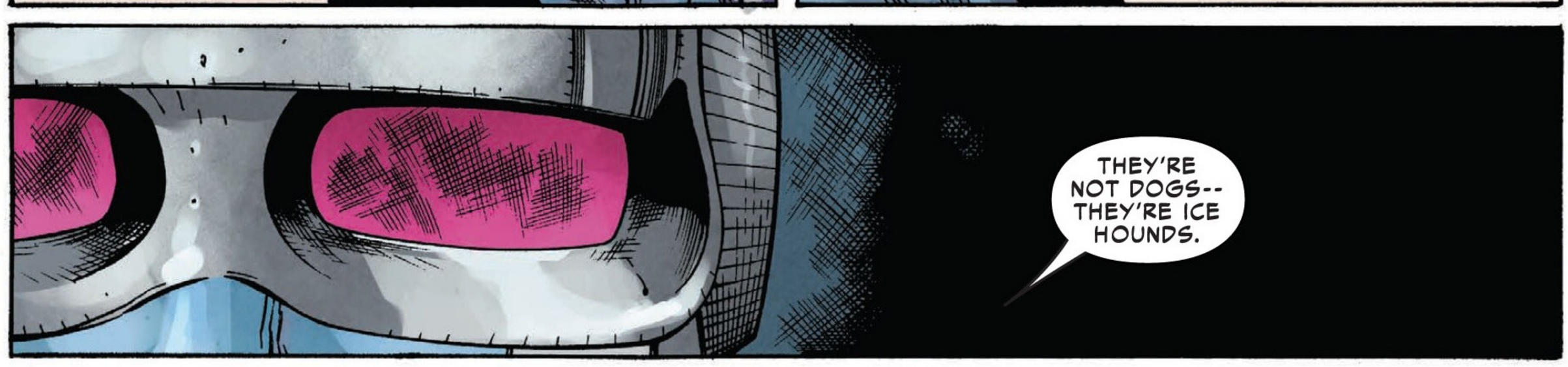
ARE THESE DOGS?
HI, DOGGY.
WE'RE IN FRONT OF KENNELS, YOU GUYS.

AKRRAARRARKRARRARARRAR!
AW.

ERIK. C'MON, MAN.
WHAT? BLAME THE OWNER, NOT THE BREED.


IT'S NOT HER FAULT SHE'S LIKE THIS. DOGS JUST MIRROR THEIR PEOPLE.


NOT DOGS--


THEY'RE NOT DOGS-- THEY'RE ICE HOUNDS.

THEY'RE ICE HOUNDS, AS IN THEY ONLY OBEY FROST GIANTS.
AND THEY ALWAYS KNOW WHEN INTRUDERS ARE AROUND.
ARRROOOOOOOOOOOO--

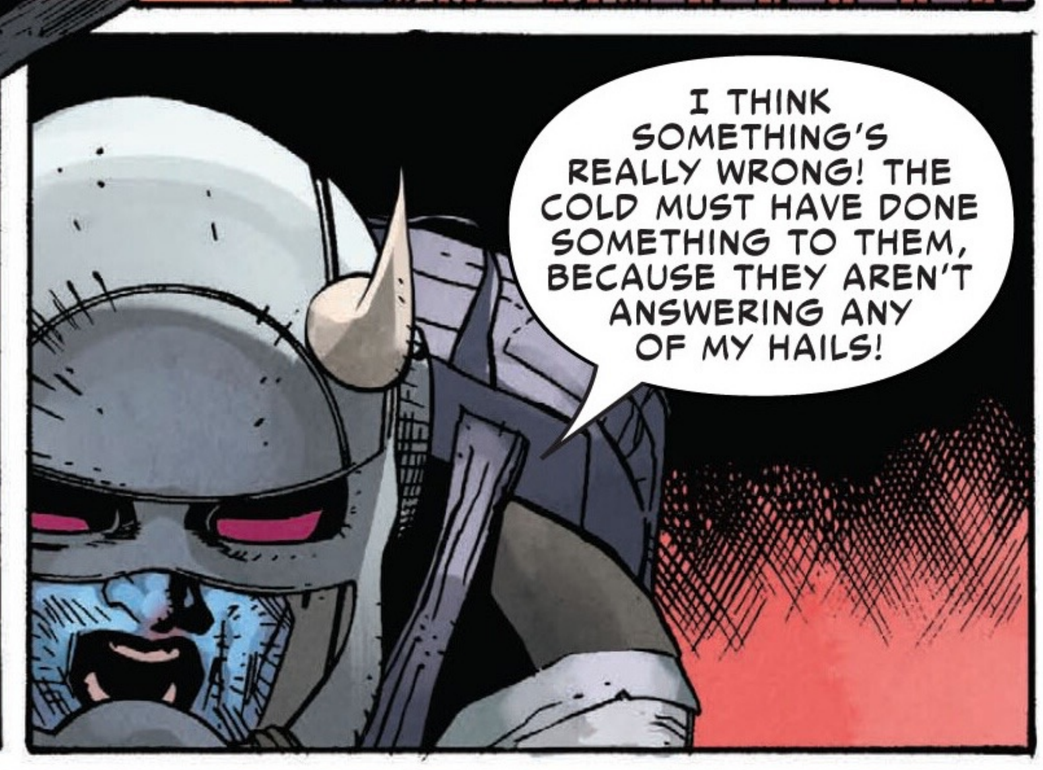
OH, I KNEW THERE WAS FOUL PLAY AFOOT WITH THOSE WEIRD-LOOKING FROST GIANTS!
IMPOSTORS! INTRUDERS!
SEIZE THEM!

KILL THE INTERLOPERS!

ARRRAARRRARARRRARRRARRAR!
SORRY.
IT'S OKAY. YOU DIDN'T KNOW.

RUN FOR IT, BOYS!
YEE--AND I CANNOT STRESS THIS ENOUGH--HAW.
THERE'S TOO MANY OF THEM!
SCOTT--DON'T YOU HAVE INSECT COMMUNICATION POWERS? CAN'T YOU DO SOMETHING?

I KEEP-- I KEEP TRYING!
OH, $#%@!


I THINK SOMETHING'S REALLY WRONG! THE COLD MUST HAVE DONE SOMETHING TO THEM, BECAUSE THEY AREN'T ANSWERING ANY OF MY HAILS!

THAT SEEMS BAD, SCOTT!
YEAH! IT SURE DOES, RAZ!
TOM! YOU OKAY?
N-NEED TO FOCUS! ON K-KEEPING SIZE!

KRAK
AAAH! GET OFF ME!

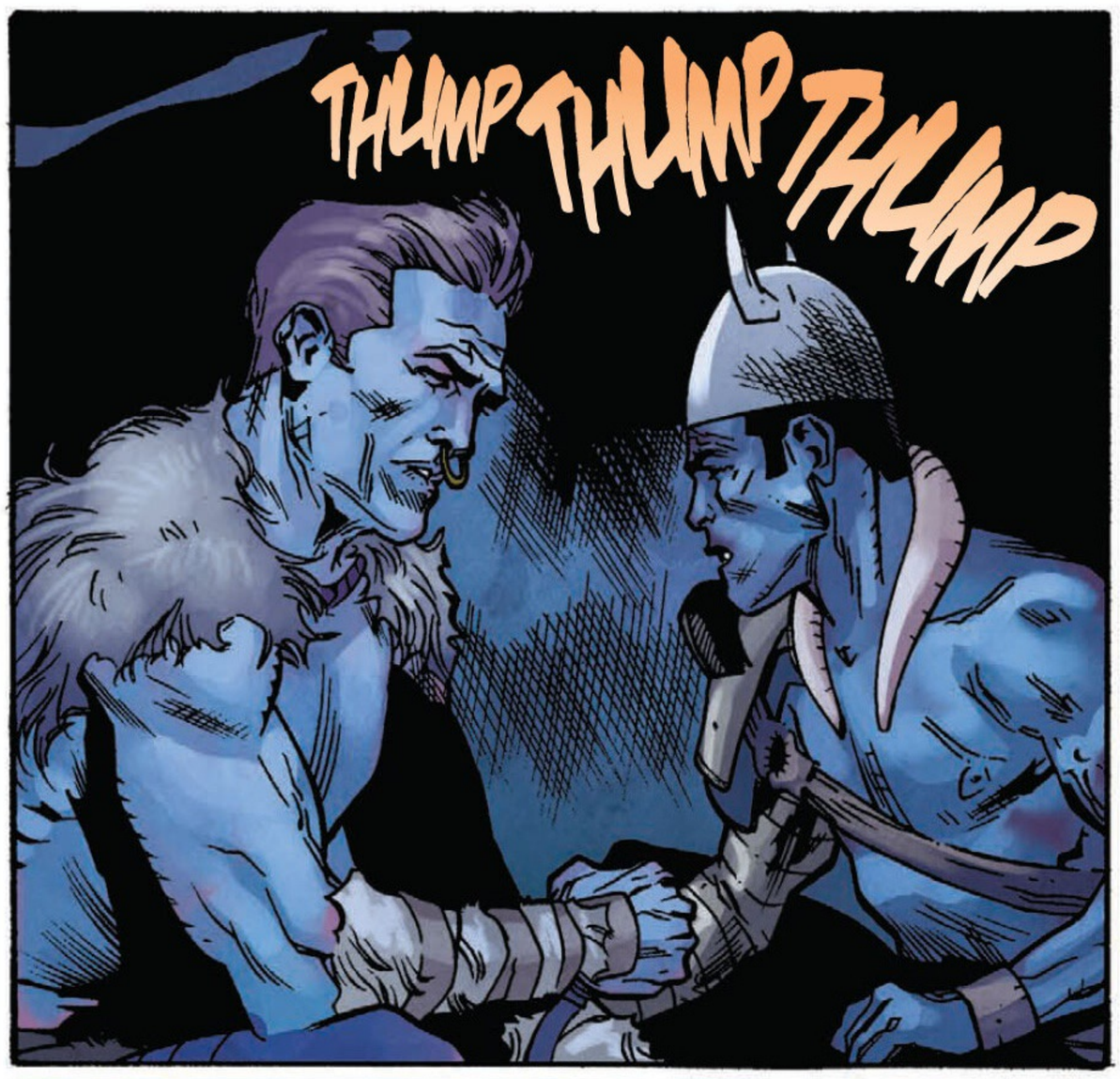
SCOTT...?
I'M FINE, I'M FINE! IT'S GOT MY BAG--
WE'RE... DOWN SOME SUPPLIES, THOUGH!

AAAAAG!

ERIK!
$%#@.
$%#@.
$%#@.

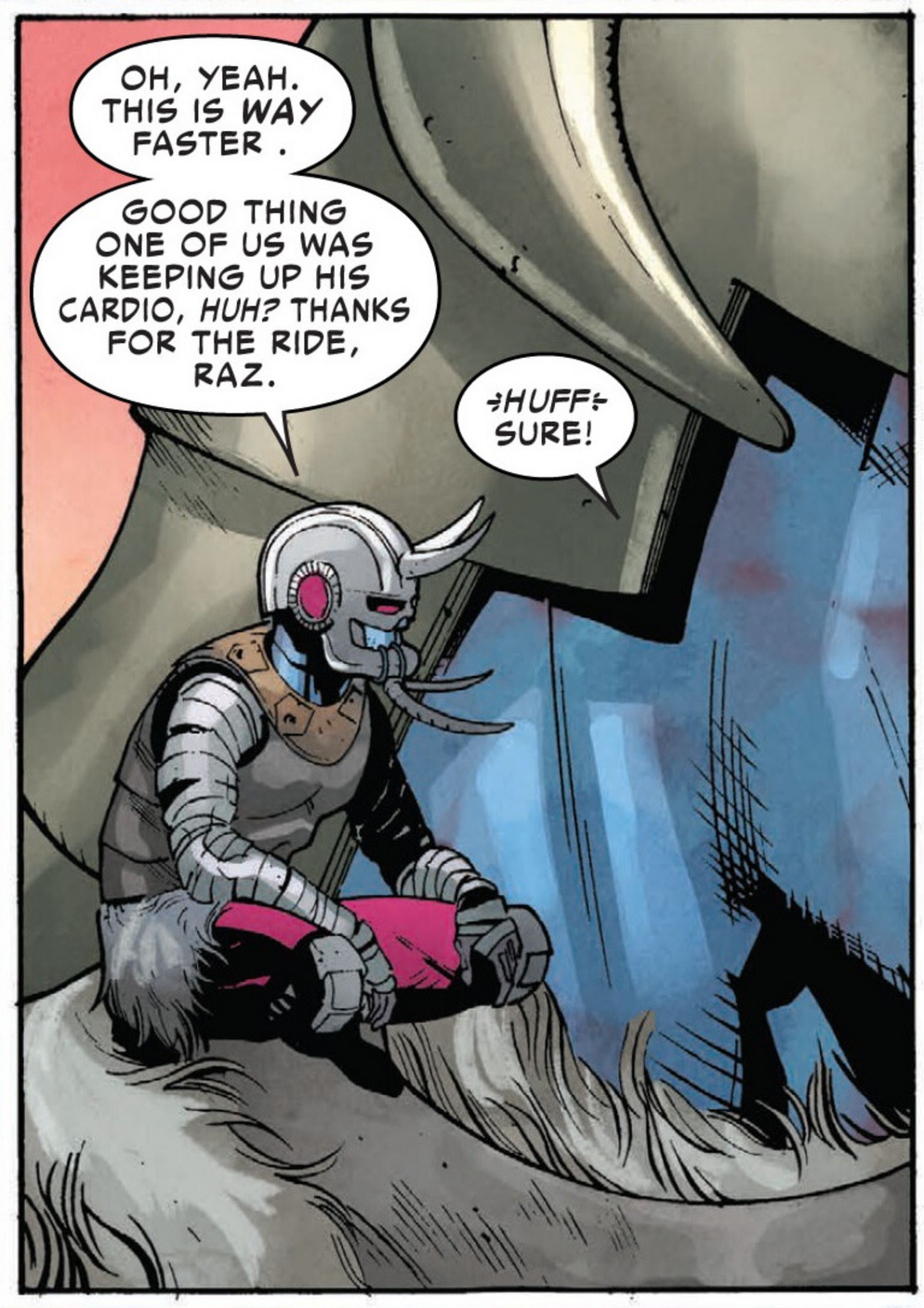
COULDN'T WE JUST GO MICRO?!
NO! TOM AND ERIK CAN'T!
IF WE SHRINK, THEN THE ICE HOUNDS WOULD ALL SWARM ERIK AND TOM!

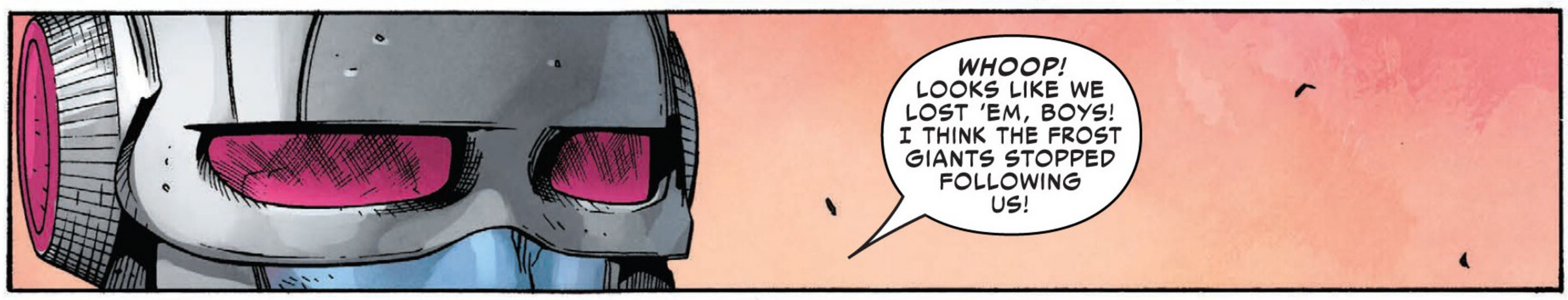
WAIT, I THINK I HAVE AN IDEA!
ERIK, GET LITTLE! NOW! TOM, YOU TOO! HUMAN HEIGHT! RAZ--


THUMP THUMP THUMP

THUMP-SWOOF
ARRRGH!

WATCH IT, MALHOTRA!
SORRY!


OH, YEAH. THIS IS WAY FASTER .
GOOD THING ONE OF US WAS KEEPING UP HIS CARDIO, HUH? THANKS FOR THE RIDE, RAZ.
÷HUFF÷ SURE!


WHOOP! LOOKS LIKE WE LOST 'EM, BOYS! I THINK THE FROST GIANTS STOPPED FOLLOWING US!

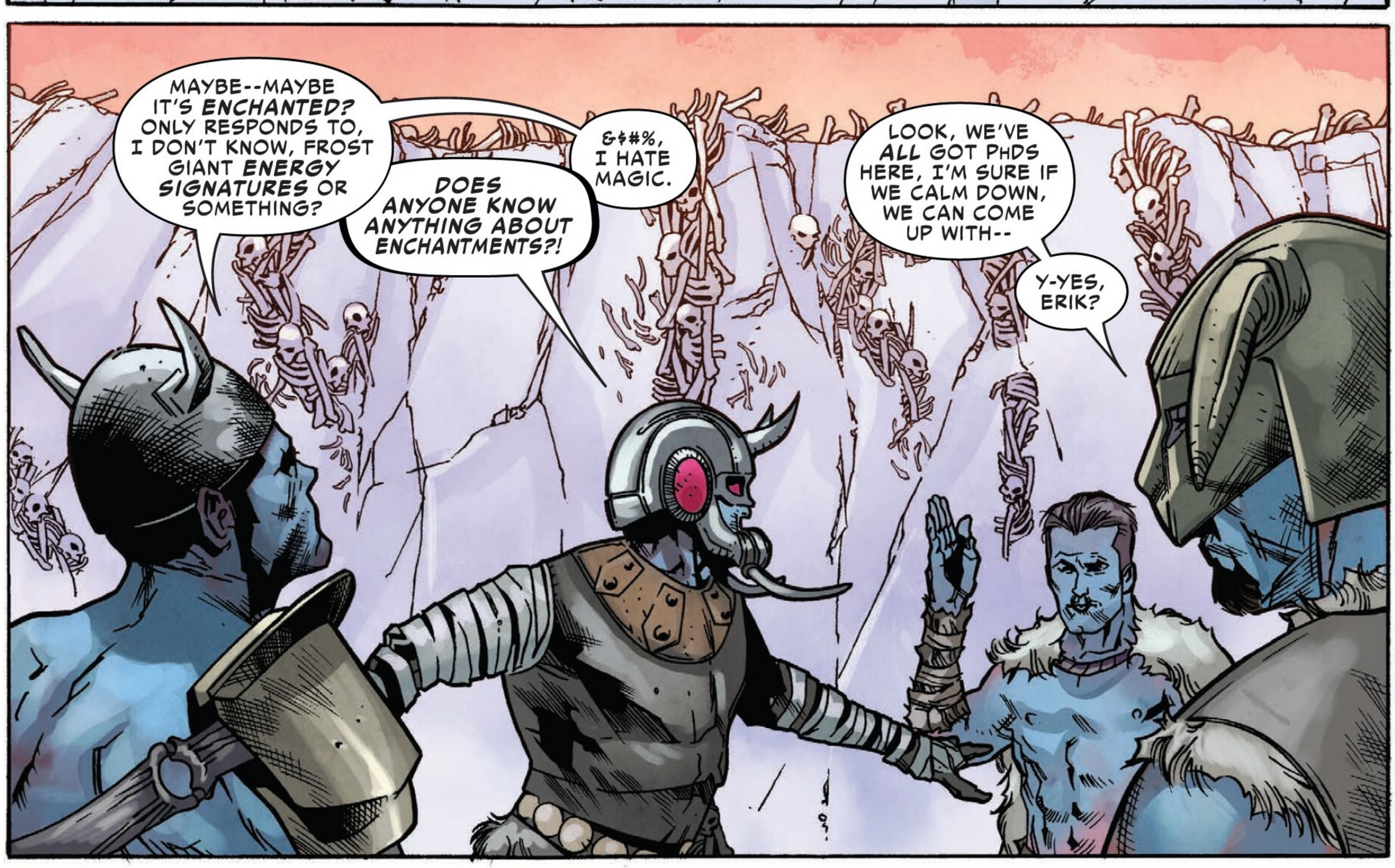
MIGHT BE ÷HUFF÷ A LITTLE EARLY FOR CELEBRATION...
WHAT'S HAPPENING?! WHY HAVE WE STOPPED?! I'M GETTING OUT.

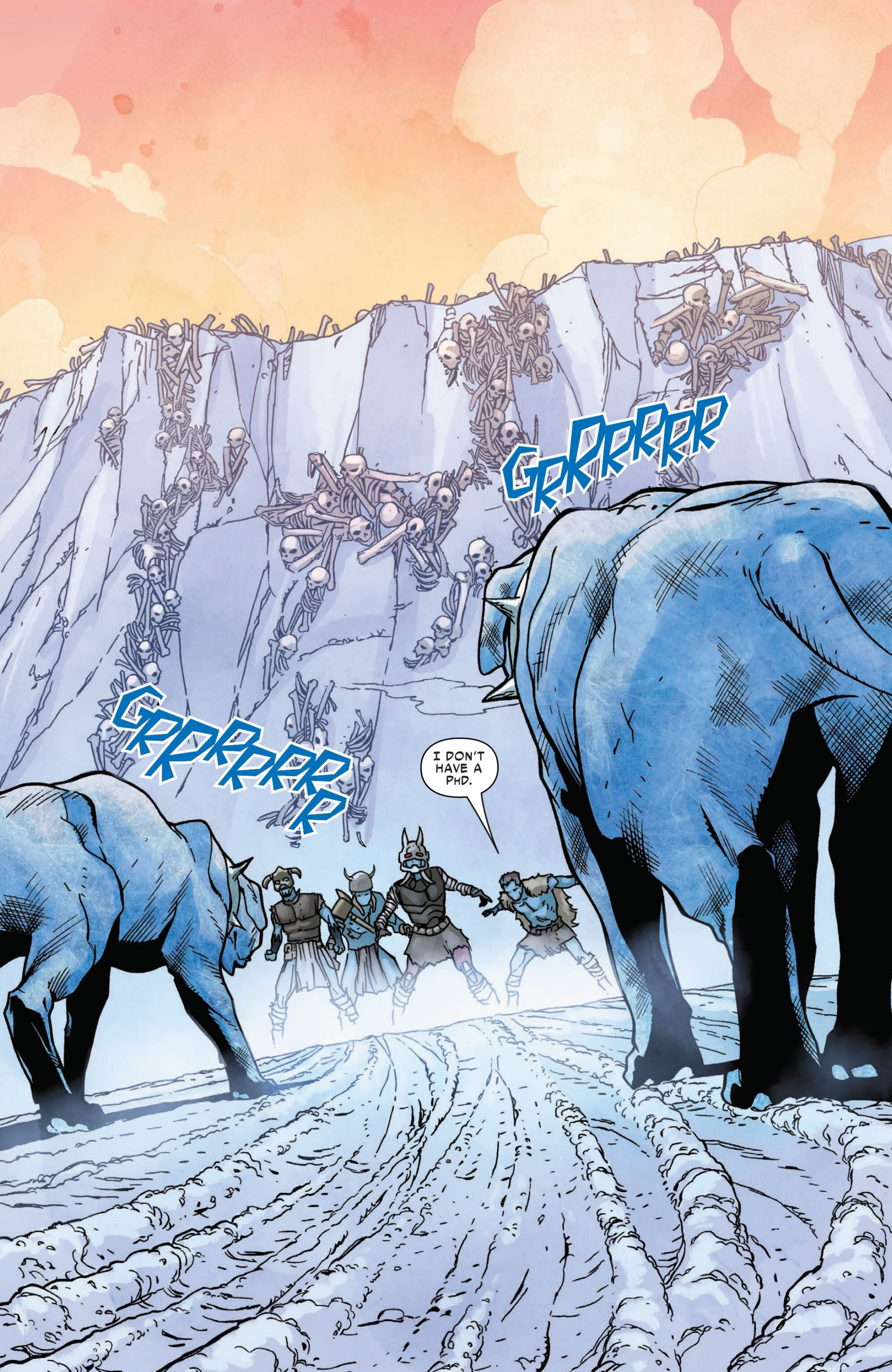
PFT

WHAT-- WHAT--?! WHAT IS THIS DEATH WALL?

"DEATH WALL"? I WANNA SEE.

I DON'T SEE A GATE! WHERE'S THE OPENING? HOW ARE WE SUPPOSED TO GO THROUGH THIS?!


MAYBE--MAYBE IT'S ENCHANTED? ONLY RESPONDS TO, I DON'T KNOW, FROST GIANT ENERGY SIGNATURES OR SOMETHING?
DOES ANYONE KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT ENCHANTMENTS?!
&$#%, I HATE MAGIC.
LOOK, WE'VE ALL GOT PHDS HERE, I'M SURE IF WE CALM DOWN, WE CAN COME UP WITH--
Y-YES, ERIK?


GRRRRRR
GRRRRRR
I DON'T HAVE A PHD.

GIANT-MAN #2

A Few More Giant Men

OKAY?! ERIK, WHY ARE YOU CHOOSING *RIGHT NOW* TO TELL US ABOUT YOUR LACK OF HIGHER EDUCATION?!

I JUST WANTED YOU GUYS TO KNOW THAT.

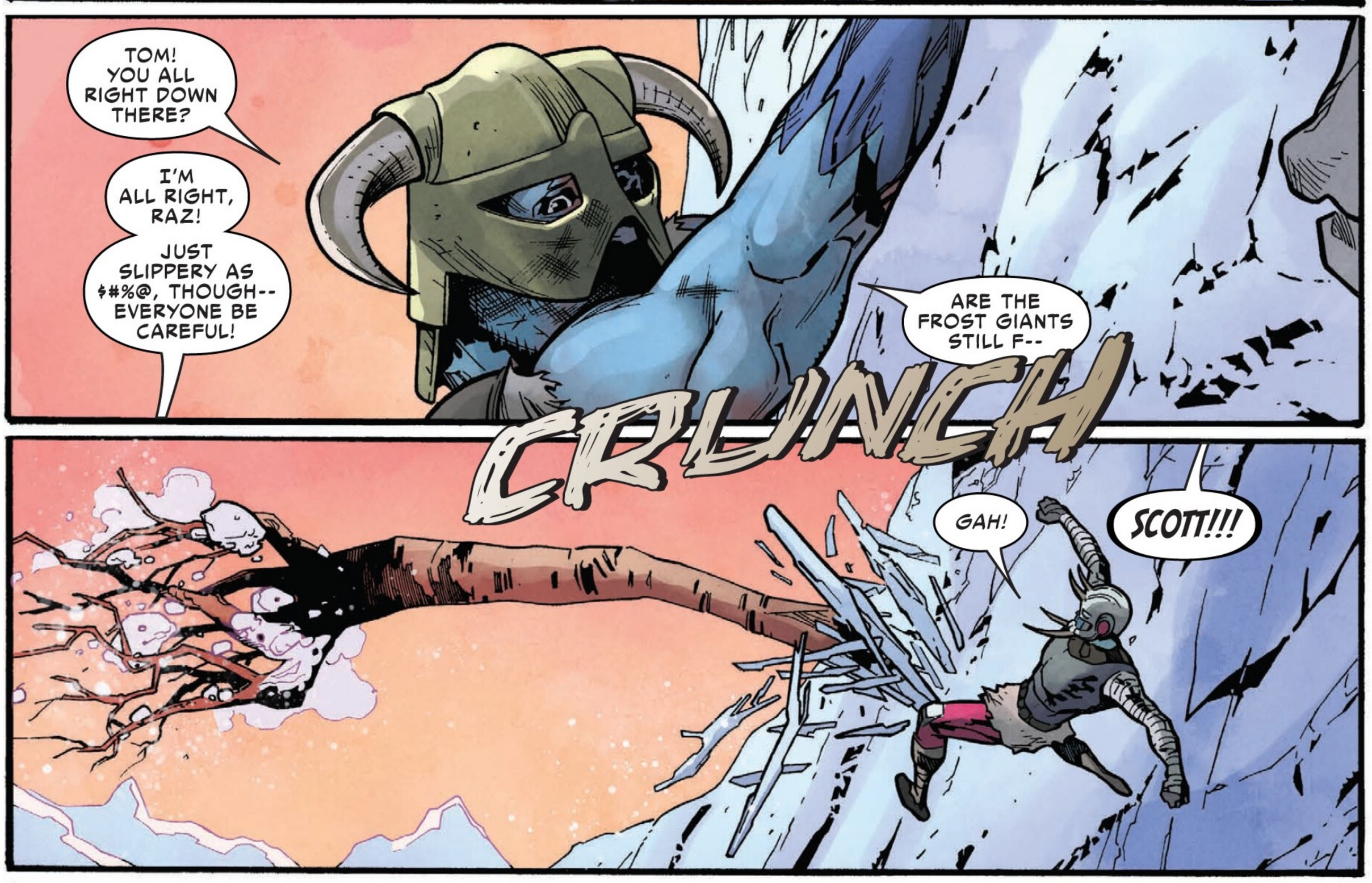
HUP!

ARRARRARRR
OH.
YEAH, I FEEL STUPID NOW TOO.
WE'LL FEEL DUMBER IF WE DIE--NOW, FOLLOW ERIK'S LEAD! *LET'S GO!*

OPERATION: SEND IN THE HOUNDS
MISSION OBJECTIVE: IMMEDIATE EVASIVE MANEUVERS REQUIRED TO AVOID BEING TORN APART BY ICE HOUNDS WHILE UNDERCOVER AS FROST GIANTS IN FROST GIANT TERRITORY.

ARARAR

OPERATION:
SEND IN THE HOUNDS
MISSION OBJECTIVE: COMPLETED.
HNN!


TOM! YOU ALL RIGHT DOWN THERE?
I'M ALL RIGHT, RAZ!
JUST SLIPPERY AS $#%@, THOUGH-- EVERYONE BE CAREFUL!
ARE THE FROST GIANTS STILL F--
CRUNCH
GAH!
SCOTT!!!

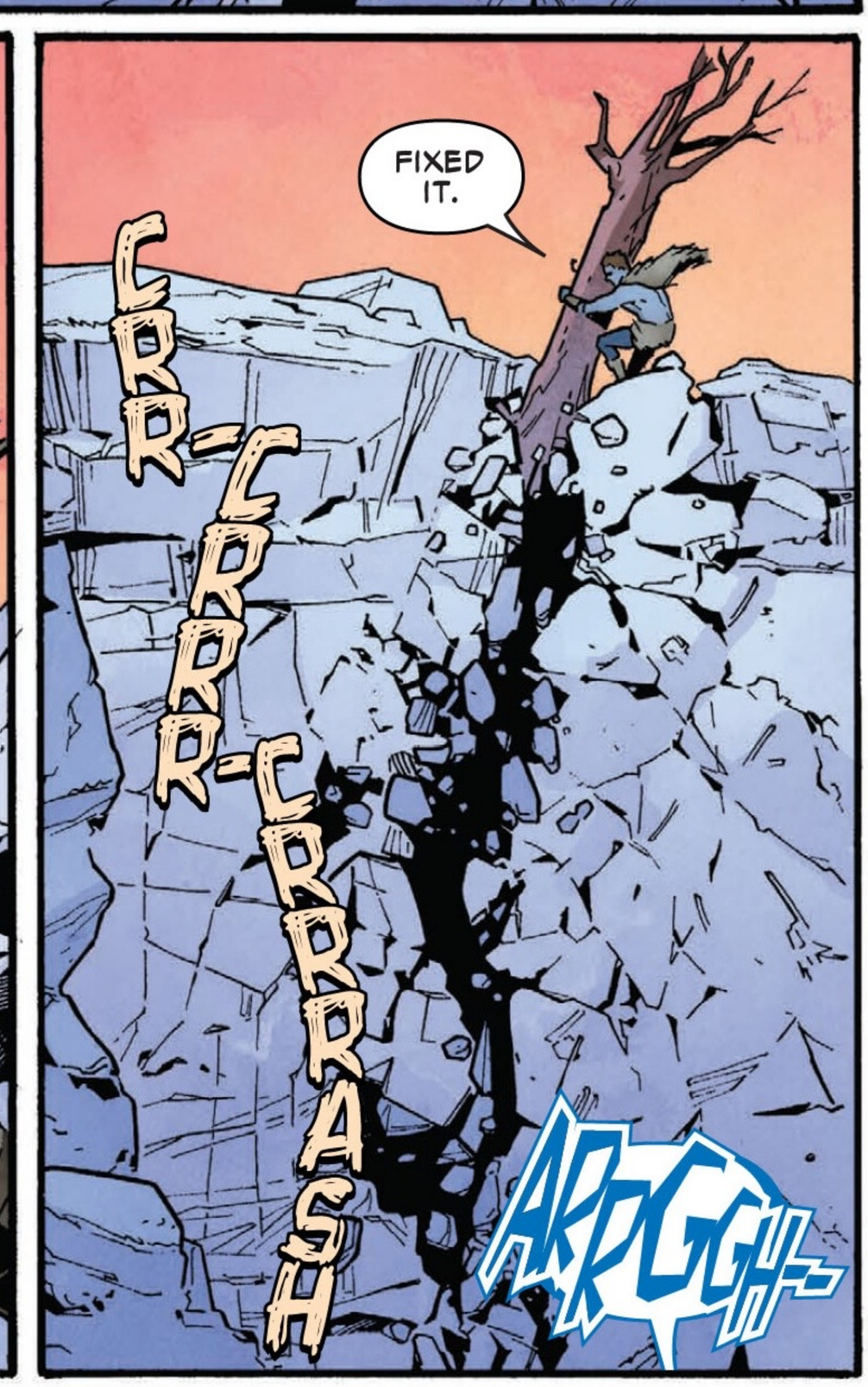
AHHHHHHH!

CATCH

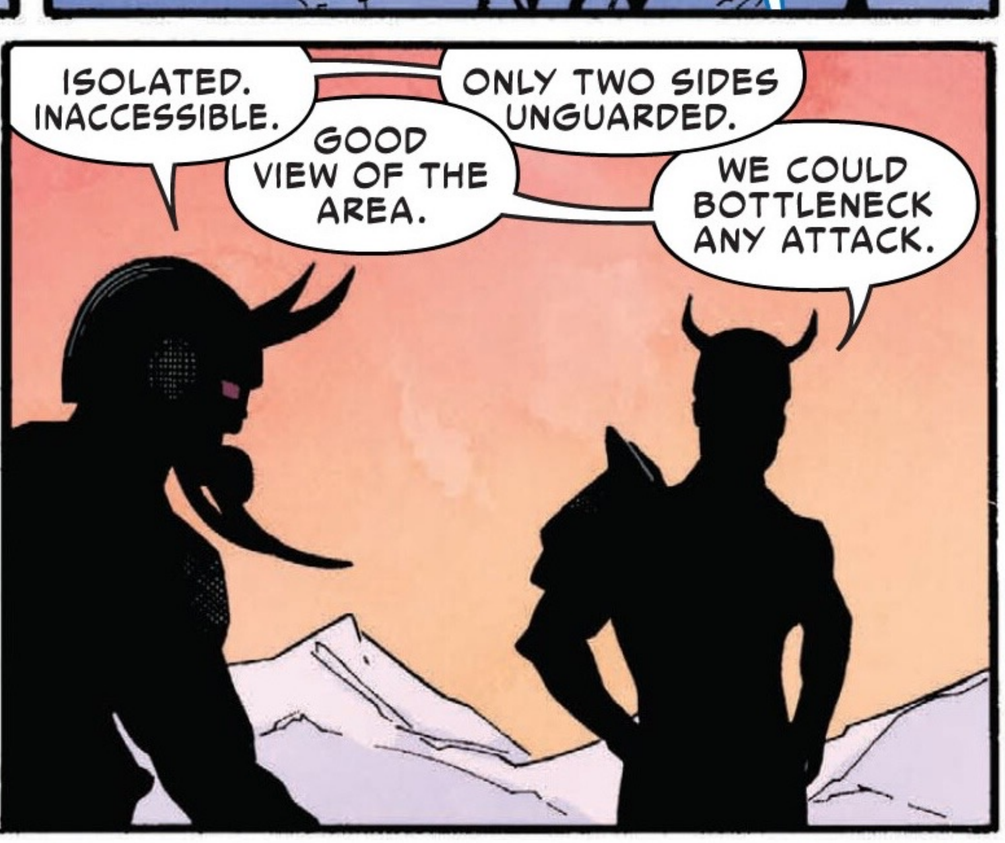
I SAID--
--BE--
--CAREFUL!

FWOOM
HOLD UP--THE FROST GIANTS DOWN THERE ARE JAVELINING TREES AT US NOW.
LEMME JUST--

--FIX--
--THAT--
NNN!
KRNCH


FIXED IT.
CRR-CRRR-CRRASH
AKGH

HEY, I'M HUNGRY.
WE SHOULD...MAKE CAMP...
÷HUFF÷ ARE WE SURE IT'S SAFE, RAZ?
MAP SAYS...
...IT'S FINE...

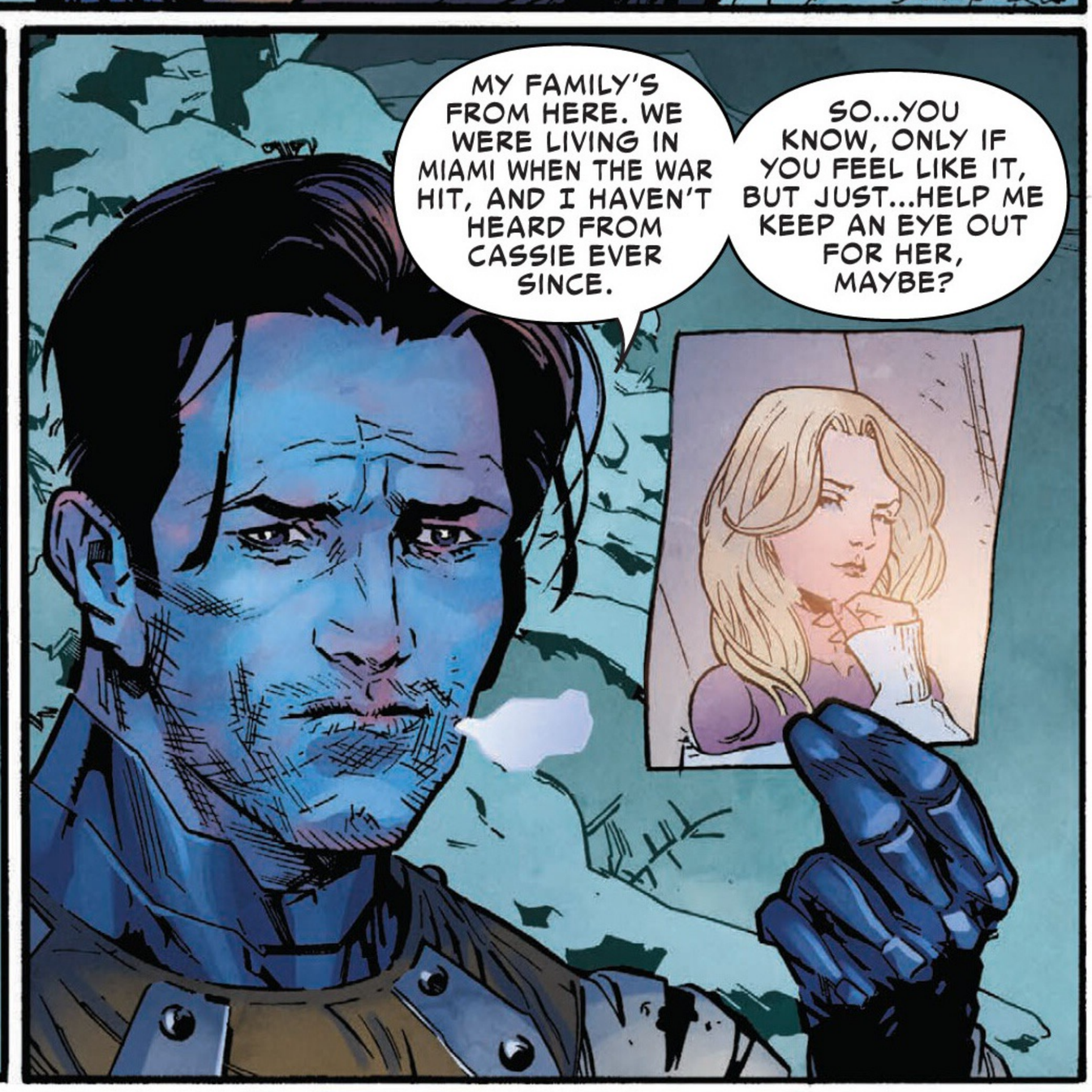

ISOLATED. INACCESSIBLE.
GOOD VIEW OF THE AREA.
ONLY TWO SIDES UNGUARDED.
WE COULD BOTTLENECK ANY ATTACK.

PLUS, IT'S GETTING LATE.
ALL RIGHT. I SAY WE MAKE CAMP.
FINE BY ME.
BUT THAT'S WHAT I...÷SIGH÷

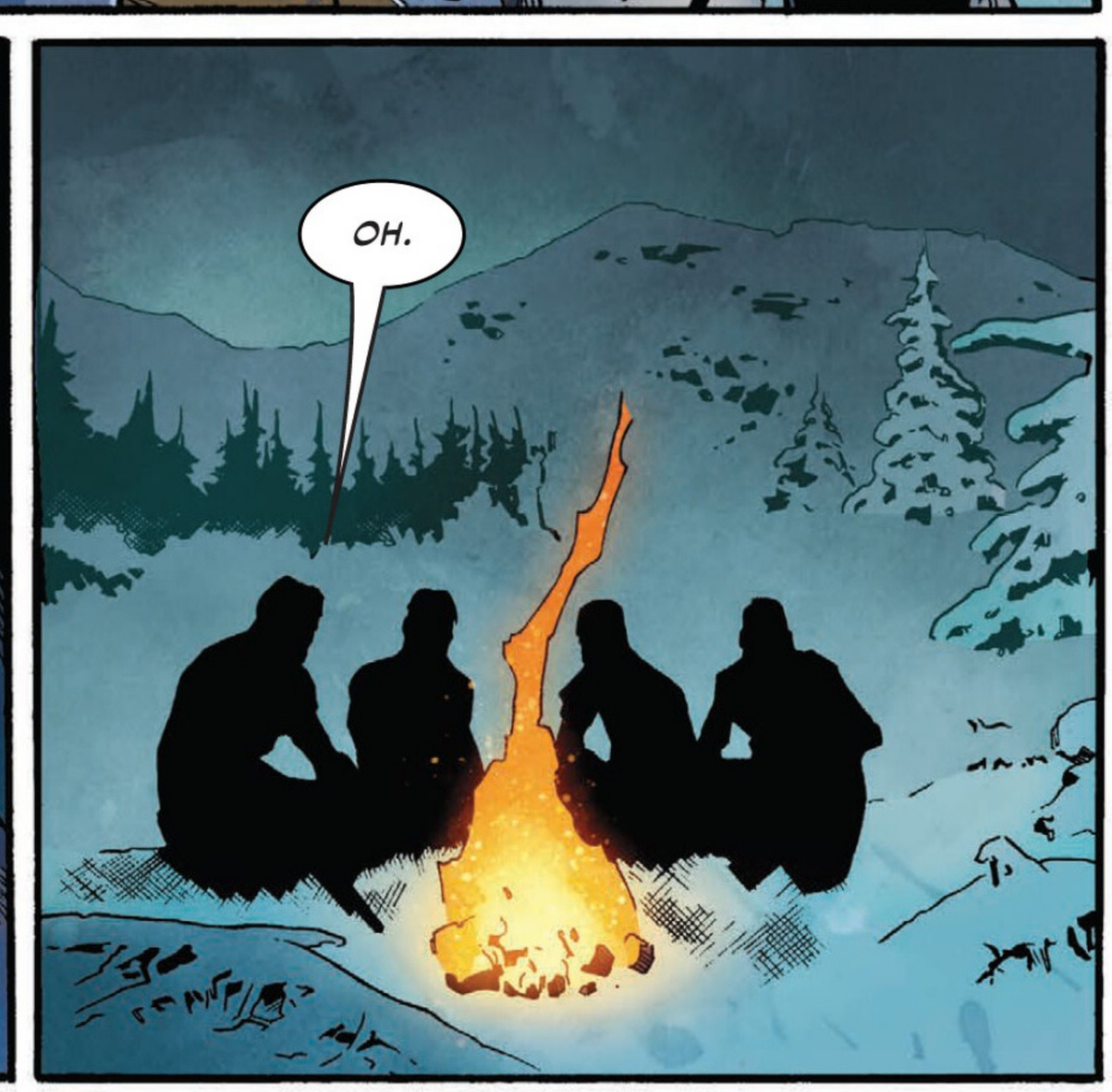
SEVERAL "SCOTT TRIES OUT DIFFERENT ITERATIONS OF 'HOW MANY GIANT MEN DOES IT TAKE TO BUILD A FIRE' JOKES" LATER...
PTING
HERE.
OW--

FOOD-- THANK YOU...
YOU'RE WELCOME.
NOW EAT.

LISTEN, GUYS, I'VE BEEN THINKING, AND... CAN I...ASK YOU ALL FOR A FAVOR?
IT'S UNRELATED TO THE MISSION, SO FEEL FREE TO SAY NO. I MEAN, NO PRESSURE.
IT'S ABOUT MY MISSING DAUGHTER, CASSIE.
HOLD ON, I'VE GOT... A PICTURE, HERE...OF HER... SOMEWHERE... AH.


MY FAMILY'S FROM HERE. WE WERE LIVING IN MIAMI WHEN THE WAR HIT, AND I HAVEN'T HEARD FROM CASSIE EVER SINCE.
SO...YOU KNOW, ONLY IF YOU FEEL LIKE IT, BUT JUST...HELP ME KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR HER, MAYBE?

OR EVEN JUST GIVE ME A HEADS-UP IF YOU SPOT A YOUNG WOMAN THAT LOOKS LIKE HER IN ANY OF THE GROUPS OF HUMANS WE COME ACROSS, LIKE WE SAW BACK IN YEEHAW JUNCTION.
SCOTT...I... I HATE TO BRING THIS UP, BUT...
...I DON'T REMEMBER SEEING ANY WOMEN AMONG THE HUMANS IN YEEHAW JUNCTION...?


OH.

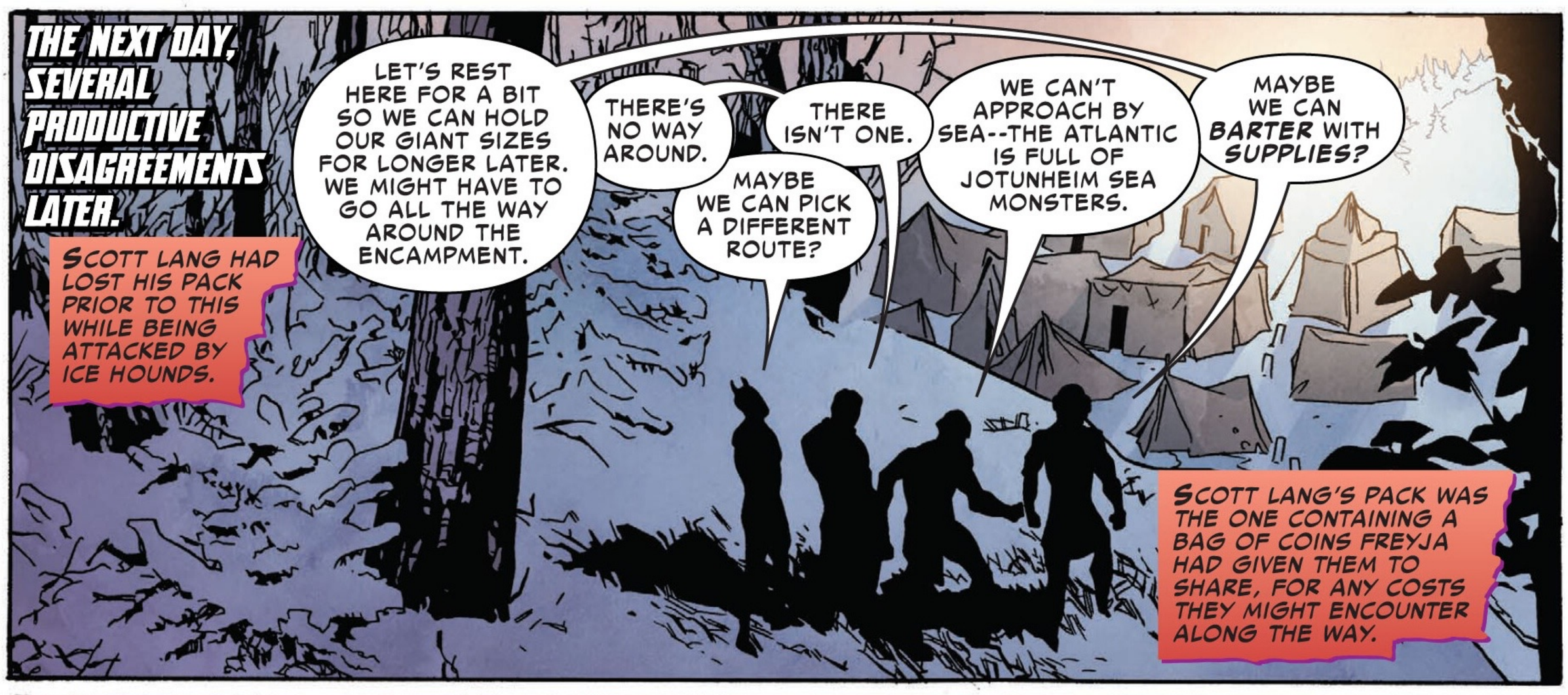
THAT'S A WHOLE LOT WORSE THAN JUST TRYING TO FIND A TEENAGER IN A HAYSTACK, HUH? ÷SNIFF÷

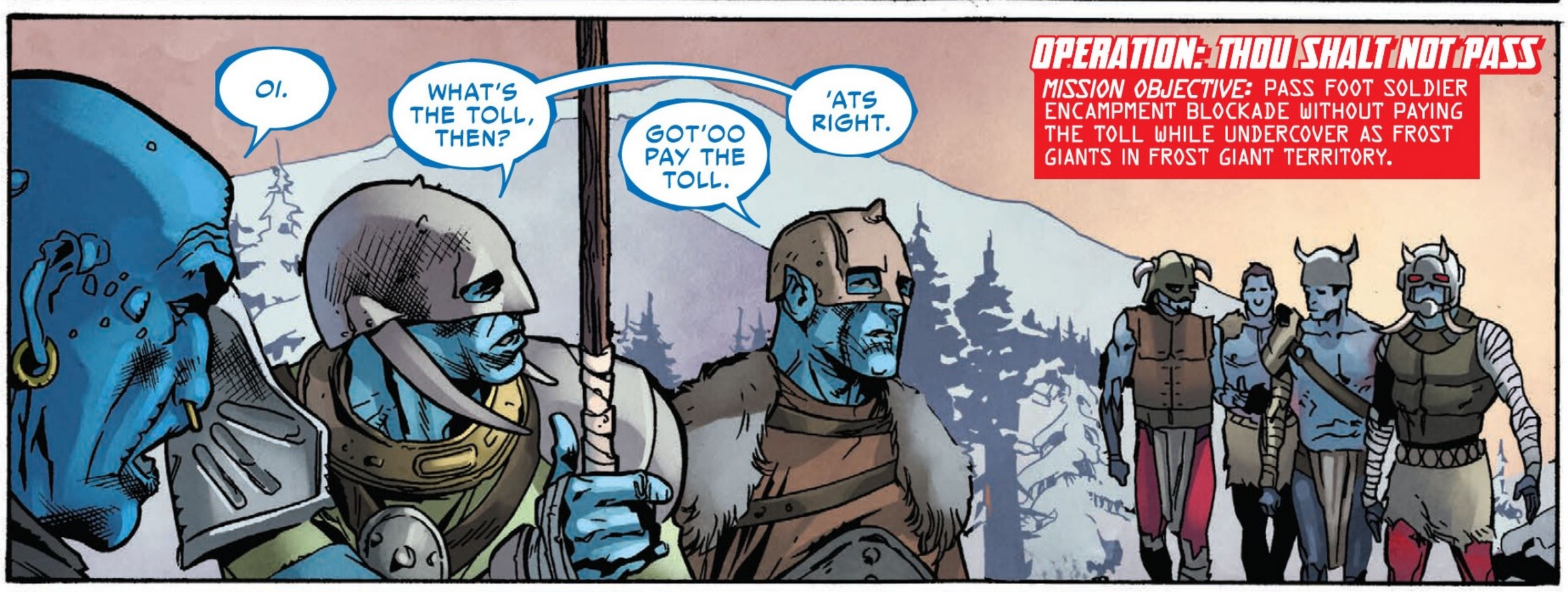
÷SNIFF÷ ANYWAYS!
LET'S GET SOME REST!
LONG DAY TOMORROW! NIGHT NIGHT!

÷SNIFF÷ ÷SNIFF÷
I'LL START LOOKING FOR HER TOO, SCOTT.

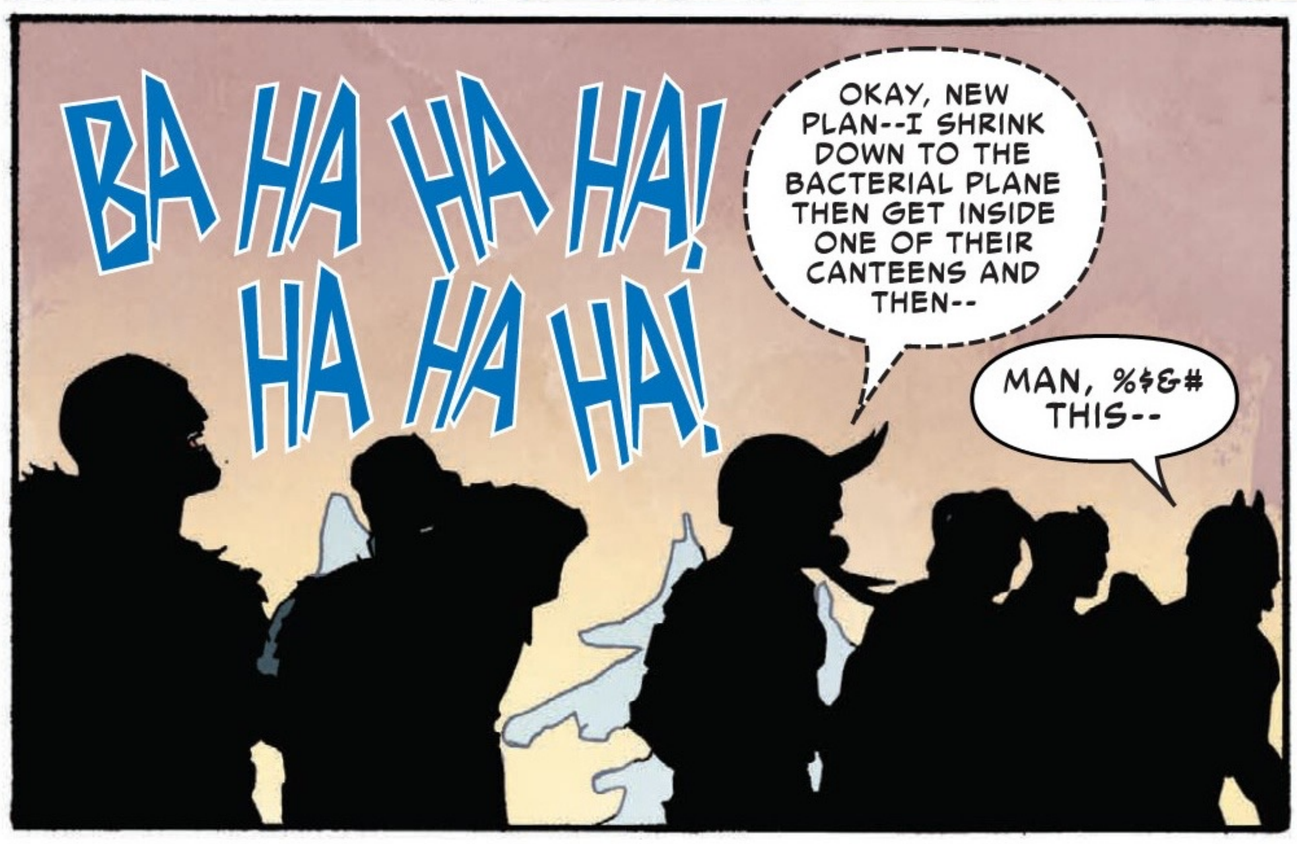
WE'LL ALL HELP, MAN.

÷YAAAAAWN÷
YEAH, WE'LL FIND HER.


THE NEXT DAY, SEVERAL PRODUCTIVE DISAGREEMENTS LATER.
SCOTT LANG HAD LOST HIS PACK PRIOR TO THIS WHILE BEING ATTACKED BY ICE HOUNDS.
LET'S REST HERE FOR A BIT SO WE CAN HOLD OUR GIANT SIZES FOR LONGER LATER. WE MIGHT HAVE TO GO ALL THE WAY AROUND THE ENCAMPMENT.
THERE'S NO WAY AROUND.
MAYBE WE CAN PICK A DIFFERENT ROUTE?
THERE ISN'T ONE.
WE CAN'T APPROACH BY SEA--THE ATLANTIC IS FULL OF JOTUNHEIM SEA MONSTERS.
MAYBE WE CAN BARTER WITH SUPPLIES?
SCOTT LANG'S PACK WAS THE ONE CONTAINING A BAG OF COINS FREYJA HAD GIVEN THEM TO SHARE, FOR ANY COSTS THEY MIGHT ENCOUNTER ALONG THE WAY.


OPERATION: THOU SHALT NOT PASS
MISSION OBJECTIVE: PASS FOOT SOLDIER ENCAMPMENT BLOCKADE WITHOUT PAYING THE TOLL WHILE UNDERCOVER AS FROST GIANTS IN FROST GIANT TERRITORY.
OI.
WHAT'S THE TOLL, THEN?
GOT'OO PAY THE TOLL.
'ATS RIGHT.

GREETINGS.
WE WOULD LIKE TO BARTER.
WITH SUPPLIES.


BA HA HA HA! HA HA HA!
OKAY, NEW PLAN--I SHRINK DOWN TO THE BACTERIAL PLANE THEN GET INSIDE ONE OF THEIR CANTEENS AND THEN--
MAN, %$&# THIS--

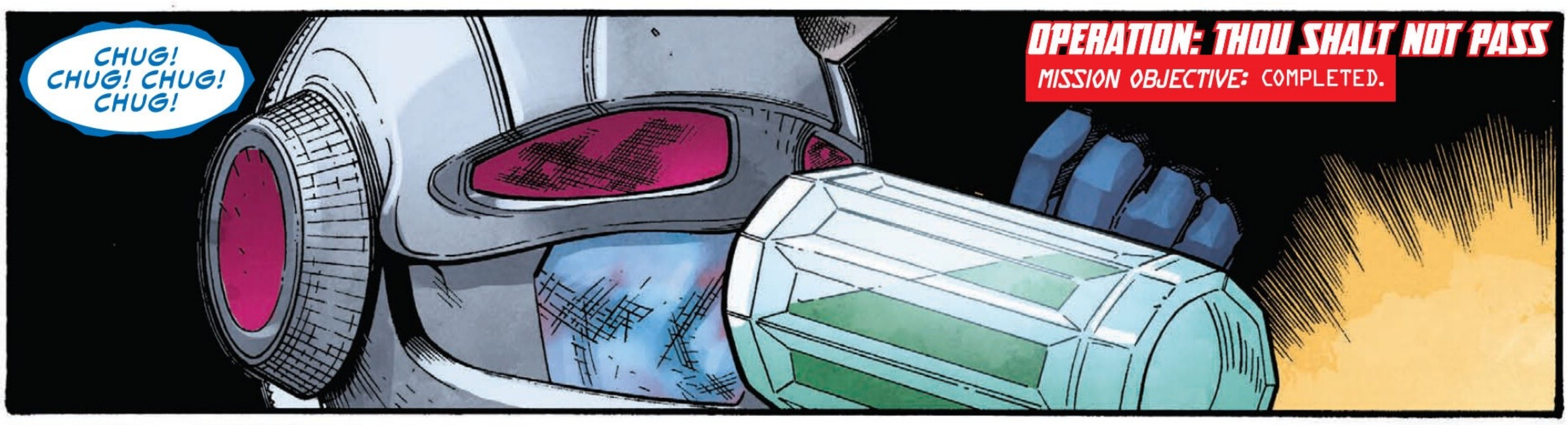
Y'ALL LOOK BORED. HOW 'BOUT SOME ENTERTAINMENT?

TOM HAS NEVER BELIEVED IN GOD.
BUT HE HAS ALSO NEVER FELT TALLER THAN WHEN HE WAS A CHILD SINGING IN A CHURCH CHOIR.
IS THAT "JOLENE"?

HAHAHAHAHA! HAHAHAHA!
MAN, %$&# THEM! DOLLY PARTON IS AMAZING.
TRUTH.
RIGHT, SO I GET INSIDE THE CANTEEN--

WAIT, WAIT! COME BACK!
THAT HOWLING WAS WORTH SUPPER AT THE VERY LEAST.
YES! SUPPER AND MANY ROUNDS OF ALE!
YOU'LL JOIN US TONIGHT.
YEAH, AN' INNER-TAIN US WIV MORE TALES OF THIS ÷WHEEZE÷ SOFT-HANDED JEZEBEL! HAHAHA!
NOW, GOSH, FELLAS, THAT'S REAL NICE OF YOU, BUT YOU DON'T HAVE TO DO ALL THAT.
WE JUST WANT TO PASS THROUGH SO WE CAN CONTINUE ON OUR MERRY WAY, THAT'S ALL...

WOT'OO GOT ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THIS ROAD, THEN, THAT'S SO IMPORTANT?
YEAH. WOT'OO GOT BUSINESS WITH YMIR FER?
YEAH. NOTHIN' PAST US EXCEPT YMIR'S STRONGHOLD, INNIT?
AN' LAST-LIKE-- WHAT KIND OF SELF-RESPECTIN' FROST GIANT TURNS DOWN AN OFFER OF FREE ALE?


CHUG! CHUG! CHUG! CHUG!
OPERATION: THOU SHALT NOT PASS
MISSION OBJECTIVE: COMPLETED.

N-NEVER... BEEN PROUDER... T'BE...
FLARDA MAN.
BRRAAAAAPP

KNAW'MEAN? KNAW'MEAN, RAAAAAAAZ?

UM.

&%$#, MAN...
GUY CAN'T HANDLE HIS GOOP.
YEAH... BETTER PACE YOURSELF, SCOTT...

"...OUR NIGHT IS JUST GETTING STARTED."
OPERATION: FROST GIANT FRAT PARTY SLEEPOVER
MISSION OBJECTIVE: DON'T DIE.

2000 HRS
Y'KNOW, I ACTUALLY LIKE YOU GUYS. YOU'RE ÷HICCUP÷ LIKE ME. Y'ALL DON'T...BEAT AROUND THE BUSH.
WHAT KIND OF SELF-RESPECTING FROST GIANT BEATS BUSHES? THEY CAN'T FIGHT BACK!

2100 HRS
...THANKS, BUT, UH, I ALREADY ATE.

2200 HRS
ZZZ

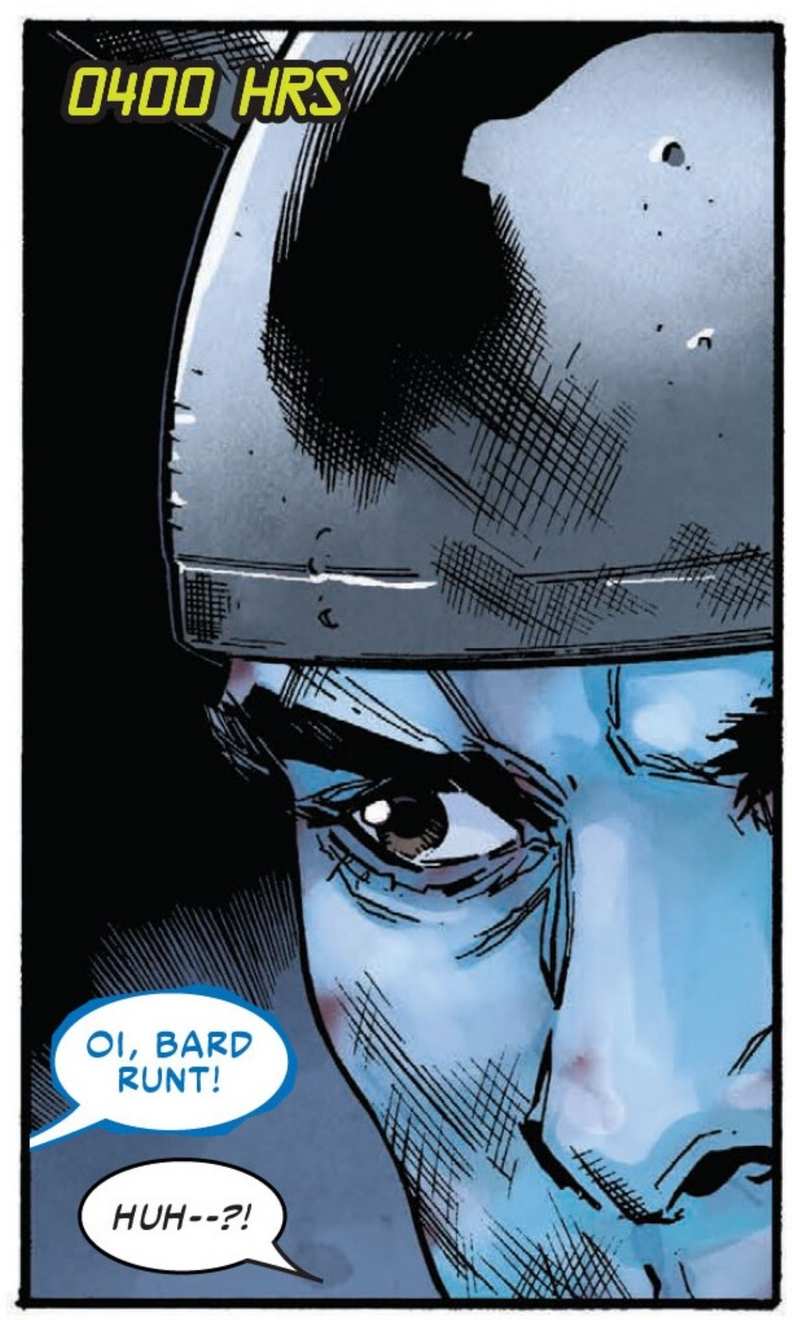
2300 HRS
YES! SHE'S VERY BEAUTIFUL!
I LIKE HER, UM, BREASTS!
AYE! AS DO I, BROTHER!

0000 HRS
ZZZZZ

0130 HRS
N'SEE, THAT'S HOW YOU PUNCH A LIVER.
BODY SHOTS, BRO! GOTTA 'MEMBER TO WORK THE BODY!

0200 HRS
OM NOM
NOM NOM

0300 HRS
ZZZZZ


0400 HRS
OI, BARD RUNT!
HUH--?!

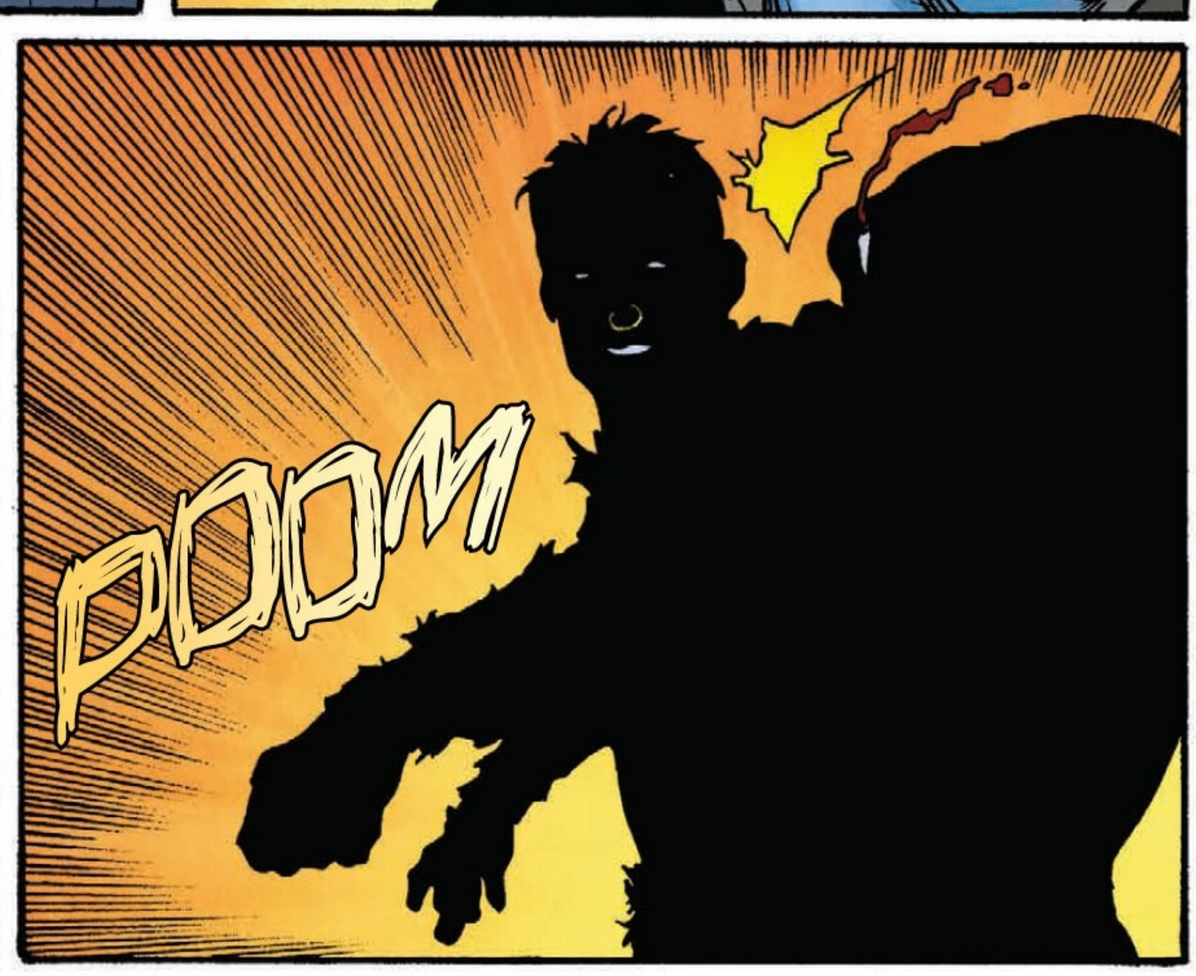
BRUV ÷HICCUP÷ER, JOIN US FOR SINGIN' THE BALLADS OF JOTUN÷HICCUP÷ HEIM!
AHHH...
&%$#!
YEAH.

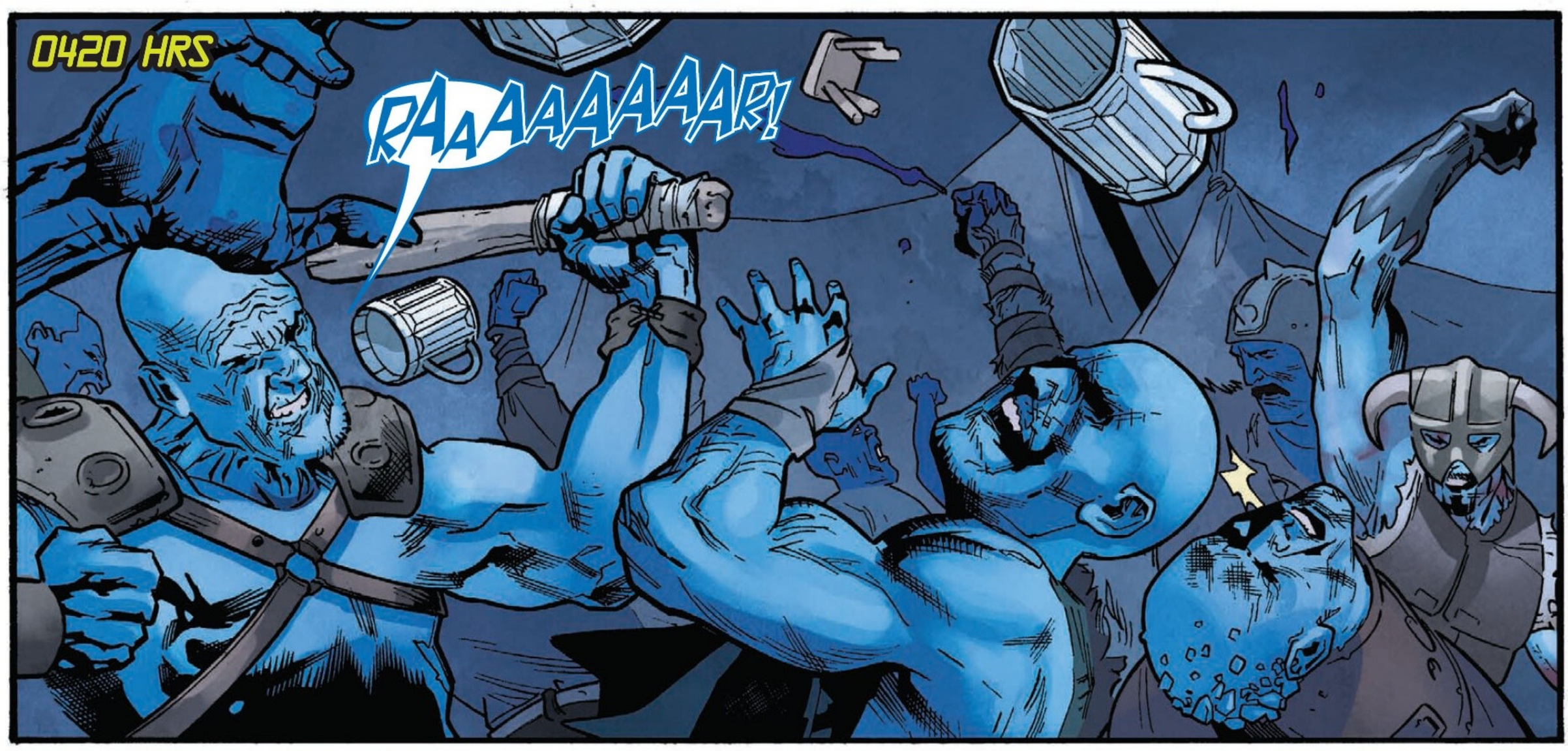
TIME TO EARN YOUR BEDROLL TONIGHT, RUNT. SING US THE SONG OF OUR PEOPLE!
I'M N-NOT SURE I CAN SING ANYTHING AFTER ALL THIS, UH, GROG--
NONSENSE. SING!

ERIK, WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO?! TOM CAN'T POSSIBLY KNOW THE WORDS TO A FROST GIANT BALLAD! THEY'RE GONNA KNOW SOMETHING'S UP, AND THEN--
RAZ. SHUT THE @%$# UP.

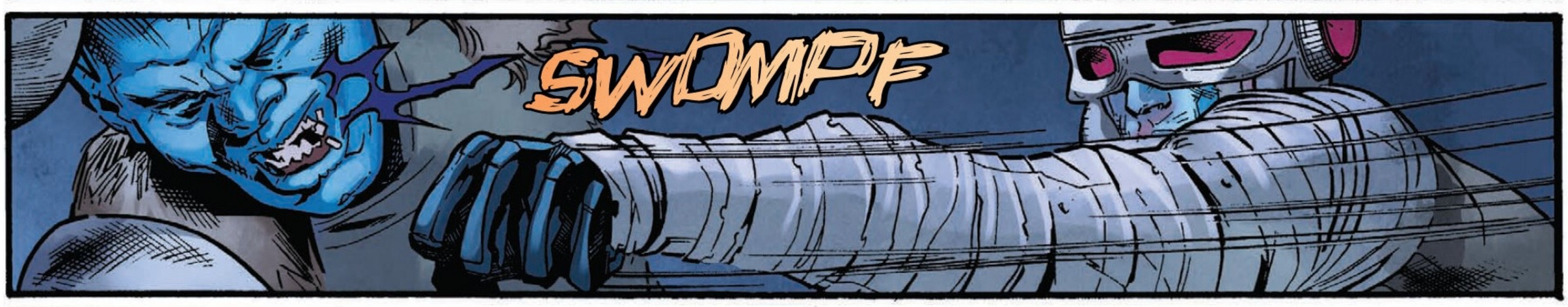
FIGHT!

WHERE'ZITAT, THEN? I DON'T SEE NO--


BOOM


0420 HRS
RAAAAAAAR!

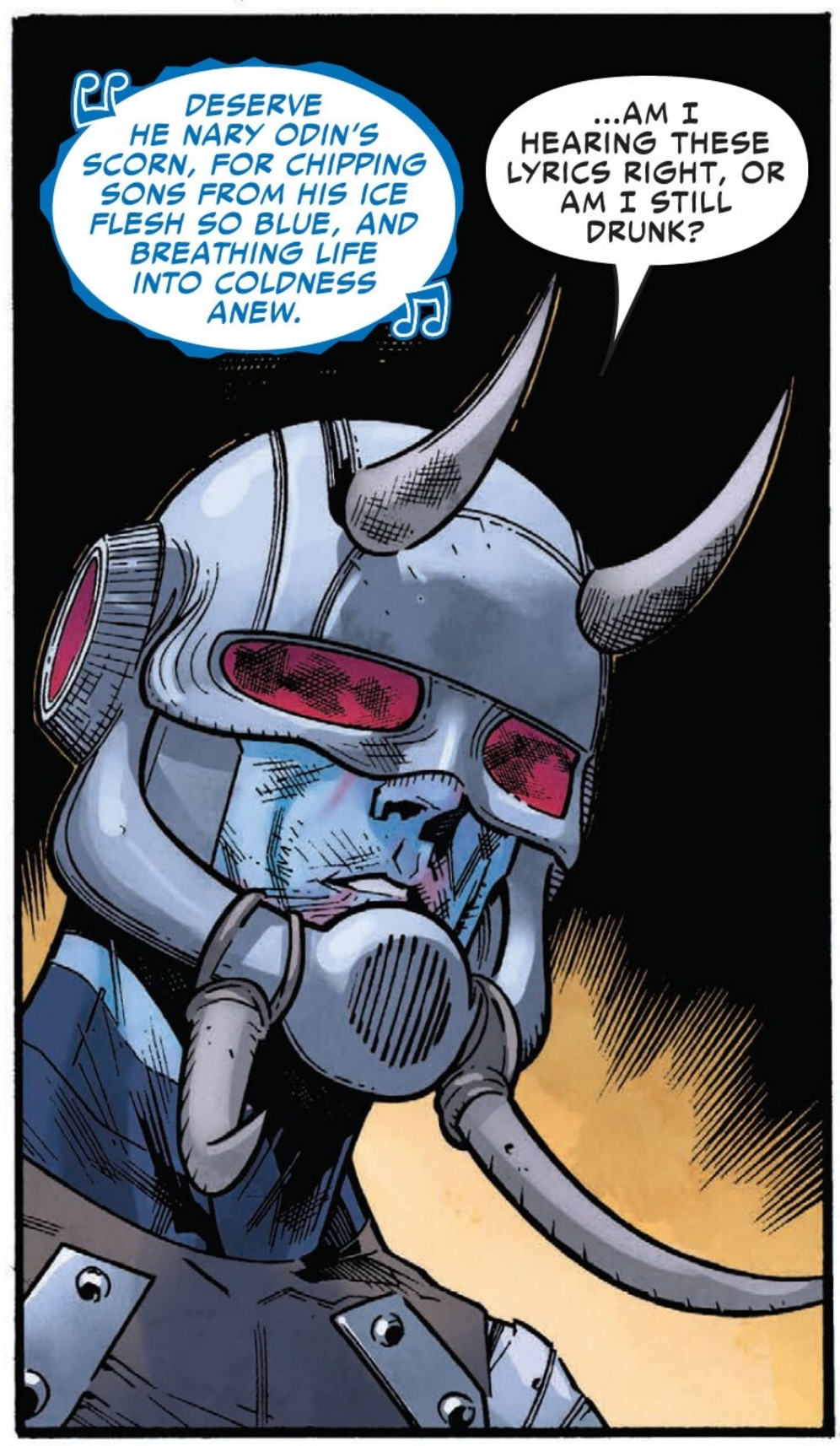
CRRRASH
I'M AWAKE! I'M UP! WHAT'S-- WHAT'RE WE--


SWOMPF

THAT OUGHTA KEEP THEM DISTRACTED FOR A WHILE.
WHERE'S TOM...?

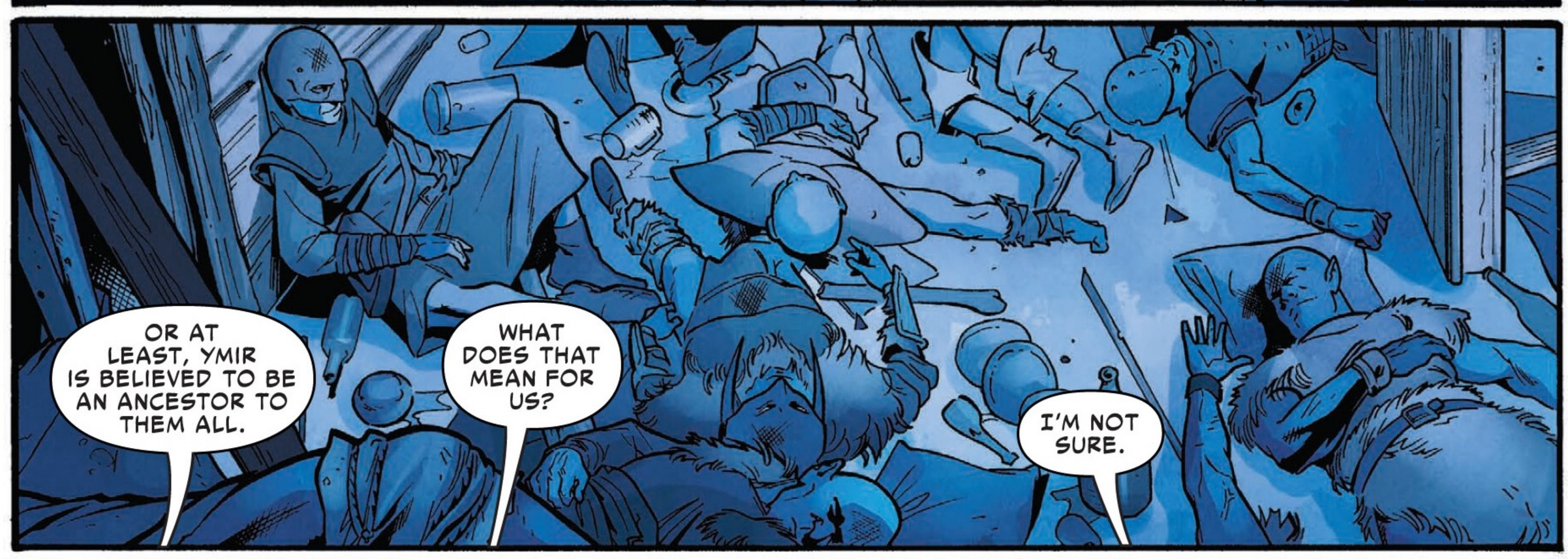
÷YAWN÷
THAT WAS THE BEST SLEEP I'VE GOTTEN IN WEEKS.
HEY, SCOTT.
HI! WHERE'S TOM?

LONG THE DAWN OF FROST GIANT MORN, T'WAS FATHER GOD YMIR WHO BIRTHED US TRUE...
I... LOVE YOU GUYS...


DESERVE HE NARY ODIN'S SCORN, FOR CHIPPING SONS FROM HIS ICE FLESH SO BLUE, AND BREATHING LIFE INTO COLDNESS ANEW.
...AM I HEARING THESE LYRICS RIGHT, OR AM I STILL DRUNK?

WE SING TO THANK HIM FOR LIFE'S SWEET CURSE, AN ODE TO OUR FATHER, YMIR, FROST GIANT THE FIRST.
FOR A MOMENT, TOM HAD FELT LARGER THAN LIFE WHILE DRUNKENLY HOWLING ALONGSIDE HIS NEW FROST GIANT FRIENDS. BUT AS THE BALLAD CONCLUDED AND THE WORDS SANK IN...

HEY, TOM.
HEY. SO, WHAT THE &%ϟ!@#ϟ WAS THAT SONG?
A BALLAD ABOUT HOW YMIR IS A GOD...? AND FATHER TO ALL FROST GIANTS?
FROST GIANTS ARE LITERAL CHIPS OFF THE OLD BLOCK.


OR AT LEAST, YMIR IS BELIEVED TO BE AN ANCESTOR TO THEM ALL.
WHAT DOES THAT MEAN FOR US?
I'M NOT SURE.

WHAT ABOUT THE ARMY OF PRIMAL FROST GIANTS HE'S BEEN CONSTRUCTING? HOW EXACTLY IS HE MAKING THEM SO MUCH WORSE NOW?
YMIR'S SPECIAL SAUCE.
HAHAHA...
I--I DON'T THINK HE'S CONSTRUCTING THEM.
I THINK... BEING LITERAL CHIPS OFF THE OLD BLOCK, NOT JUST DESCENDANTS OF THEM, MIGHT BE WHAT MAKES THE PRIMAL FROST GIANTS SO SAVAGE.

THEY COULD BE THE FIRST GENERATION OF FROST GIANTS AND THUS UNDILUTED BY DOMESTICATION.
SO TO STOP THE WAR THAT'S RUINING EARTH, NOT ONLY DO WE HAVE TO DESTROY AN ANCIENT AND ALL-POWERFUL GOD, BUT WE'LL HAVE TO OBLITERATE HIM SO THOROUGHLY THAT IT LEAVES NO TRACE BEHIND.

AND THEN KILL HIS YOUNGEST KIDS.

THIS MISSION SUCKS.
YEAH...
AND I'M %!&$#@ FREEZING.
YEAH.
'NIGHT.

0500 HRS
OPERATION: FROST GIANT FRAT PARTY SLEEPOVER
MISSION OBJECTIVE: COMPLETED.

...H-HUH?

0600 HRS
WHERE... ÷YAWN÷
...WHEREZ'ERIK?

ERIK, NO!

WHAT?

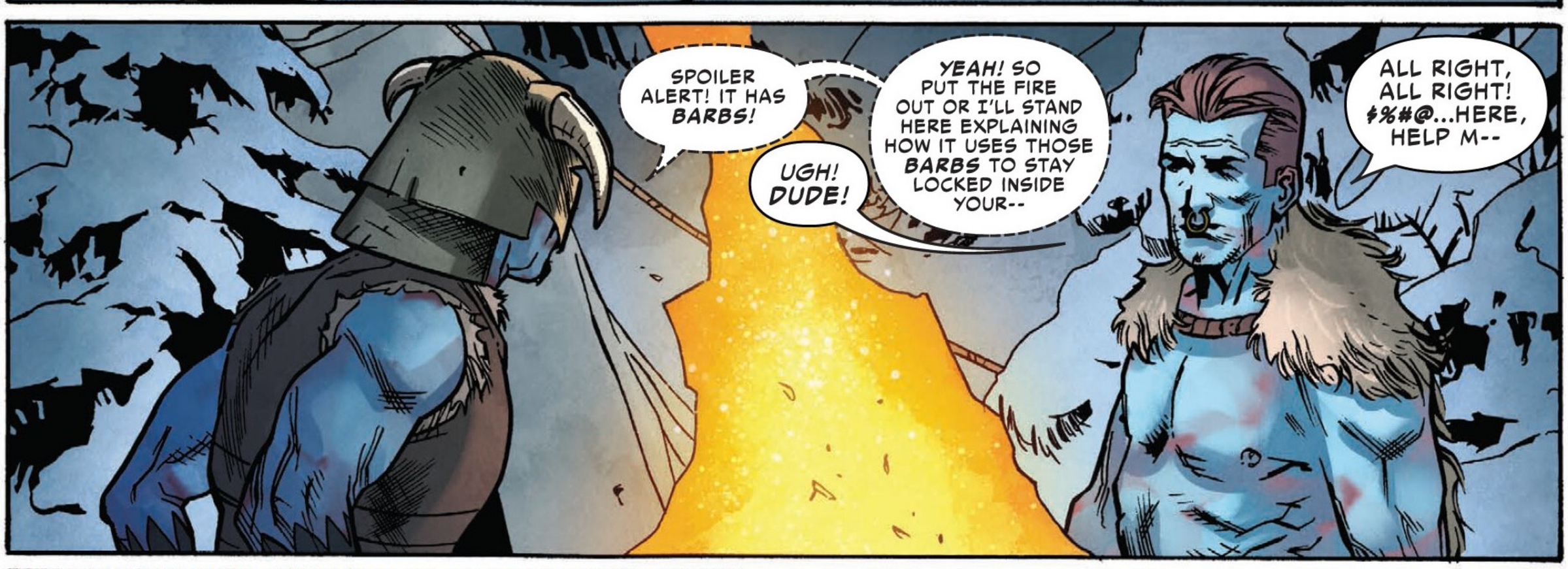
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "WHAT"?
ARE YOU OUT OF YOUR MIND?! PUT THAT FIRE OUT BEFORE THEY WAKE UP!

I'M. COLD.
LOOK AROUND YOU-- DO FROST GIANTS SEEM BOTHERED BY THE COLD?

NO!
BECAUSE THEY'RE %$#@ FROST GIANTS!

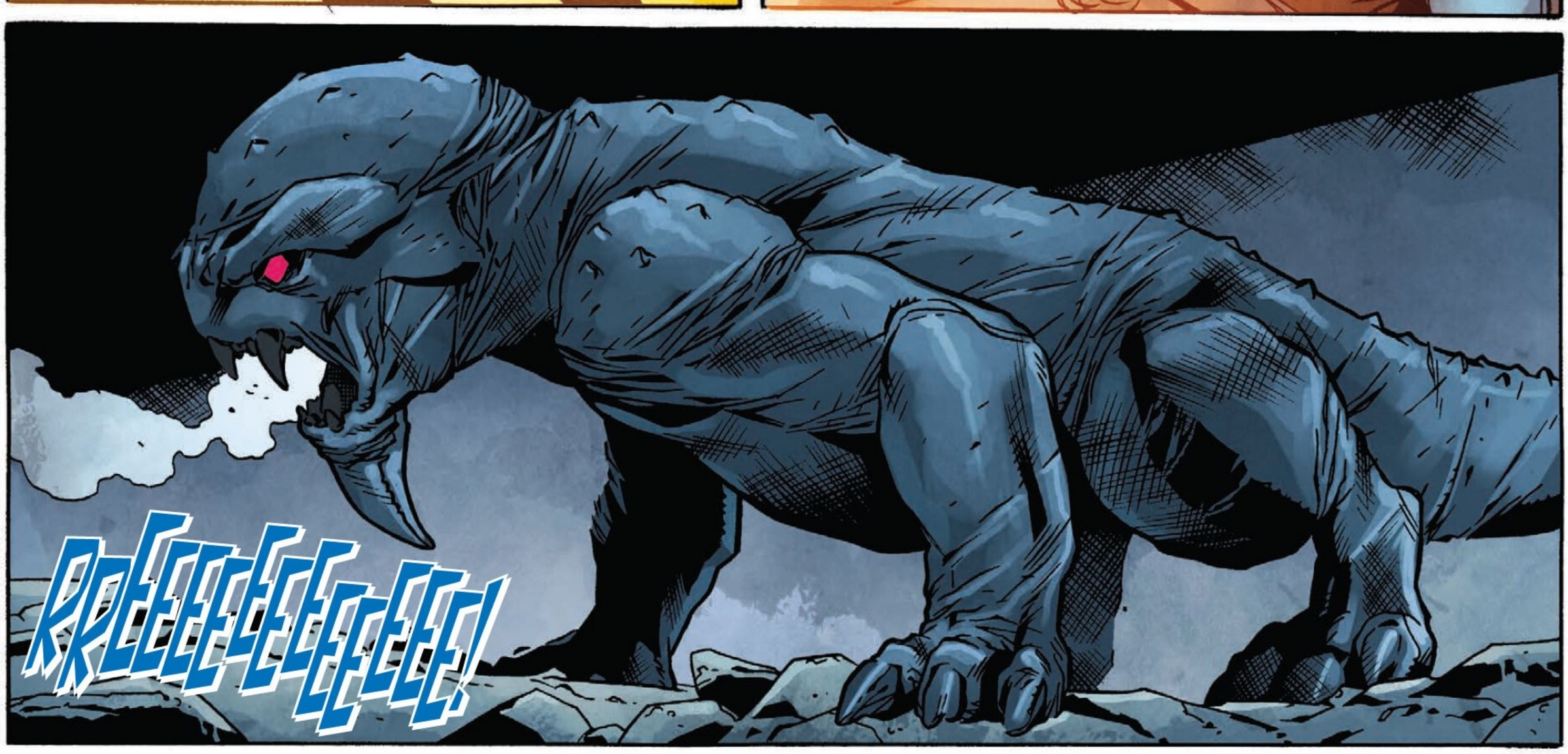
WELL. $%#@ THEM.
AND FORGET ELSA, I AM BOTHERED BY THE COLD.

KRIK-KRIK-KRIII-IIK-
IF YOU DON'T PUT THIS FIRE OUT BEFORE YOU WAKE UP THE ENTIRE CAMP, I'M GOING TO TELL YOU ABOUT THE AMAZON RIVER FISH THAT CAN SWIM UP YOUR URINE!
THE WHAT?
LITTLE DID THEY KNOW THAT IN THE FROZEN GROUND BENEATH THEIR FEET...SOMETHING THAT HAD BEEN BURIED WAS ALREADY WAKING UP.


SPOILER ALERT! IT HAS BARBS!
UGH! DUDE!
YEAH! SO PUT THE FIRE OUT OR I'LL STAND HERE EXPLAINING HOW IT USES THOSE BARBS TO STAY LOCKED INSIDE YOUR--
ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT! ¢%#@...HERE, HELP M--

RRRUMMBLE

RRRUMMBLE
ARGH... ME 'EAD! SOMEONE SHUT HER UP!
OI...WHO WOKE UP HELGA WIV FLAME? SHE DON'T LIKE THAT...


RRREEEEEEEEEEE!

RRAAAARRRRRR!
SORRY, RAZ.
IT'S... OKAY, ERIK. YOU DIDN'T KNOW.
SLOOM SLOOM SLOOM

RRAAAARRRRRRRRRRRRR!

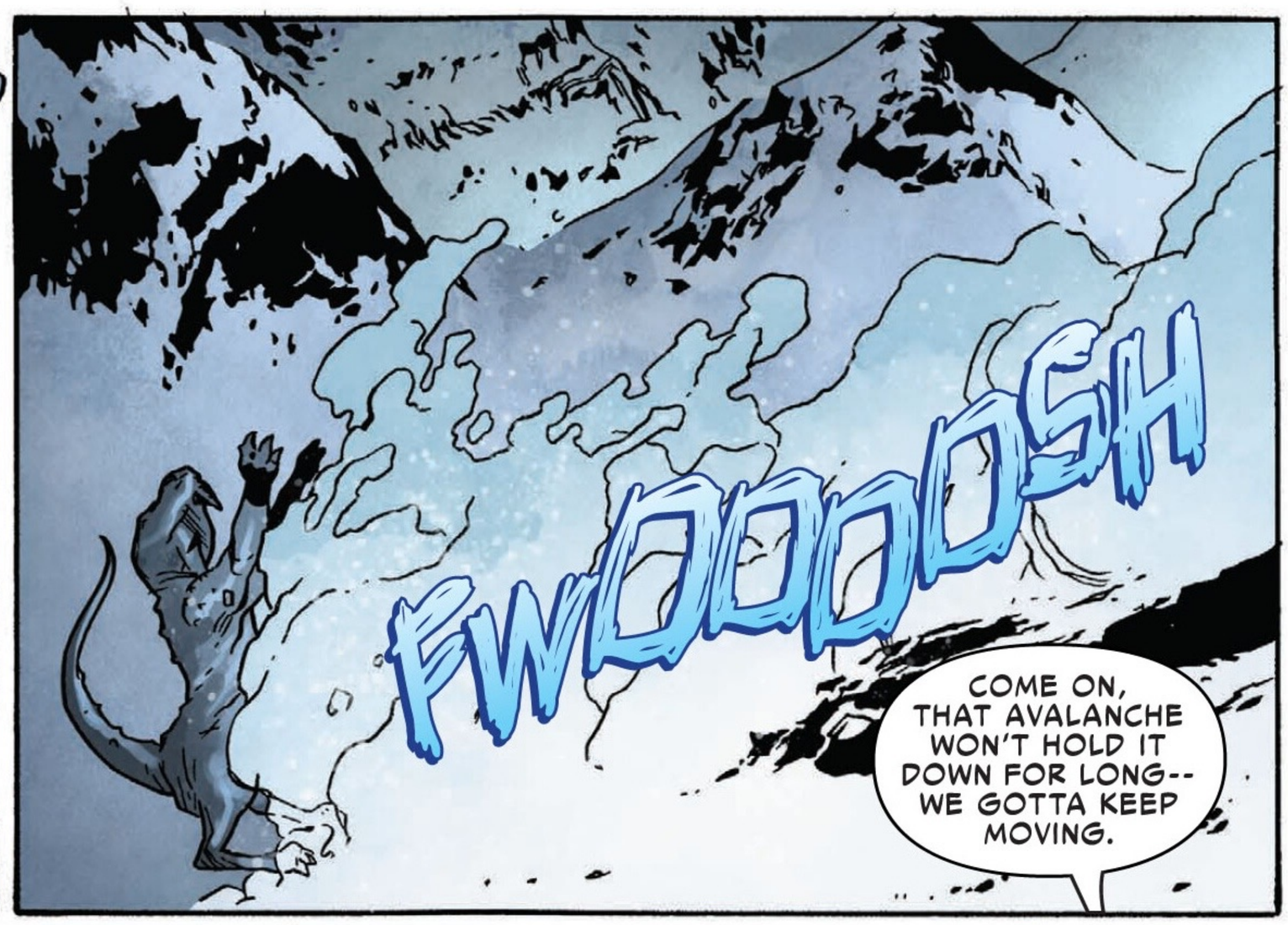
MORNIN', FELLAS!
DID WE TRY TO BEFRIEND A DOGGY AGAIN?

IT'S CATCHING UP!

SCOTT, WHAT DO WE--
SCOTT?!

DID THAT SON OF A @#%$ JUST GO MICRO AND LEAVE US BEHIND?!

NOPE! WATCH THIS, THOUGH.


FWOOOOSH
COME ON, THAT AVALANCHE WON'T HOLD IT DOWN FOR LONG-- WE GOTTA KEEP MOVING.

HOOOO... WE MADE IT.
÷HUFF÷ SCOTT, ARE YOU--I MEAN, THIS WAS YOUR HOME...
RAZ, I APPRECIATE IT, BUT WE REALLY DON'T HAVE TIME TO TALK ABOUT MY FEELINGS RIGHT NOW.
DO...WE HAVE TIME FOR SLEDDING?
THE WAY YOU JUST ASKED THAT MAKES ME INCLINED TO SAY YES.

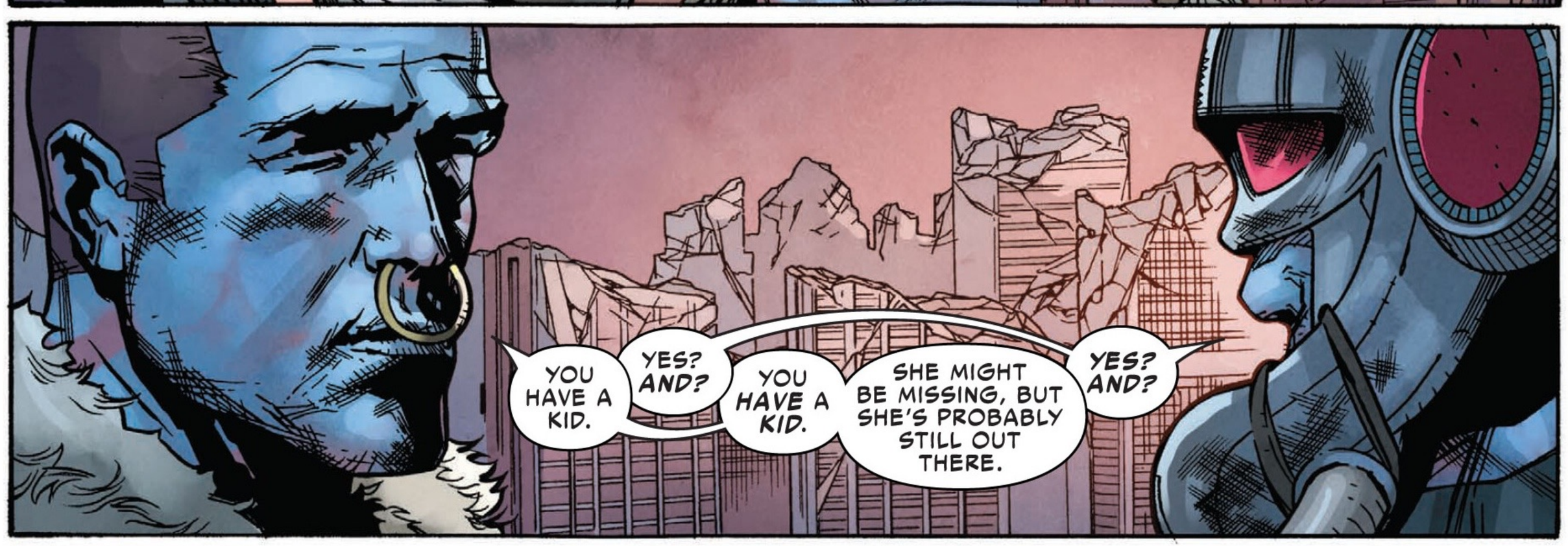
OKAY, BOYS, REMEMBER TO SIZE UP BEFORE WE GET TO THE BOTTOM--WE DON'T WANT TO BE SPOTTED BY FROST GIANTS WHILE WE'RE HUMAN-SIZED!
WEEEEEEEEEEE!
Miami
Next exit

MISS FREYJA SAID YMIR'S STRONGHOLD WOULD BE OBVIOUS ONCE WE GOT HERE.
SO WHERE'S...
THAT? THE FROST GIANT DEATH CASTLE OVER THERE? WHERE'S THAT YOU MEAN?

YEAH...
&@%$.
YEAH.

YMIR'S STRONGHOLD.
OPERATION: STORM THE CASTLE
MISSION OBJECTIVE: MAKE IT PAST THE PATROLLING GUARDS, GET INSIDE, FIND THE TARGET AND ELIMINATE.

WELP. TIME'S A' WASTIN'! LET'S GO...KILL GOD? APPARENTLY.
÷SIGH÷ WE'RE JUST GOING TO HAVE TO FIGURE OUT HOW ONCE WE GET IN THERE, I GUESS. IT'S FOR THE GOOD OF HUMANITY, RIGHT? RIGHT.
STOP.


YOU HAVE A KID.
YES? AND?
YOU HAVE A KID.
SHE MIGHT BE MISSING, BUT SHE'S PROBABLY STILL OUT THERE.
YES? AND?

SO WE'RE ON A SUICIDE MISSION.
YOU ALL... KNOW THAT, RIGHT?

THEY COULDA @#$!% WITH THE WATER SUPPLY SO NO ICE COULD FORM, THEY COULDA SENT SOMEONE WITH INVISIBILITY, THEY COULDA SENT *FIRESTAR*, BUT THEY SENT *US*.

BECAUSE *WE'RE* EXPENDABLE, AND THE MISSION IS TOO HIGH-RISK TO SEND ANYONE ELSE.

WE'RE A HAIL MARY PASS IN THE FOURTH QUARTER.

SO....GIDDYAP OR WHATEVER, BUT I JUST WANTED TO POINT OUT THAT NONE OF US ARE ACTUALLY GOING TO MAKE IT OUT OF THIS ALIVE.

I KNOW. ÷SIGH÷ I KNEW.

I'M SO SORRY, SWEETHEART. I LOVE YOU.

WHAT WOULD EVEN BE THE POINT OF LIVING IF SCOTT CAN'T PROVIDE HIS DAUGHTER A WORLD WORTH LIVING IN FIRST?

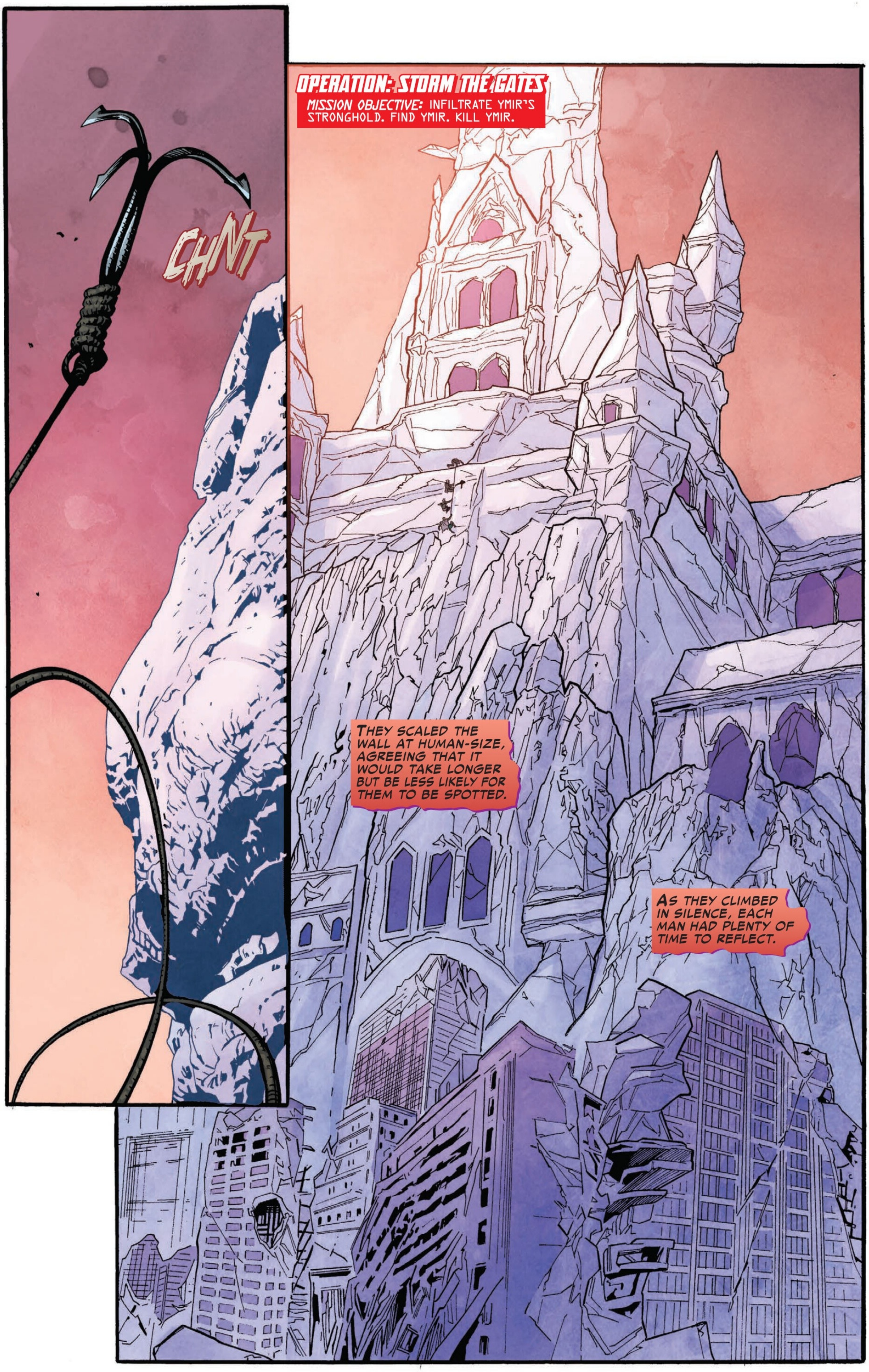
OPERATION: FATHERHOOD

MISSION OBJECTIVE: MAKE HARD CHOICES.

SCOTT HAD ALREADY MADE THIS CHOICE, LONG BEFORE ERIK ASKED HIM TO CONFRONT IT.

GIANT-MAN #3

And Some Little Ladies


OPERATION: STORM THE GATES
MISSION OBJECTIVE: INFILTRATE YMIR'S STRONGHOLD. FIND YMIR. KILL YMIR.
CHNT
THEY SCALED THE WALL AT HUMAN-SIZE, AGREEING THAT IT WOULD TAKE LONGER BUT BE LESS LIKELY FOR THEM TO BE SPOTTED.
AS THEY CLIMBED IN SILENCE, EACH MAN HAD PLENTY OF TIME TO REFLECT.

TOM IS THINKING ABOUT WHEN HE WAS A KID AND COULDN'T CLIMB LIKE THIS.
RAZ IS TRYING NOT TO THINK ABOUT THE FACT THAT HE HASN'T CLIMBED LIKE THIS SINCE HE WAS A KID.
SCOTT IS THINKING ABOUT HIS MISSING KID.
ERIK IS LOOKING AT THE DEAD SEA CREATURES ENCASED IN THE ICY OCEAN BELOW, HOPING THEY ARE JUST SLEEPING AND WONDERING IF SEA TURTLES CAN EVEN SURVIVE COLD THEY'VE NEVER FELT BEFORE.

YOU READY, TOM?
YOU FIRST, THEN SCOTT. JUST LIKE WE PLANNED.

AND YOU'RE SURE YOUR AIM IS AS GOOD AS YOU SAY IT IS?
DON'T WORRY, MAN, I GOT THIS.

DO YA HEAR SUMFING?
IT'S LIKE A RINGING IN ME EAR...
AAAAHHHHHHHHH!

THERE'S ONLY TWO OF THEM! NICE!

OKAY, RAZ-- YOU HELP TOM AND ERIK UP!
CHNT
OI! WHASSAT?

AND I'LL HANDLE TWEEDLEDOUR OVER HERE!

SCOTT!
FOR %#$@'S SAKE.
÷HURRK÷ ÷GHHUH÷

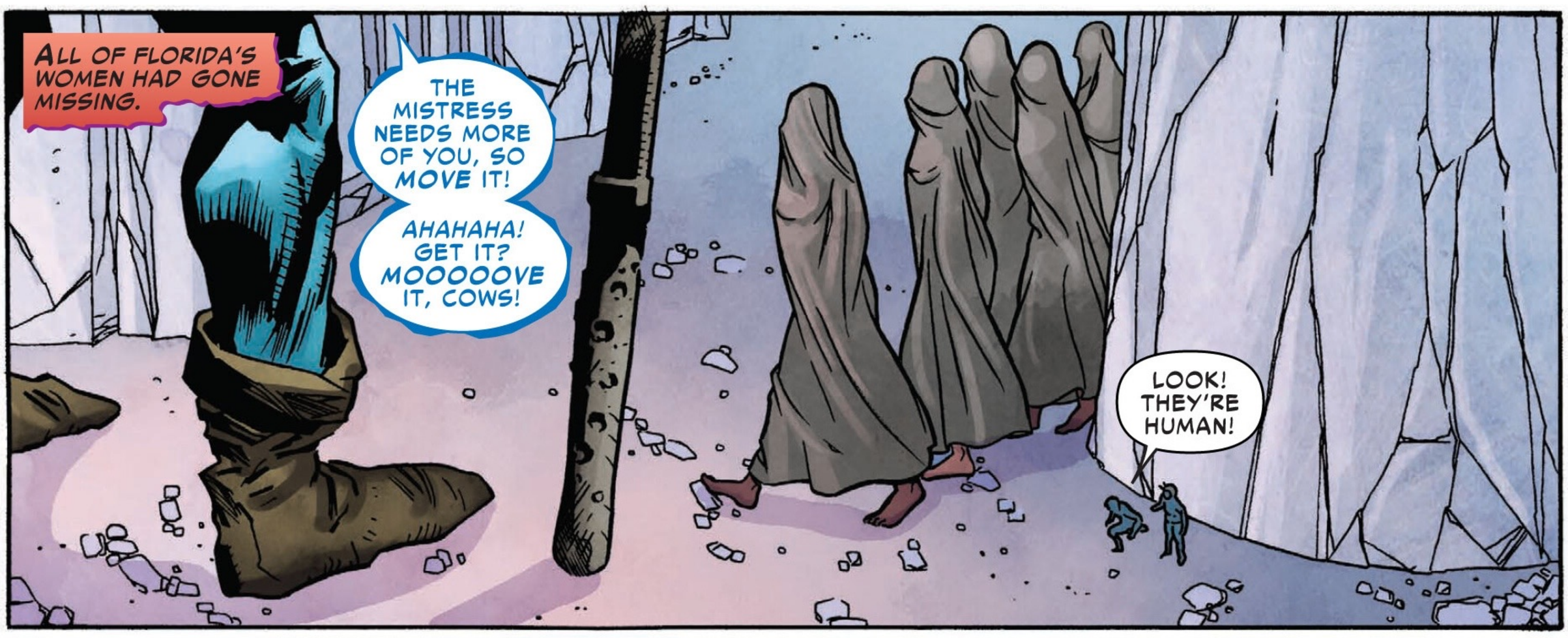
÷WHEEZE÷
ERIK, HELP--
YUP.

AHHHHHHH!

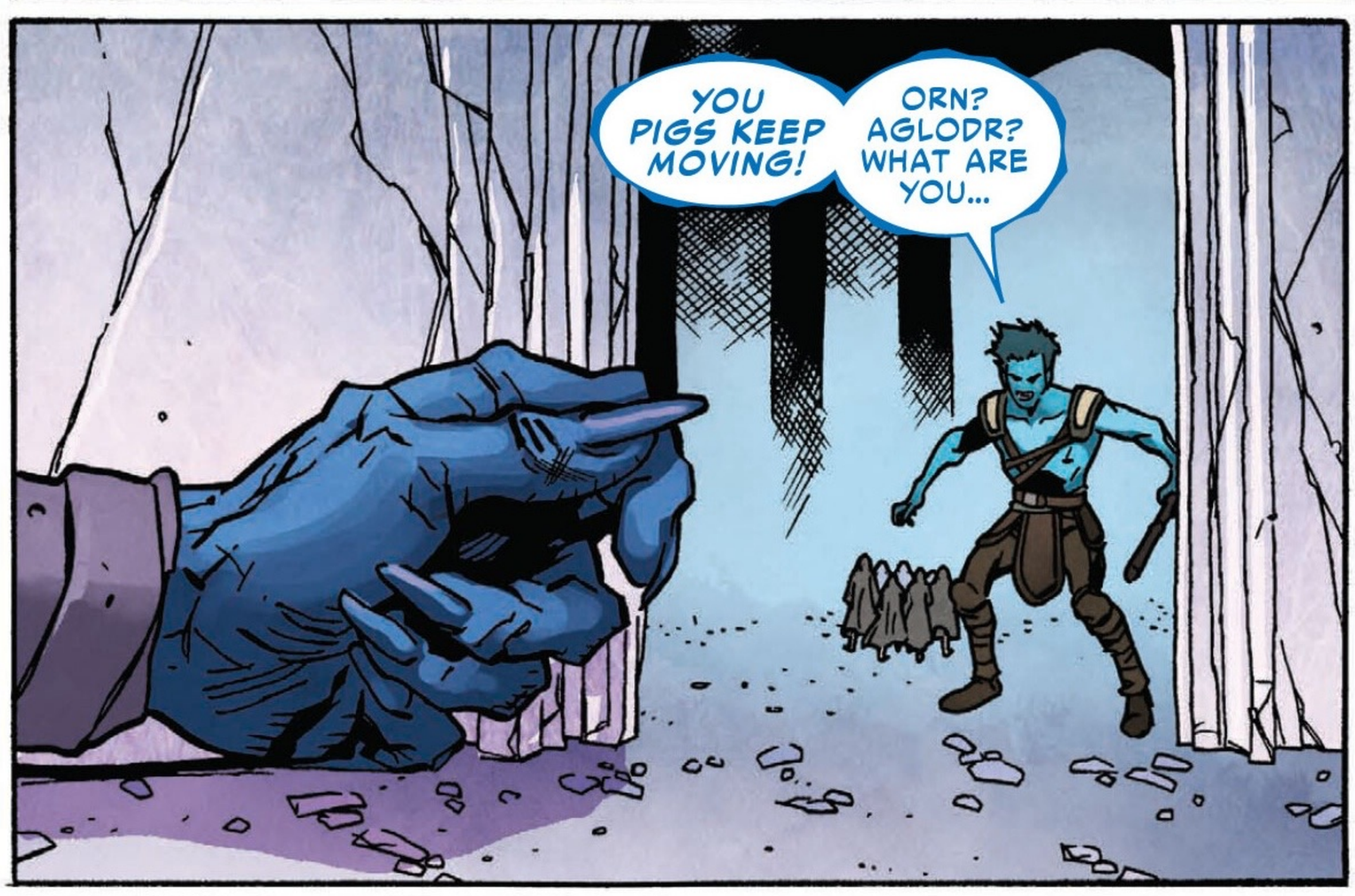
THOK

÷HUFF÷... LET'S MOVE.

I THINK THAT WENT REALLY WELL.
'URRY IT UP, YOU COWS!
HIDE!

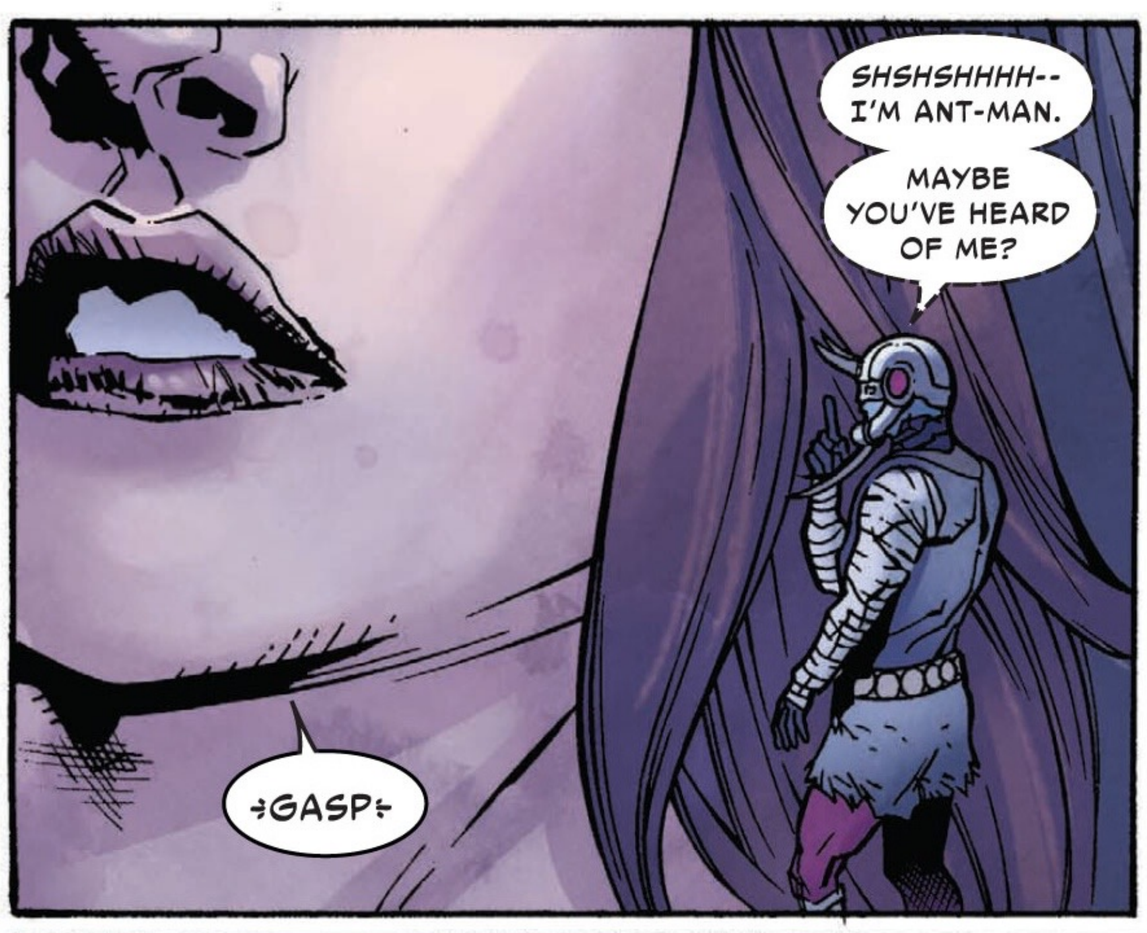

ALL OF FLORIDA'S WOMEN HAD GONE MISSING.
THE MISTRESS NEEDS MORE OF YOU, SO MOVE IT!
AHAHAHA! GET IT? MOOOOOVE IT, COWS!
LOOK! THEY'RE HUMAN!

SCOTT...
YEAH. THEY'RE ALL WOMEN.
BECAUSE ALL OF FLORIDA'S WOMEN, FOR REASONS UNKNOWN, HAD BEEN FUNNELED INTO YMIR'S STRONGHOLD.


YOU PIGS KEEP MOVING!
ORN? AGLODR? WHAT ARE YOU...

HEY! WHO THE BLOODY $%#@ ARE YOU? GUAR--

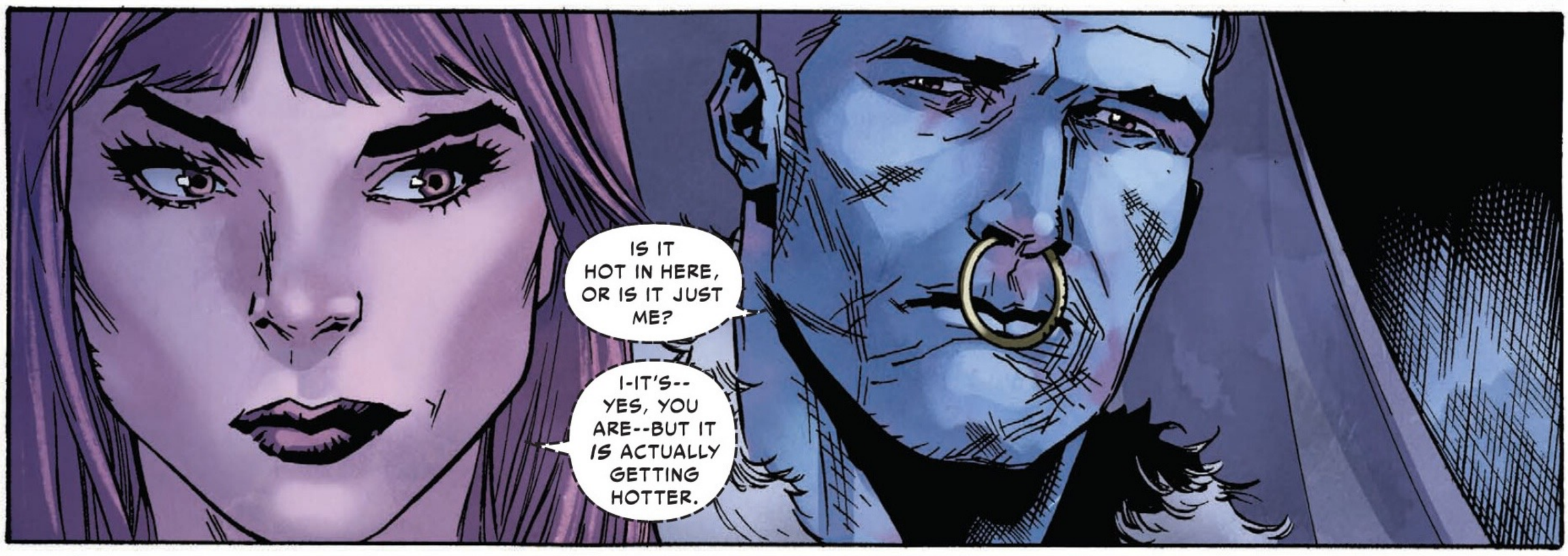
GLUK!
HOLY $@#%. OKAY.
SCOTT AND RAZ WENT INSIDE, COME ON!


SHSHSHHHH-- I'M ANT-MAN.
MAYBE YOU'VE HEARD OF ME?
÷GASP÷

WE'RE GONNA GET YOU ALL OUT OF HERE, OKAY?
OKAY.

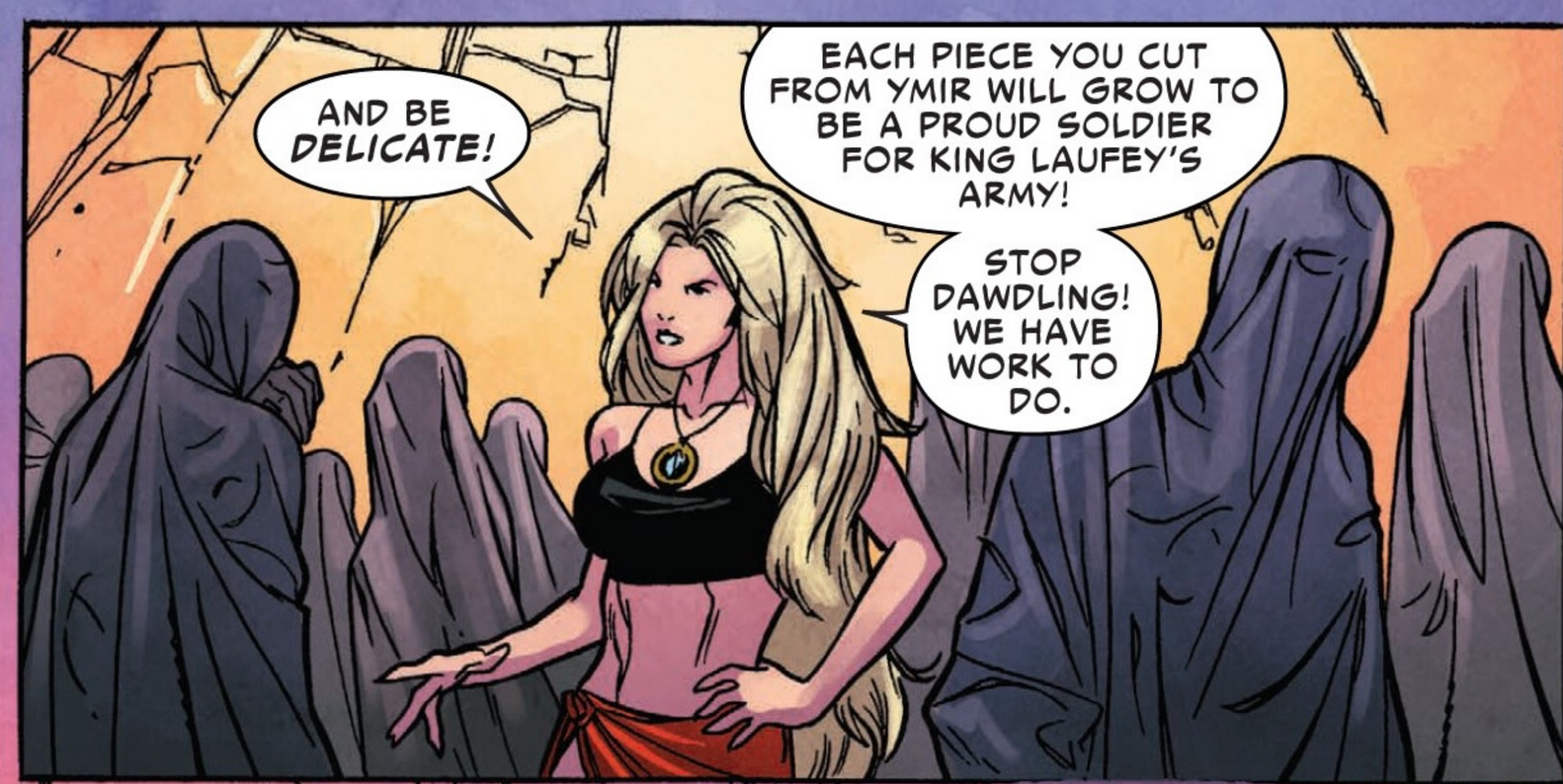
BUT FIRST...

...DO YOU KNOW WHERE YMIR IS BEING KEPT?
YES...IT'S WHERE WE'RE GOING...

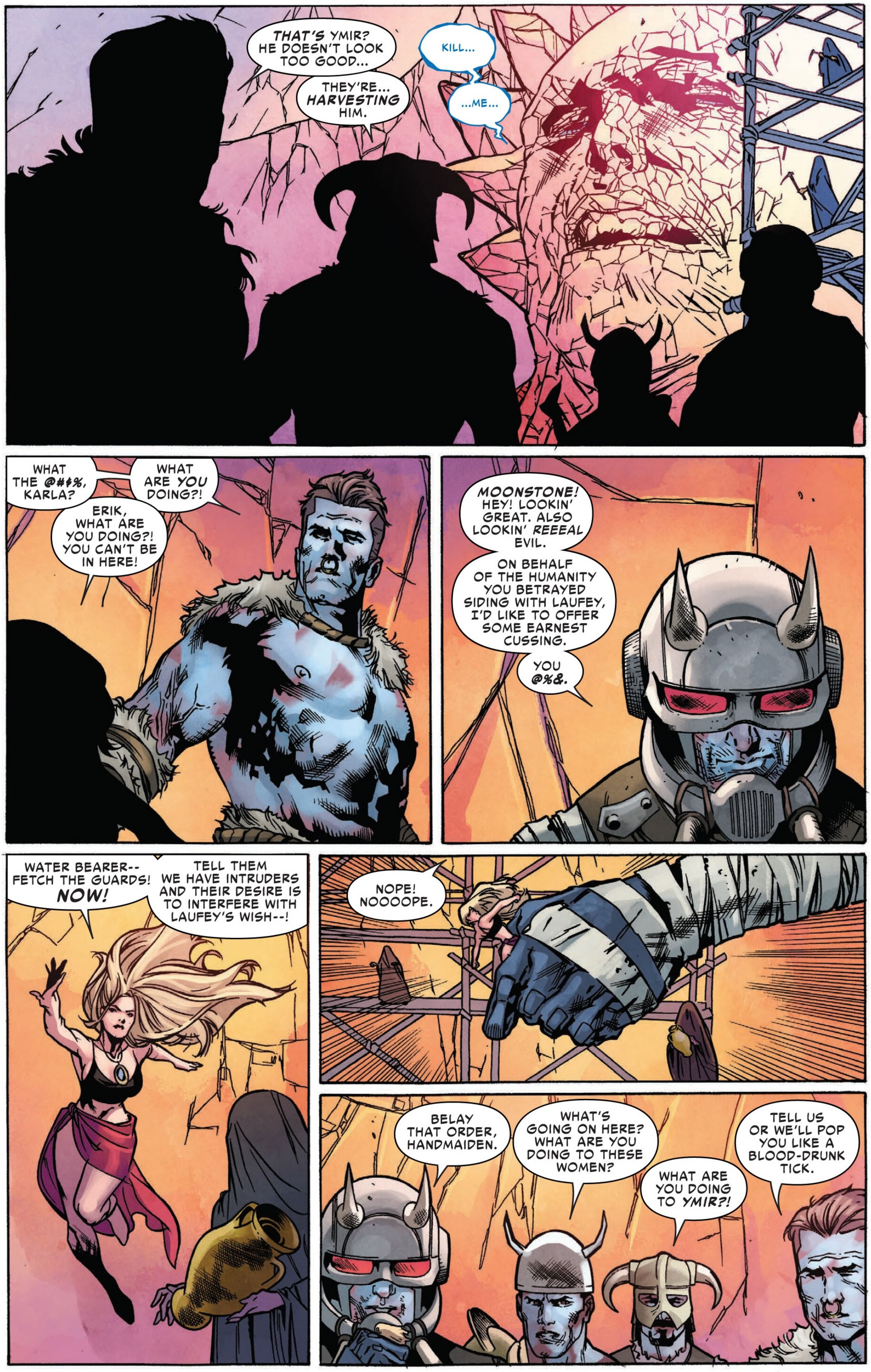

IS IT HOT IN HERE, OR IS IT JUST ME?
I-IT'S-- YES, YOU ARE--BUT IT *IS* ACTUALLY GETTING HOTTER.

÷GASP÷
W... WATER...
THAT'S... THAT'S WHY THEY NEED *US*.

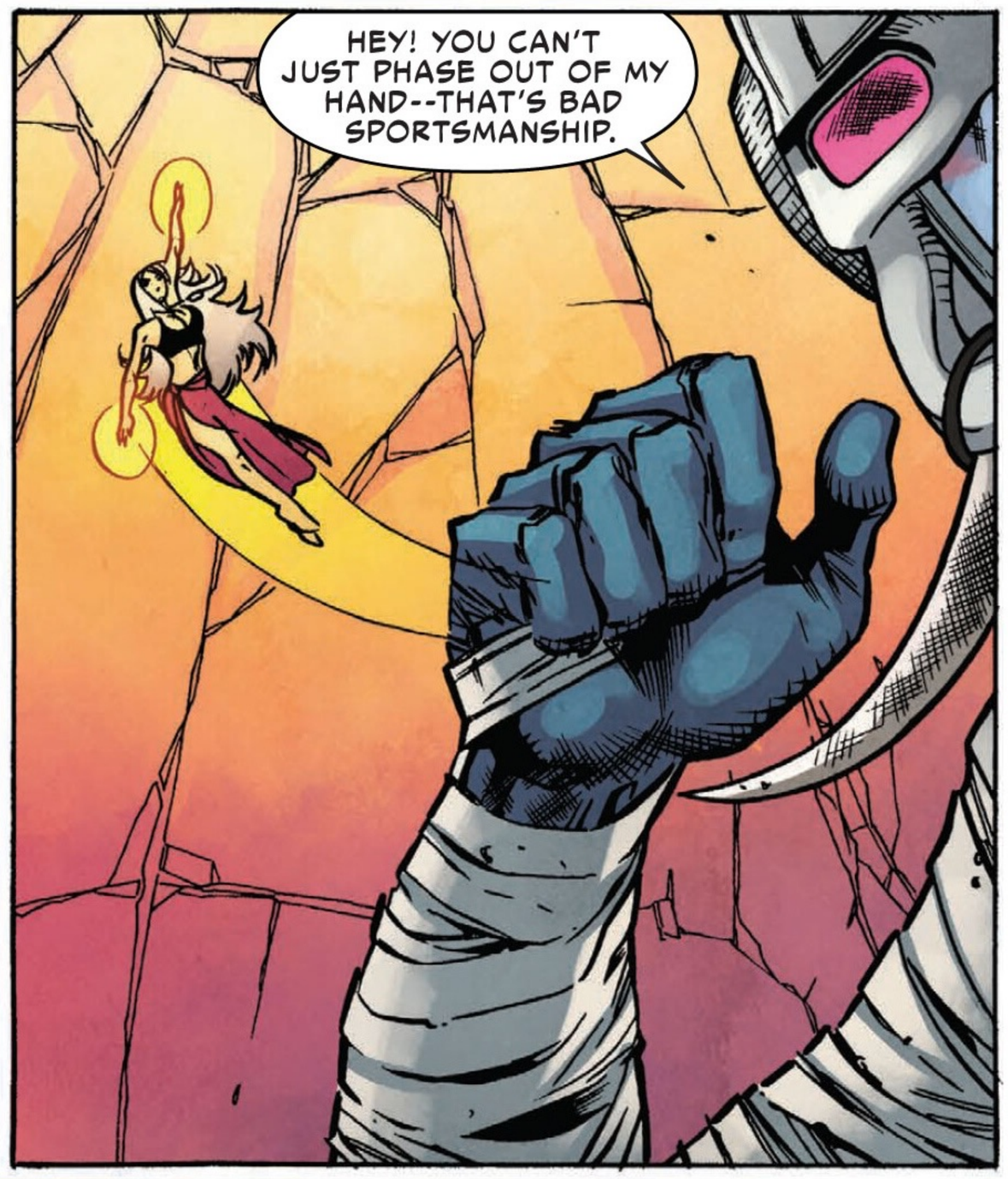
PICK IT UP.


AND BE DELICATE!
EACH PIECE YOU CUT FROM YMIR WILL GROW TO BE A PROUD SOLDIER FOR KING LAUFEY'S ARMY!
STOP DAWDLING! WE HAVE WORK TO DO.

HRKK-- GUHHH

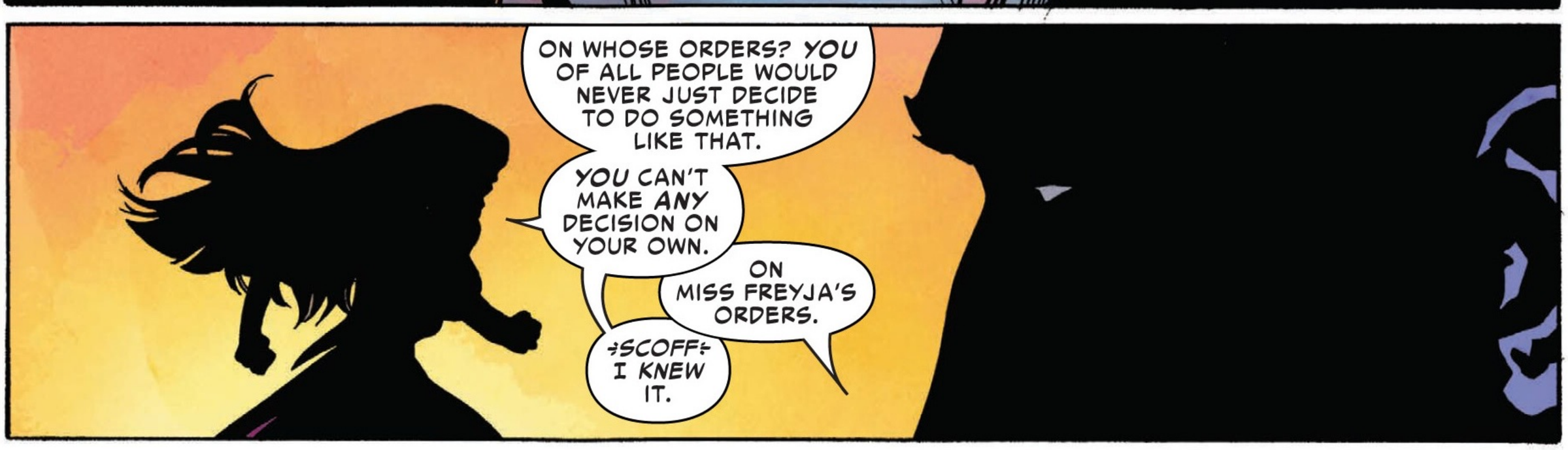

THAT'S YMIR? HE DOESN'T LOOK TOO GOOD...
THEY'RE... HARVESTING HIM.
KILL...
...ME...
WHAT THE @#$%, KARLA?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
ERIK, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?! YOU CAN'T BE IN HERE!
MOONSTONE! HEY! LOOKIN' GREAT. ALSO LOOKIN' REEEAL EVIL.
ON BEHALF OF THE HUMANITY YOU BETRAYED SIDING WITH LAUFEY, I'D LIKE TO OFFER SOME EARNEST CUSSING.
YOU @%&.
WATER BEARER-- FETCH THE GUARDS! NOW!
TELL THEM WE HAVE INTRUDERS AND THEIR DESIRE IS TO INTERFERE WITH LAUFEY'S WISH--!
NOPE! NOOOOPE.
BELAY THAT ORDER, HANDMAIDEN.
WHAT'S GOING ON HERE? WHAT ARE YOU DOING TO THESE WOMEN?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING TO YMIR?!
TELL US OR WE'LL POP YOU LIKE A BLOOD-DRUNK TICK.

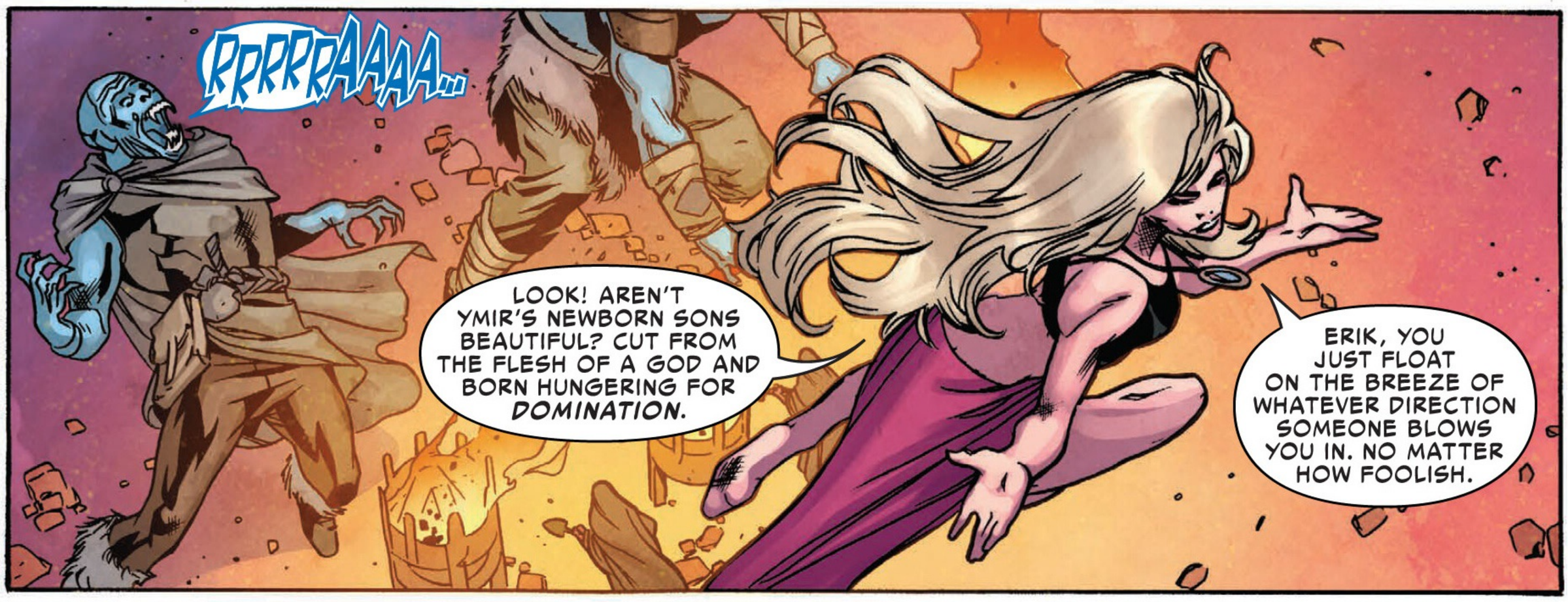
YOU FIRST.
OR WHAT, EVIL TINKER BELL?

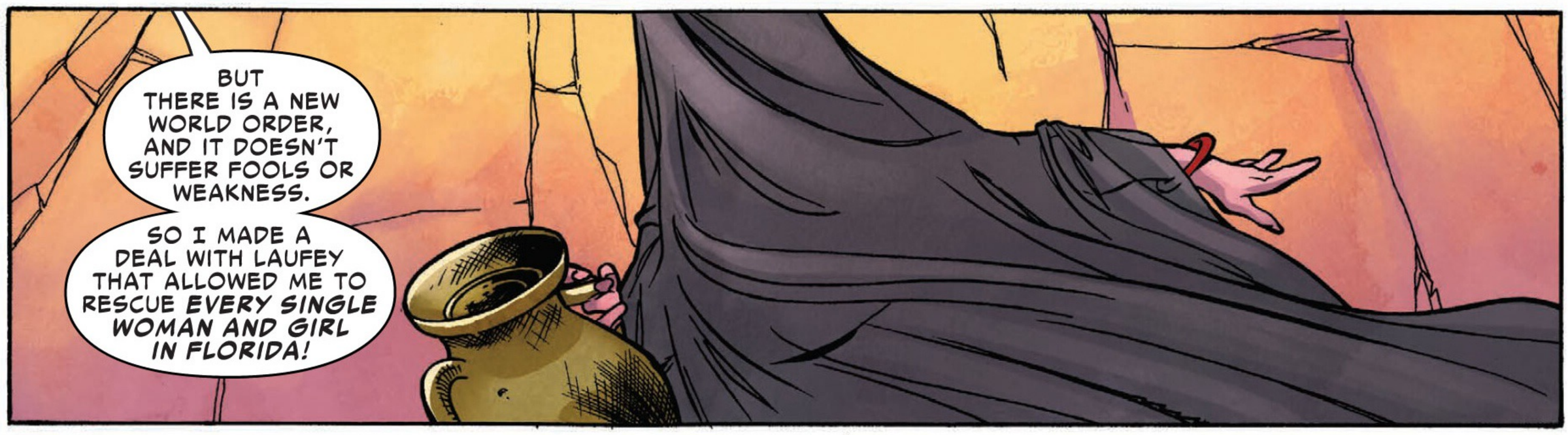

HEY! YOU CAN'T JUST PHASE OUT OF MY HAND--THAT'S BAD SPORTSMANSHIP.

SK-PAM!
YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE COME HERE!
KARLA.

ERIK HAD A HISTORY WITH KARLA. THEY FIRST WORKED TOGETHER AS THUNDERBOLTS AND LATER THEY BOTH DEFECTED TO THE MASTERS OF EVIL.
LAUFEY ATE LOKI, SO WE CAME HERE TO KILL YMIR.


ON WHOSE ORDERS? YOU OF ALL PEOPLE WOULD NEVER JUST DECIDE TO DO SOMETHING LIKE THAT.
YOU CAN'T MAKE ANY DECISION ON YOUR OWN.
ON MISS FREYJA'S ORDERS.
÷SCOFF÷ I KNEW IT.

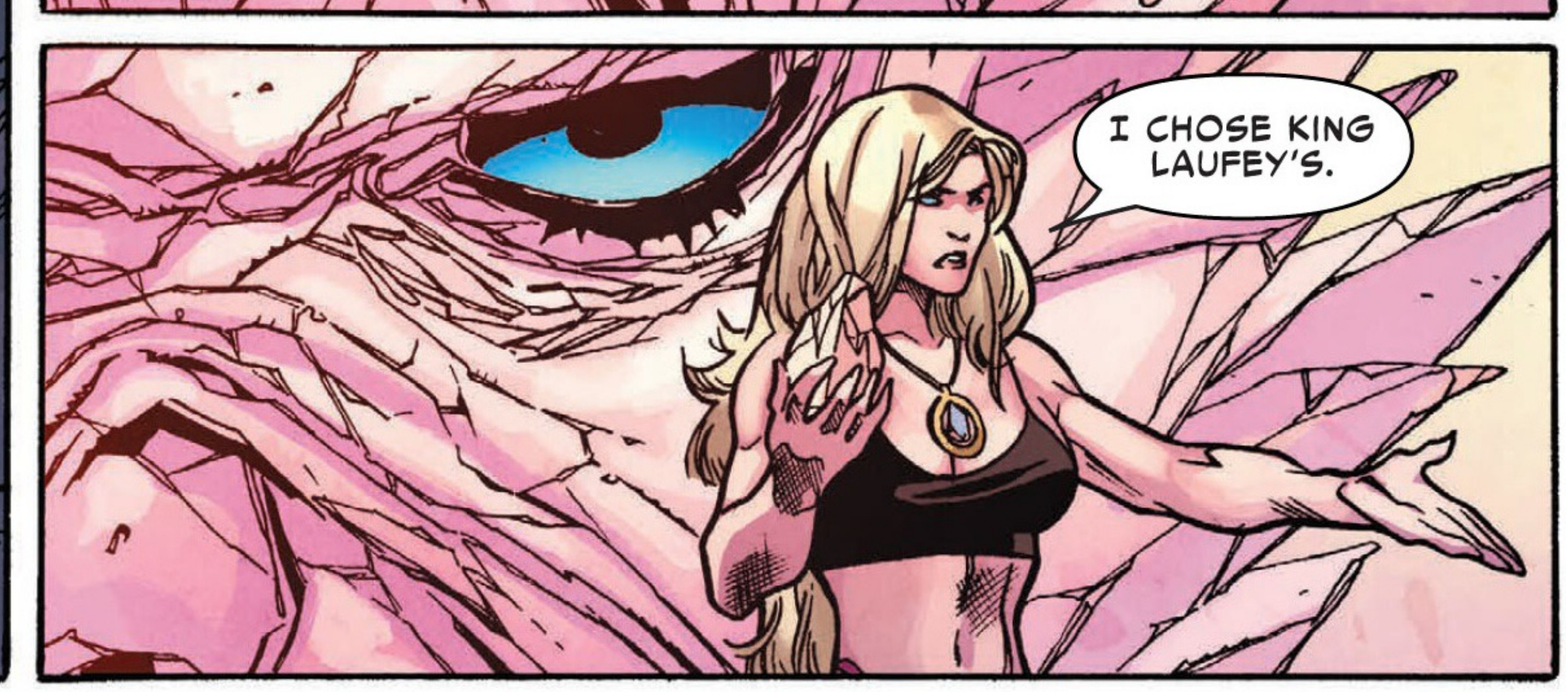

RRRRRAAAA...
LOOK! AREN'T YMIR'S NEWBORN SONS BEAUTIFUL? CUT FROM THE FLESH OF A GOD AND BORN HUNGERING FOR *DOMINATION.*
ERIK, YOU JUST FLOAT ON THE BREEZE OF WHATEVER DIRECTION SOMEONE BLOWS YOU IN. NO MATTER HOW FOOLISH.

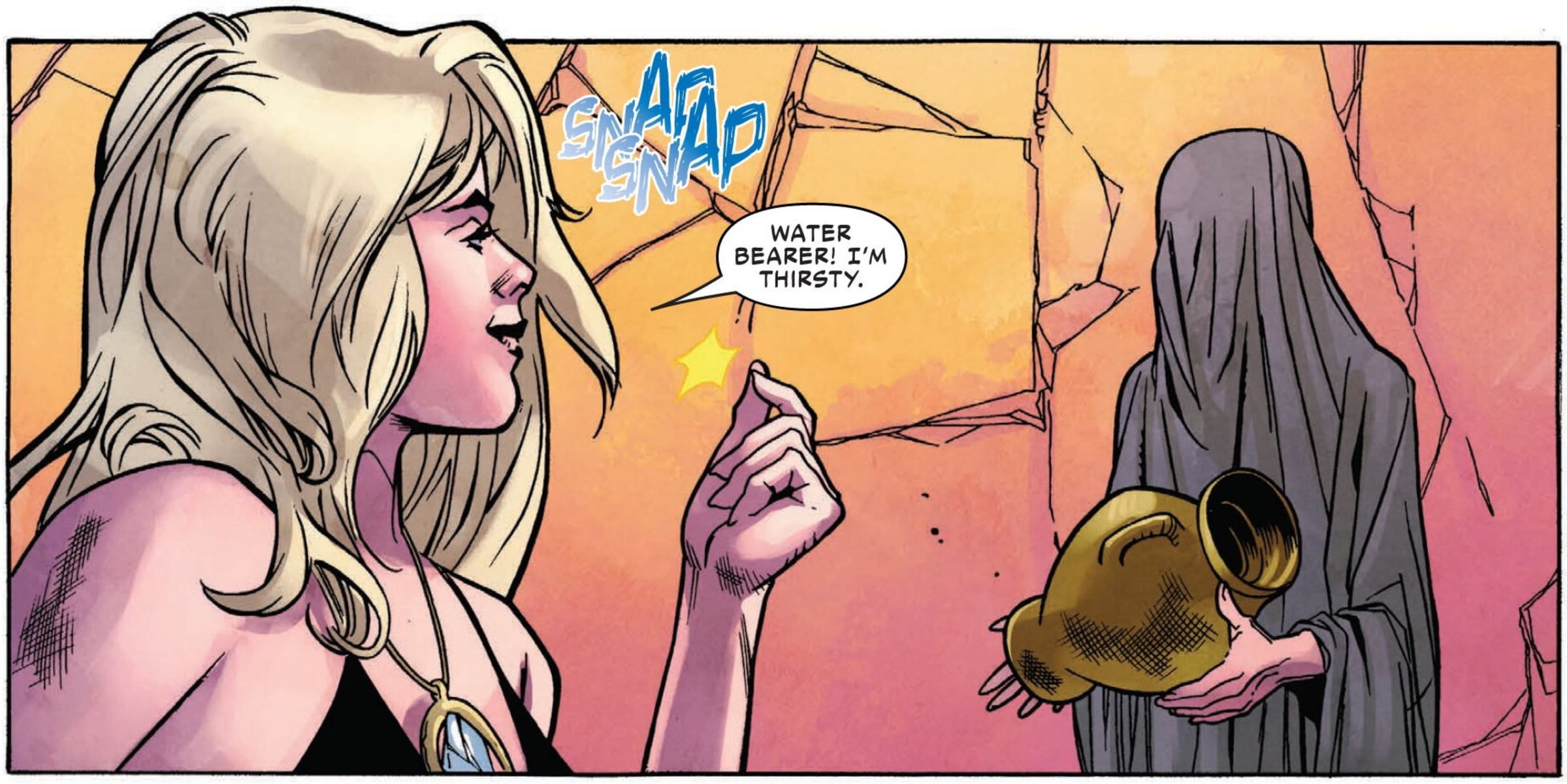

BUT THERE IS A NEW WORLD ORDER, AND IT DOESN'T SUFFER FOOLS OR WEAKNESS.
SO I MADE A DEAL WITH LAUFEY THAT ALLOWED ME TO RESCUE *EVERY SINGLE WOMAN AND GIRL IN FLORIDA!*

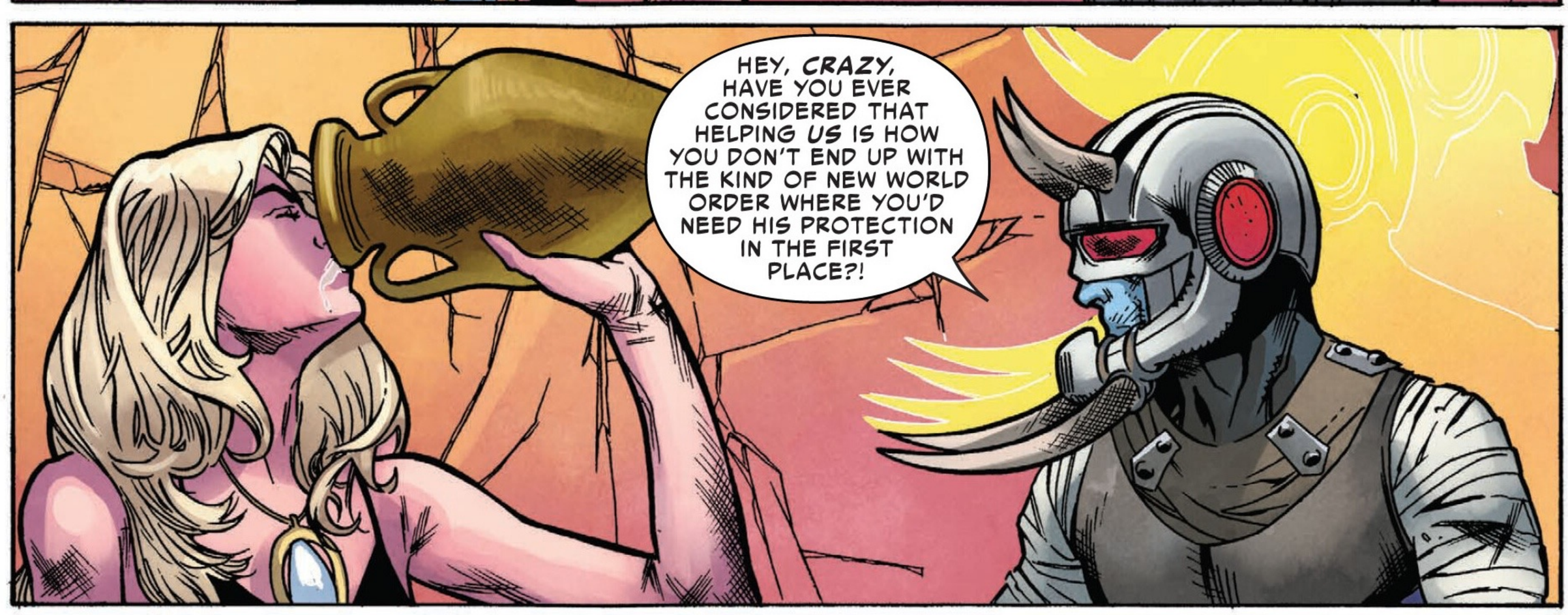
CLAP CLAP
GET BACK TO WORK!

ALL WE HAVE TO DO IN EXCHANGE FOR SAFETY IN THE NEW WORLD ORDER IS ASSIST WITH THE MIRACLE OF BIRTH.

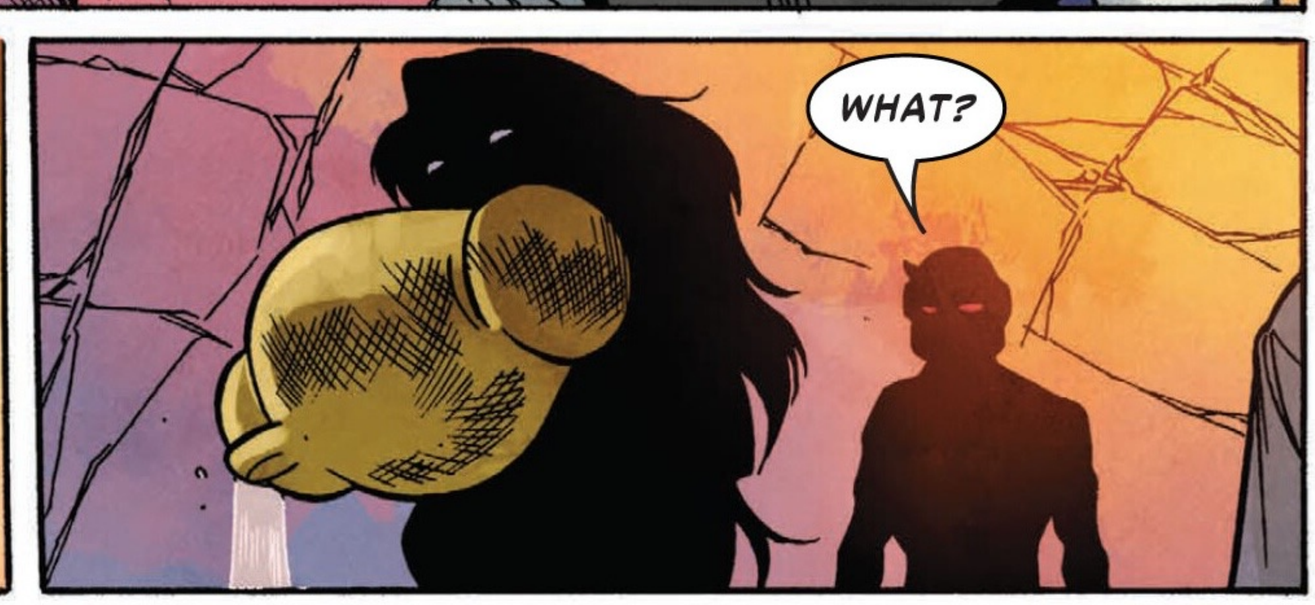
YOU CHOSE THE LOSING SIDE, ERIK.

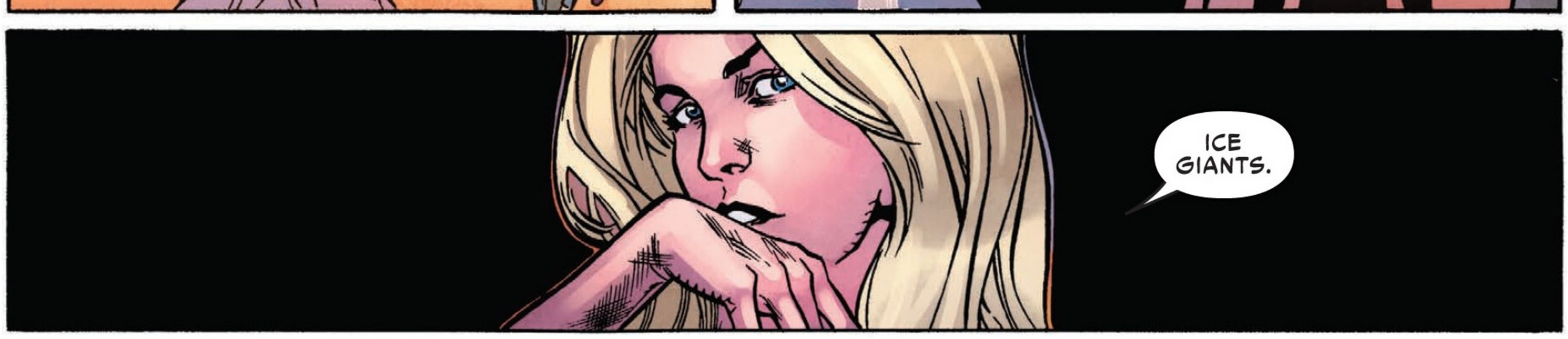

I CHOSE KING LAUFEY'S.


SNAP SNAP
WATER BEARER! I'M THIRSTY.

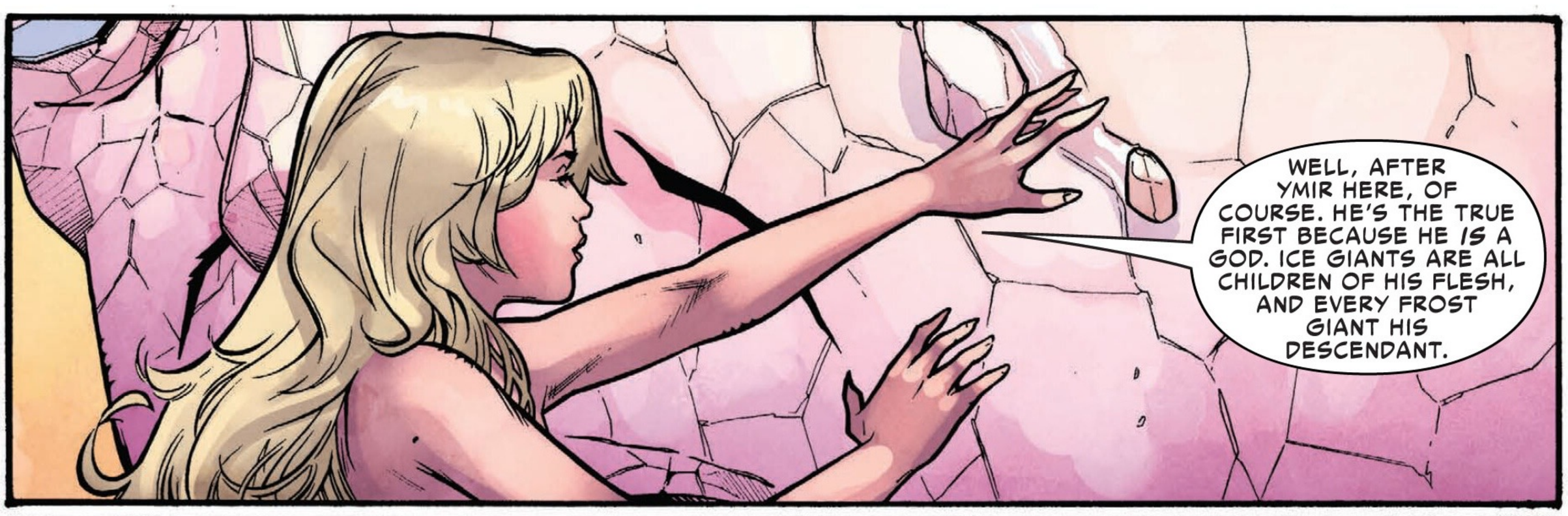

HEY, *CRAZY*, HAVE YOU EVER CONSIDERED THAT HELPING *US* IS HOW YOU DON'T END UP WITH THE KIND OF NEW WORLD ORDER WHERE YOU'D NEED HIS PROTECTION IN THE FIRST PLACE?!

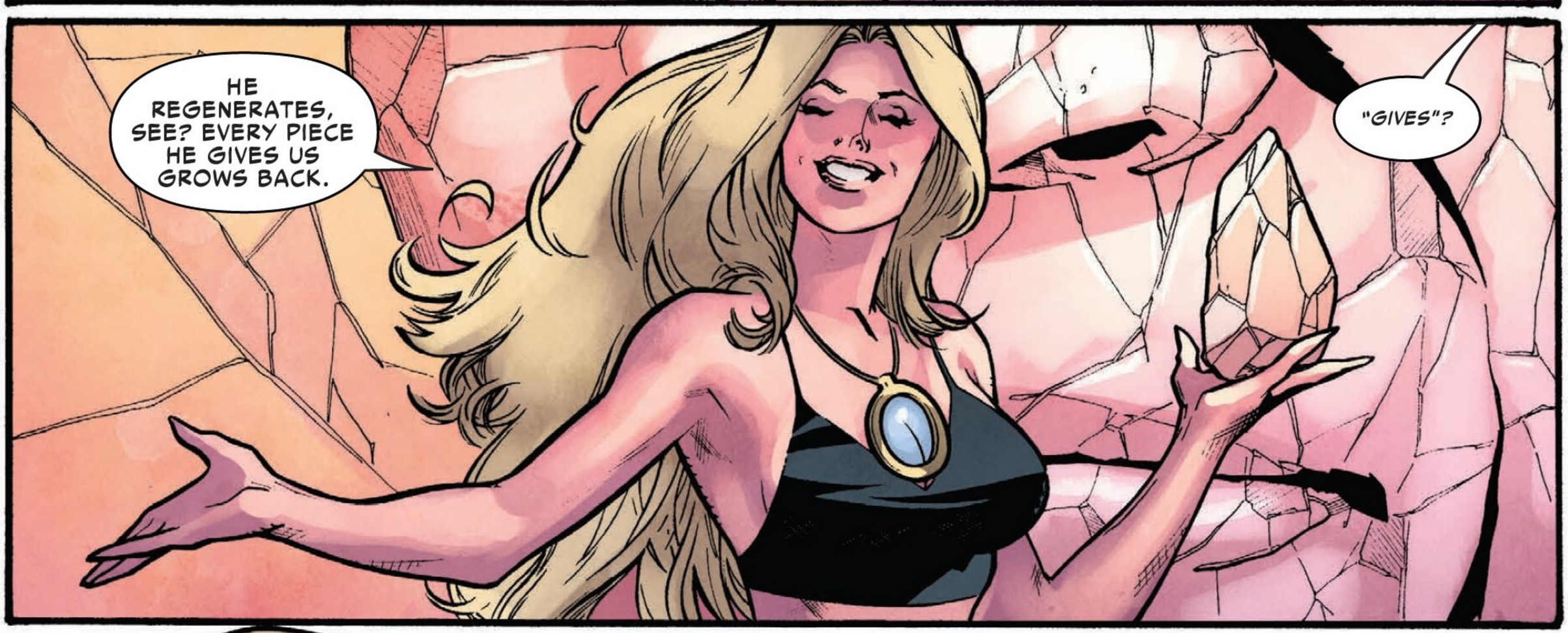
HERE, GIRL, THERE'S A LITTLE WATER LEFT. DO YOU WANT IT?
LOOK AT YOU! YOU'RE HELPING BUILD AN ARMY OF PRIMAL FROST GIANTS--
ICE GIANTS.


WHAT?

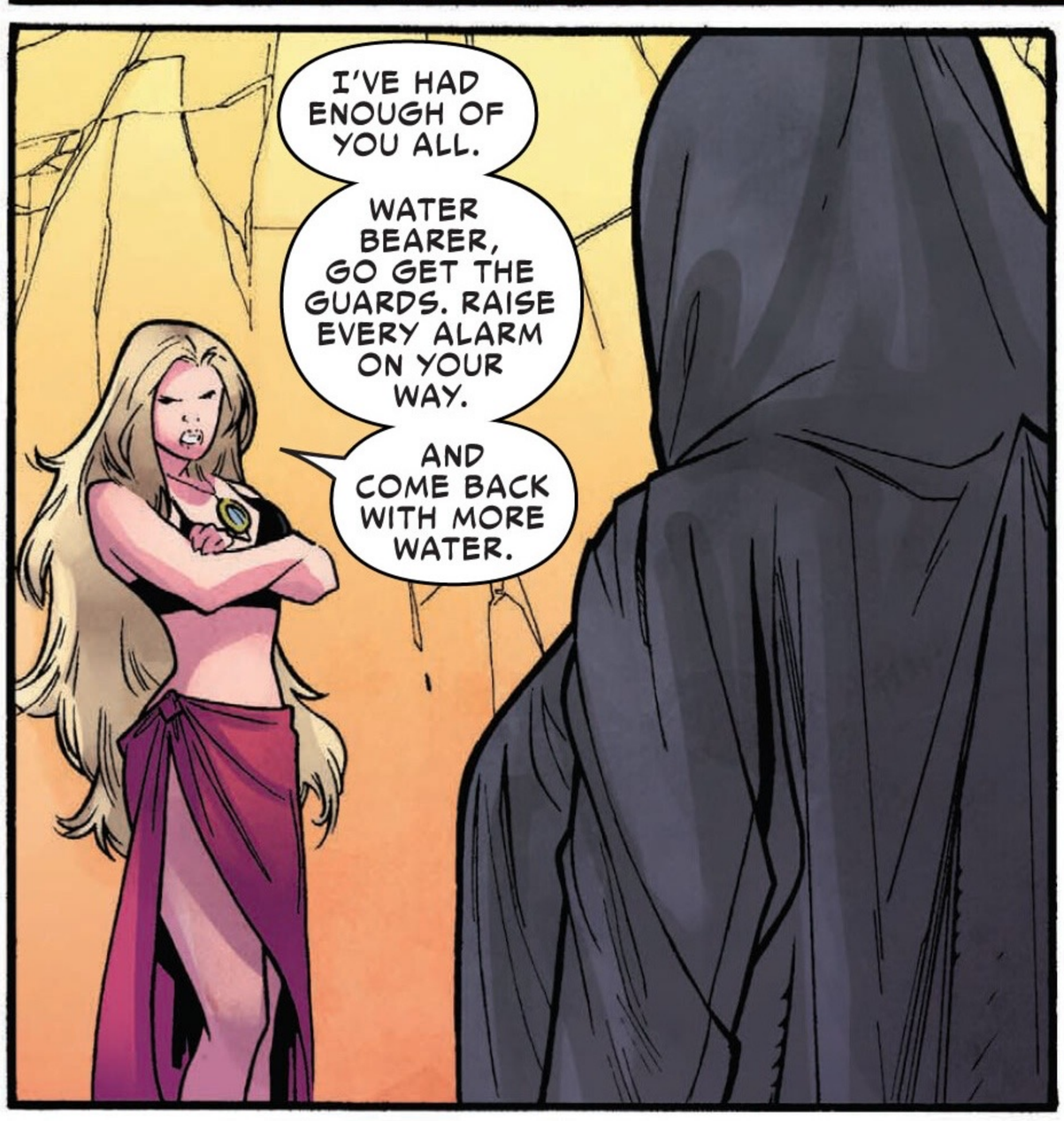

ICE GIANTS.

THEY AREN'T "*PRIMAL FROST GIANTS*"--THEY'RE *ICE GIANTS.* THEY'RE PART GOD, THEY'RE INFINITELY MORE POWERFUL, AND *THEY CAME FIRST.*

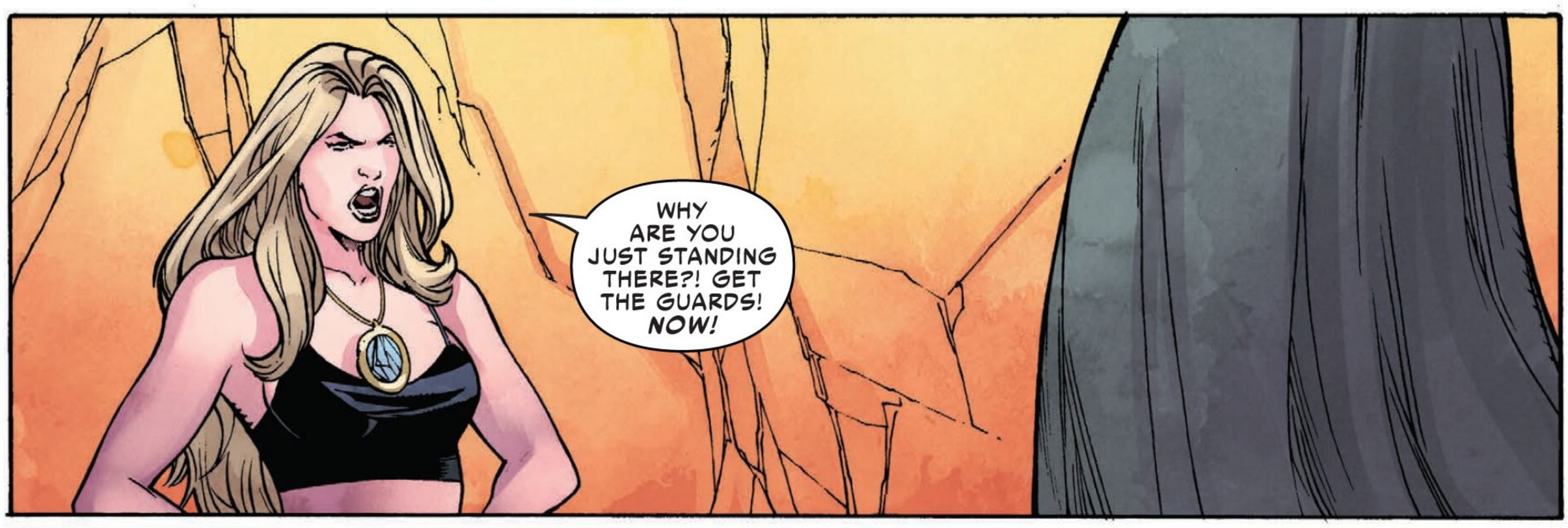

WELL, AFTER YMIR HERE, OF COURSE. HE'S THE TRUE FIRST BECAUSE HE *IS* A GOD. ICE GIANTS ARE ALL CHILDREN OF HIS FLESH, AND EVERY FROST GIANT HIS DESCENDANT.


HE REGENERATES, SEE? EVERY PIECE HE GIVES US GROWS BACK.
"GIVES"?

SORRY, *WHAT?* WHAT WAS THAT, HONEY?
YOU'LL HAVE TO SPEAK UP. I CAN'T UNDERSTAND YOUR QUIET MUMBLING.
I SAID--
NO, SWEETIE, THAT WAS SARCASM. I DON'T *ACTUALLY* CARE.


I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF YOU ALL.
WATER BEARER, GO GET THE GUARDS. RAISE EVERY ALARM ON YOUR WAY.
AND COME BACK WITH MORE WATER.

WELL? WHAT ARE YOU *WAITING* FOR? *GO!*


WHY ARE YOU JUST STANDING THERE?! GET THE GUARDS! NOW!

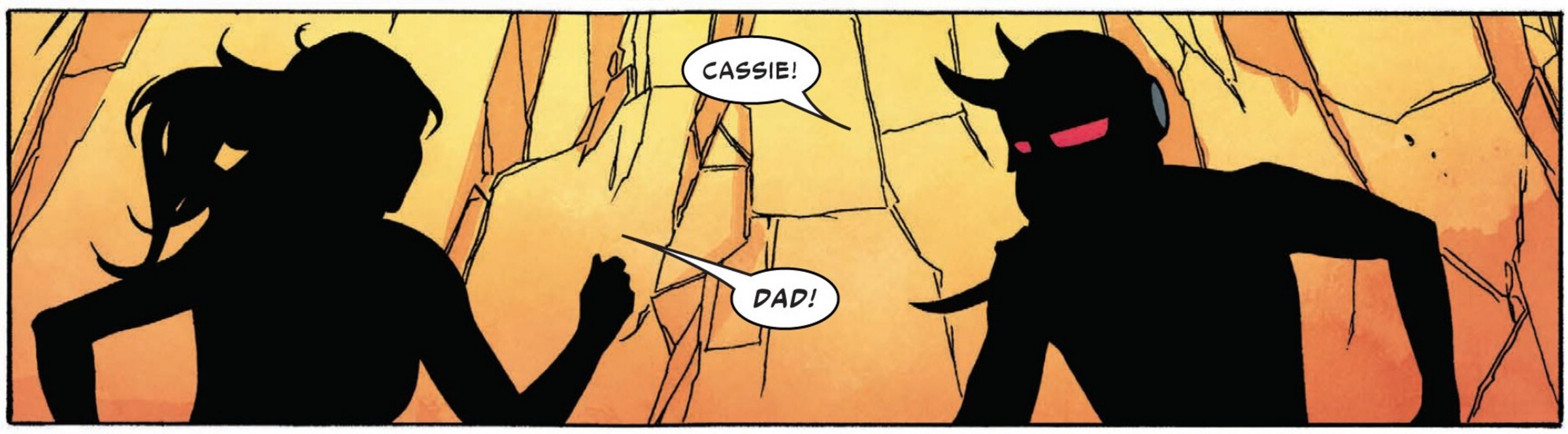
I SAID...
GET.
THE GUARDS.

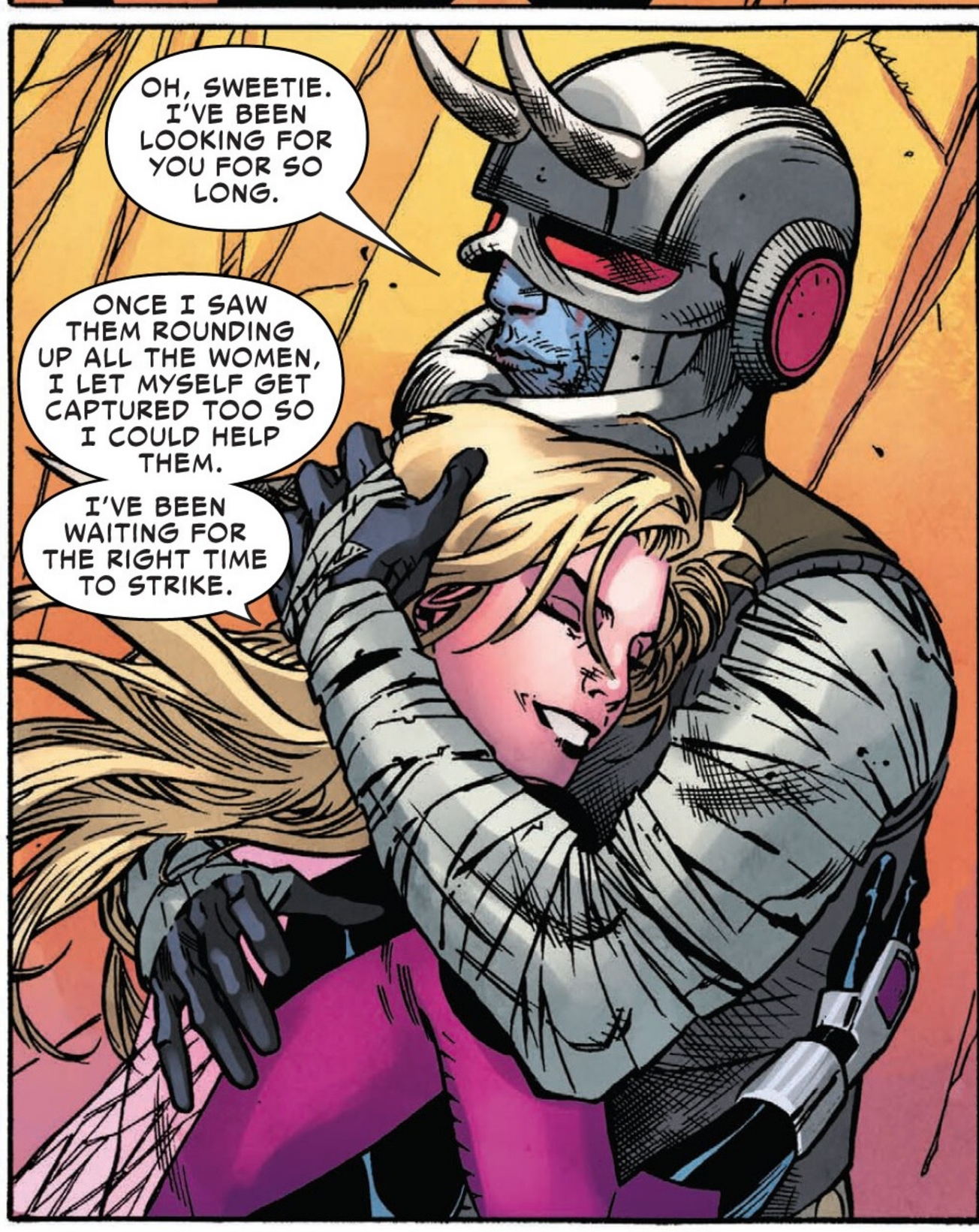
N--
NOW!

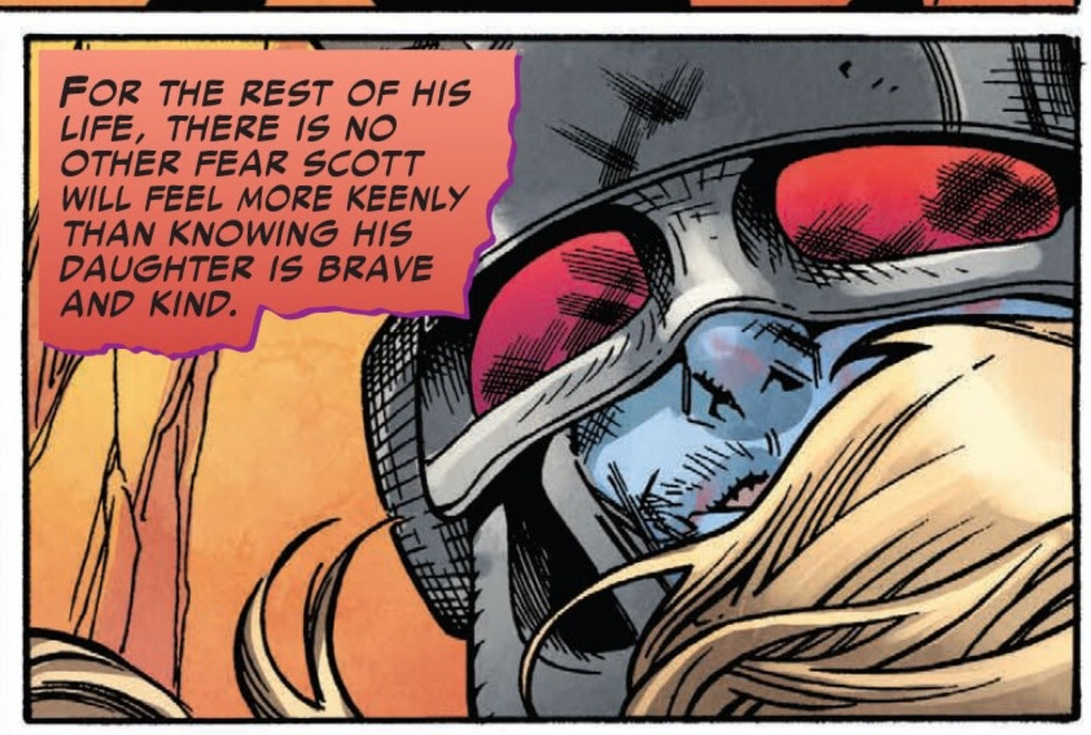
EVERYBODY GET OUT WHILE I'VE GOT HER OCCUPIED!

GIRLS, USE THE PASSAGE WE TAKE TO GET TO THE OUTHOUSES-- IT'S TOO SMALL FOR THE GUARDS TO FOLLOW YOU IN THERE!
TAKE YOUR ICE PICKS--YOU CAN HACK YOUR WAY OUT THE BACK!

GO! RUN!
THAT'S MY GIRL.


CASSIE!
DAD!


OH, SWEETIE. I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR YOU FOR SO LONG.
ONCE I SAW THEM ROUNDING UP ALL THE WOMEN, I LET MYSELF GET CAPTURED TOO SO I COULD HELP THEM.
I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR THE RIGHT TIME TO STRIKE.

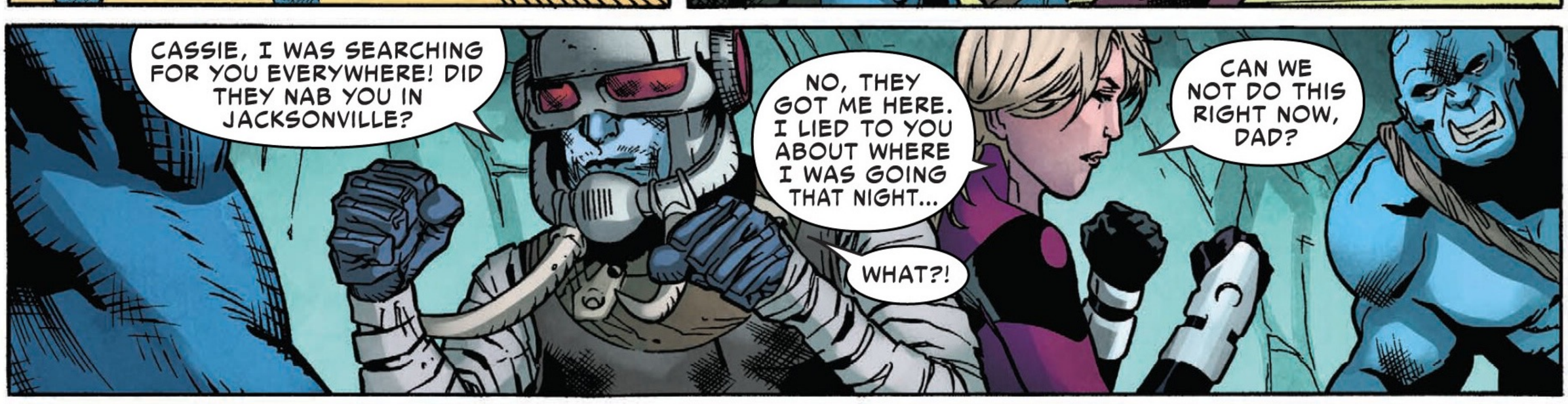

FOR THE REST OF HIS LIFE, THERE IS NO OTHER FEAR SCOTT WILL FEEL MORE KEENLY THAN KNOWING HIS DAUGHTER IS BRAVE AND KIND.

WHOOOOOOSH

GRAGGGGH!
CAN'T WAIT FOR YOU TO UNDERSTAND THE MISTAKE YOU JUST MADE.
CHILDREN OF YMIR!
PROTECT YOUR SACRED FATHER!

ARRGH!

THWACK


CASSIE, I WAS SEARCHING FOR YOU EVERYWHERE! DID THEY NAB YOU IN JACKSONVILLE?
NO, THEY GOT ME HERE. I LIED TO YOU ABOUT WHERE I WAS GOING THAT NIGHT...
WHAT?!
CAN WE NOT DO THIS RIGHT NOW, DAD?

HA HA HA!
KRNCH

AW, THE DUMB THUG IS GETTING MAD!

WOOSH
ERIK! THAT COULD HAVE KILLED ME!
UH... YEAH.

HOW DO WE KILL THESE THINGS?!

YOU CAN'T! NOT WITHOUT THAT TALISMAN AROUND MOONSTONE'S NECK-- IT ACTIVATES THE ENCHANTED FIRES THAT KEEP THE ICE GIANTS DORMANT!

KRAK

ON IT.

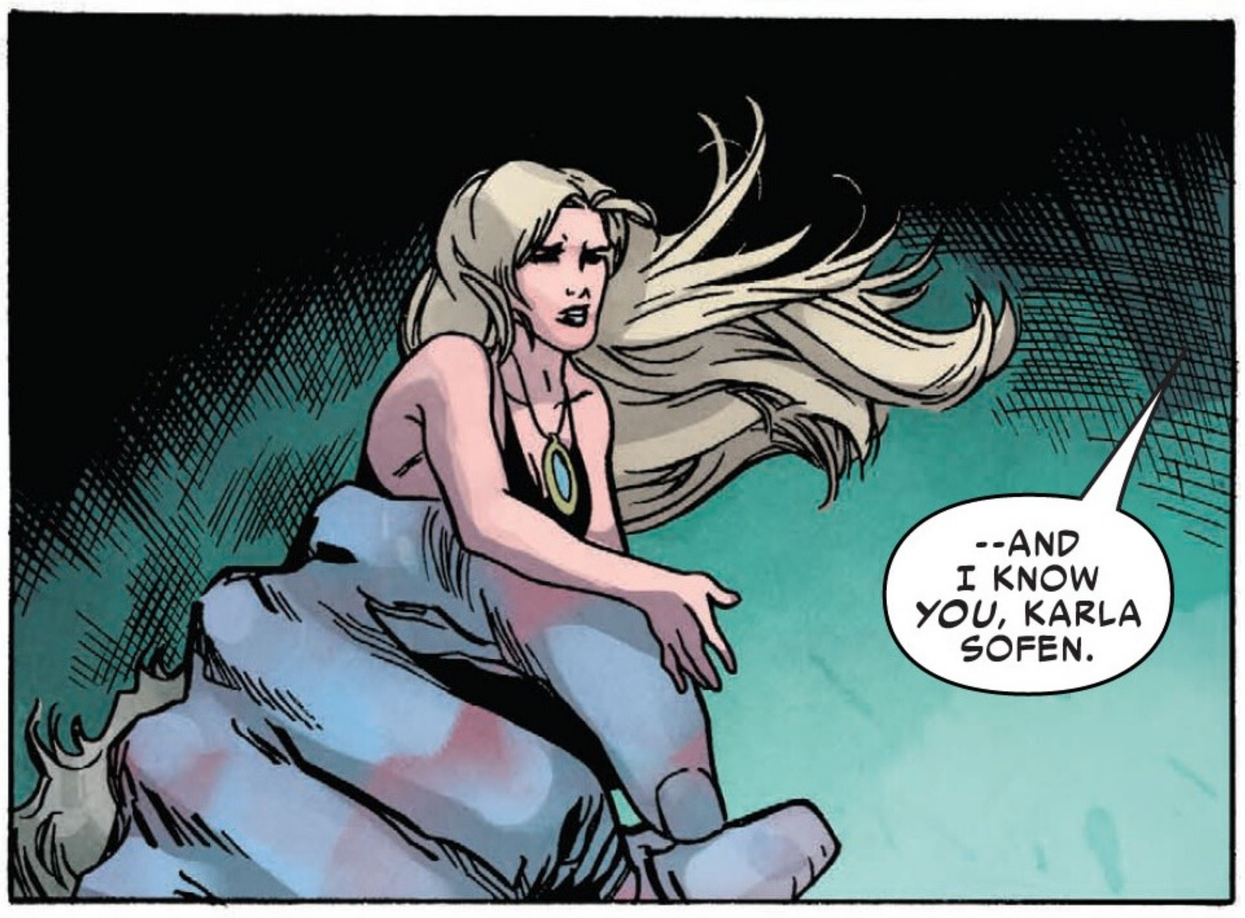
CRUNCH
OH, ERIK. SO WEAK WILLED. ALWAYS NEEDING EVERYONE ELSE TO MAKE *CHOICES* FOR YO--

NOW... *THASSA* CHOICE...
+GLUG+ +GLUG+

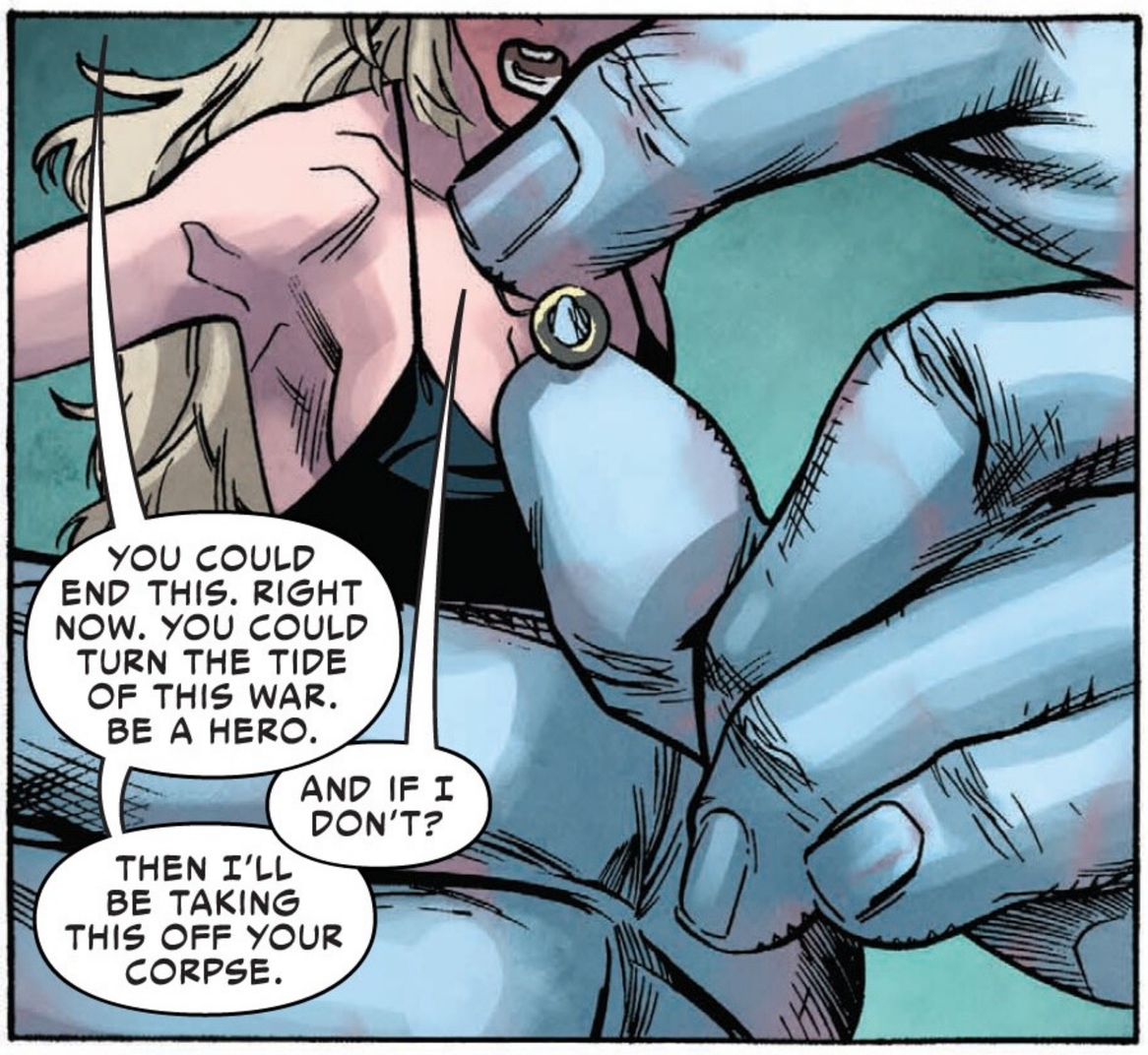
SK-PAM

ALL DAY, SWEETHEART. ALL DAY.
LET ME *GO*, YOU OVERGROWN *IDIOT!*
IF YOU WANTED ME TO, YOU'D PHASE. YOU WANNA KNOW HOW I DIDN'T PICK THE LOSING SIDE?

BECAUSE YOU AND YOU ALONE ARE THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN END THIS--


--AND I KNOW *YOU*, KARLA SOFEN.

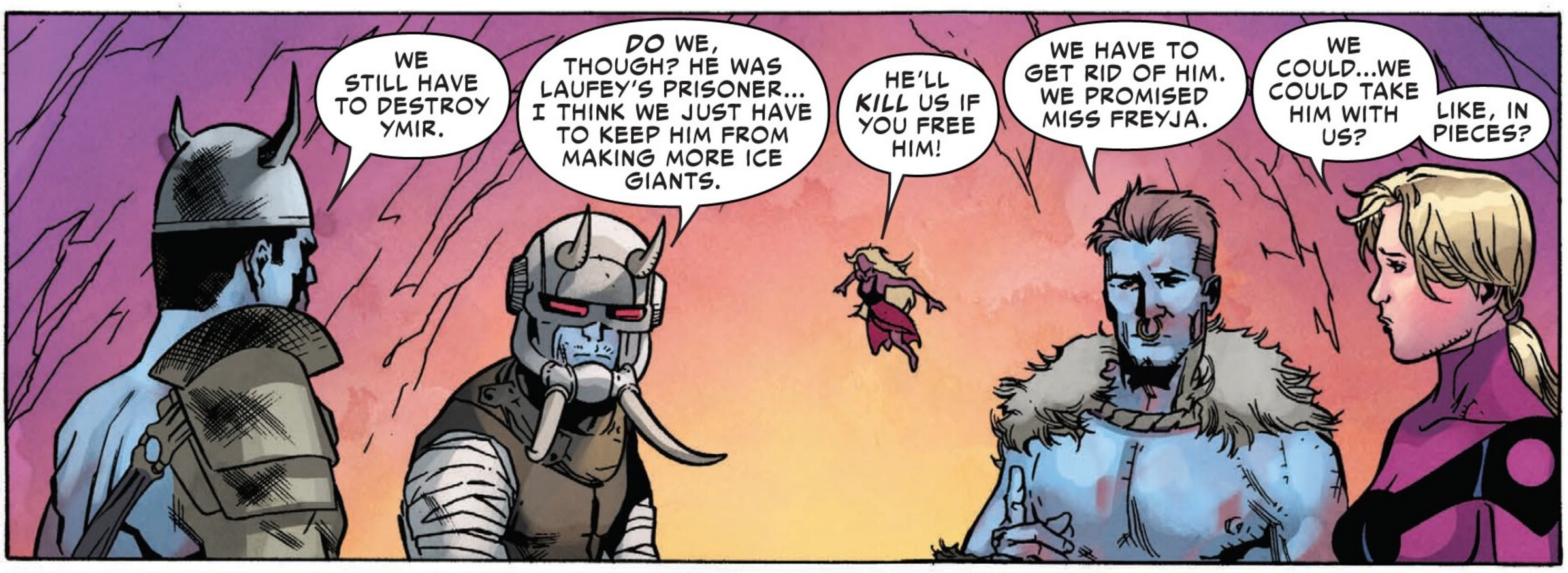
LOOK. LOOK AT WHAT YOU'VE DONE.
YOU LIKE THIS? YOU FEEL GOOD ABOUT IT?
YAARGH!
GRAH!
RAH!
OOF!

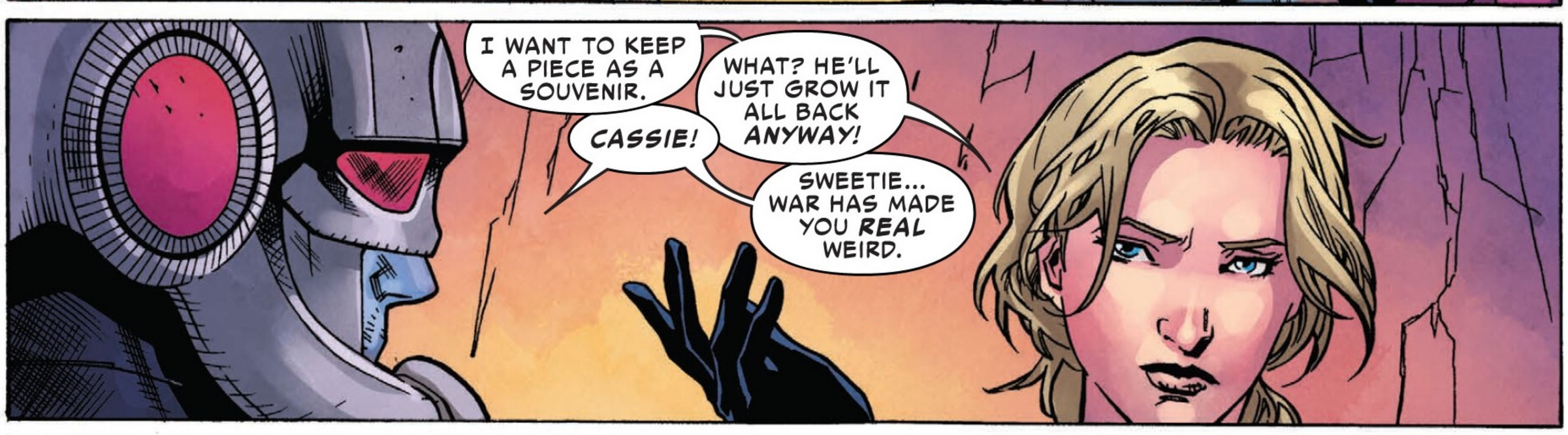

YOU COULD END THIS. RIGHT NOW. YOU COULD TURN THE TIDE OF THIS WAR. BE A HERO.
AND IF I DON'T?
THEN I'LL BE TAKING THIS OFF YOUR CORPSE.

÷SIGH÷
TWEEEEEEE

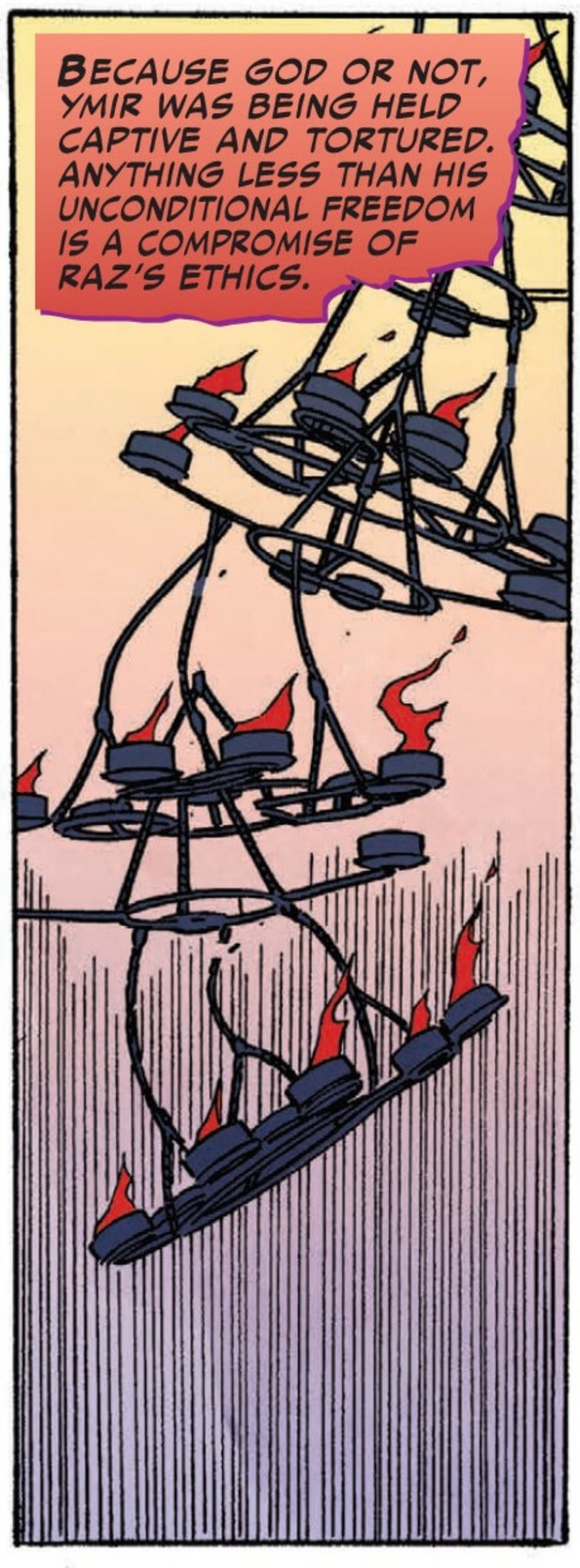
FWOOOOSH
ACCK!
GAHH!

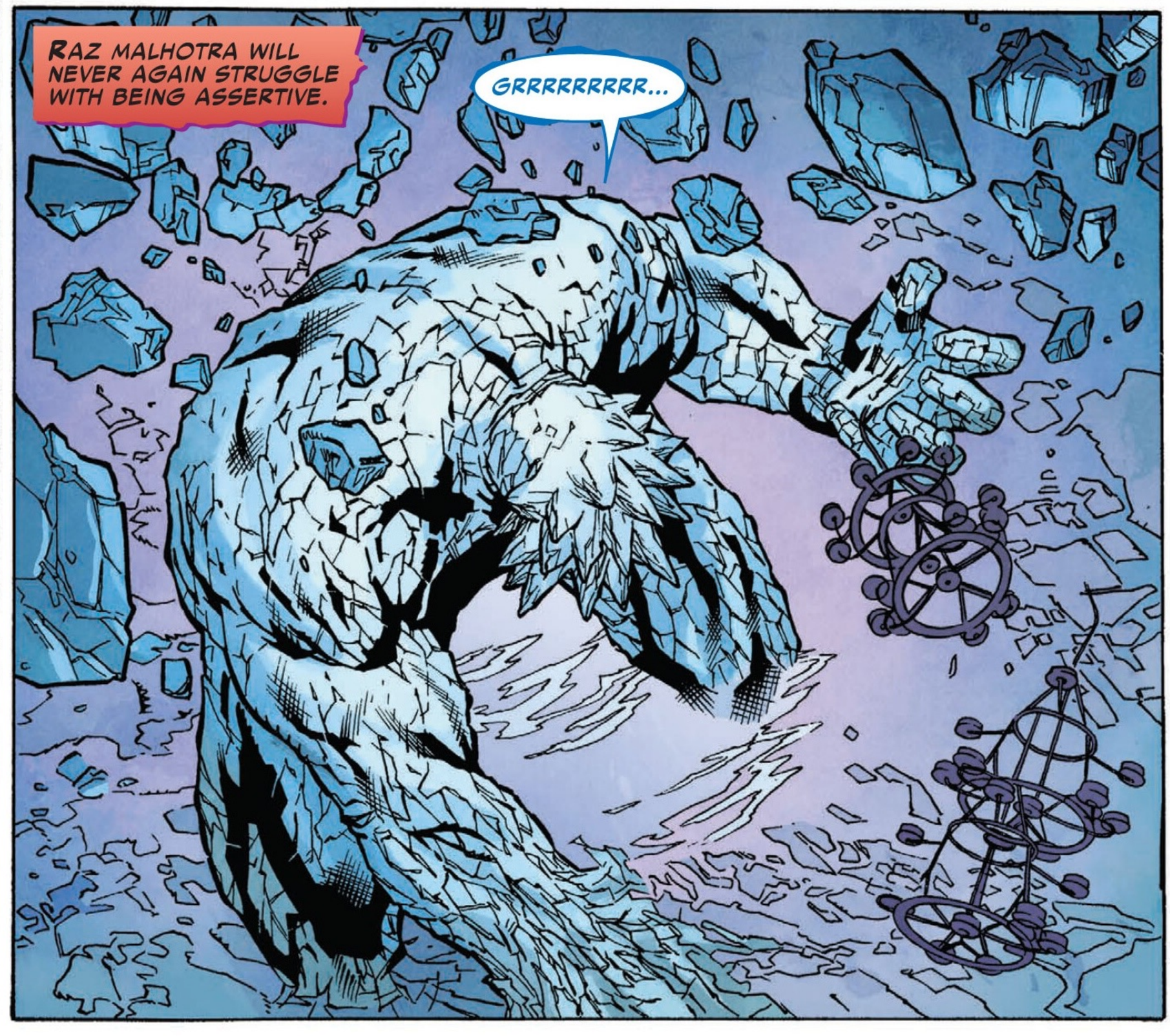
RUUUUUUMMMBLE
THEY'RE RUNNING!

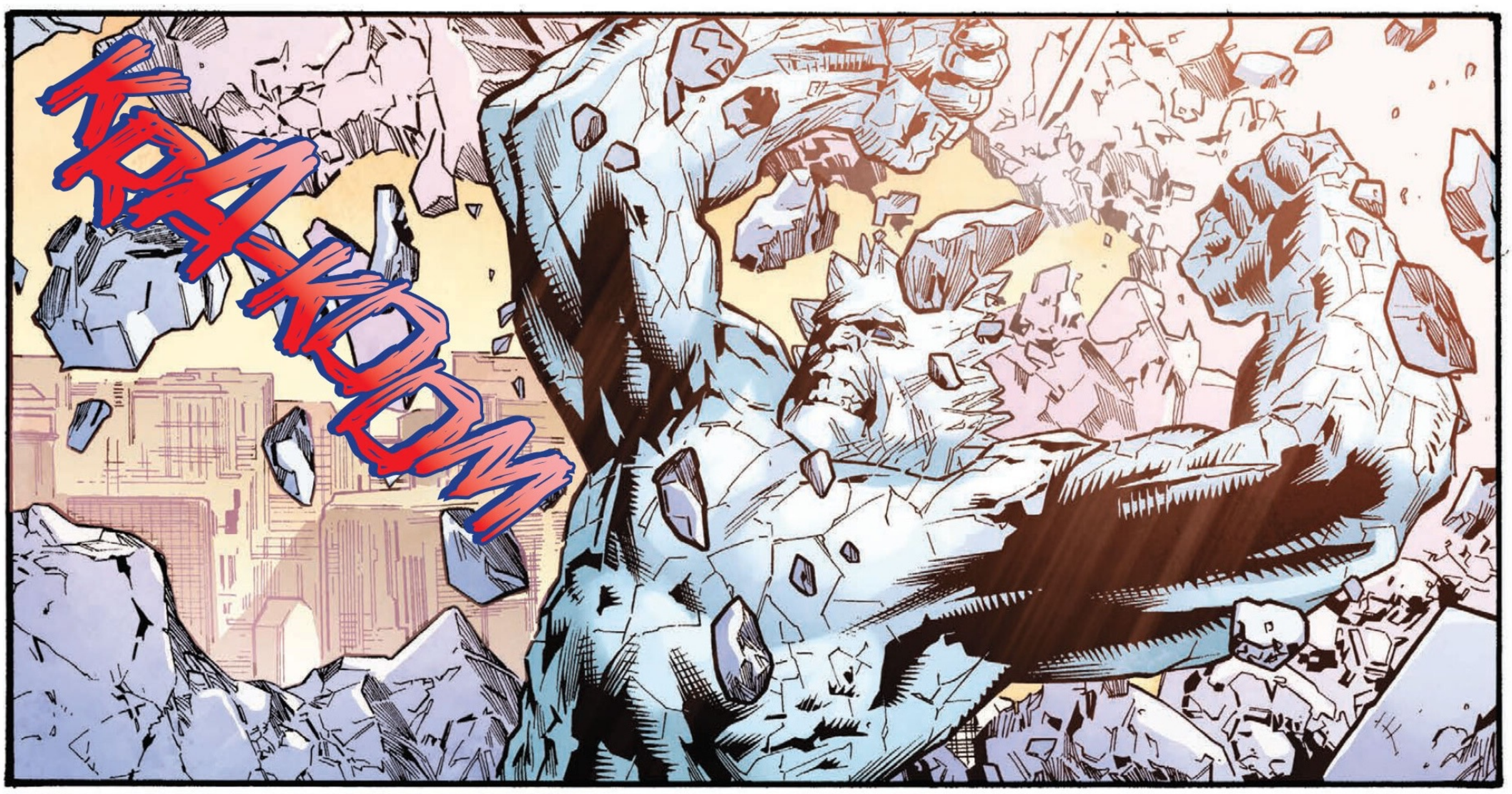

WE STILL HAVE TO DESTROY YMIR.
DO WE, THOUGH? HE WAS LAUFEY'S PRISONER... I THINK WE JUST HAVE TO KEEP HIM FROM MAKING MORE ICE GIANTS.
HE'LL KILL US IF YOU FREE HIM!
WE HAVE TO GET RID OF HIM. WE PROMISED MISS FREYJA.
WE COULD...WE COULD TAKE HIM WITH US?
LIKE, IN PIECES?

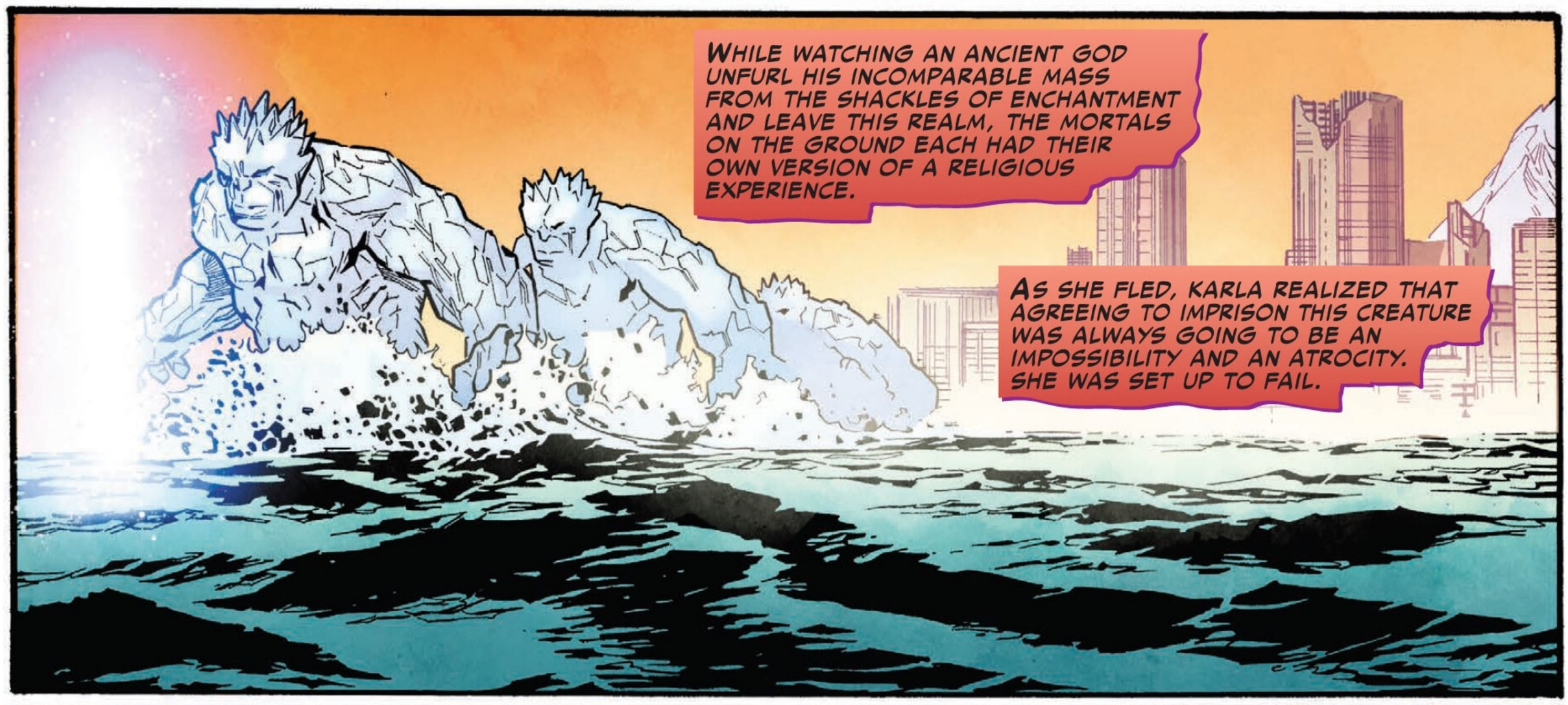

I WANT TO KEEP A PIECE AS A SOUVENIR.
CASSIE!
WHAT? HE'LL JUST GROW IT ALL BACK ANYWAY!
SWEETIE... WAR HAS MADE YOU REAL WEIRD.

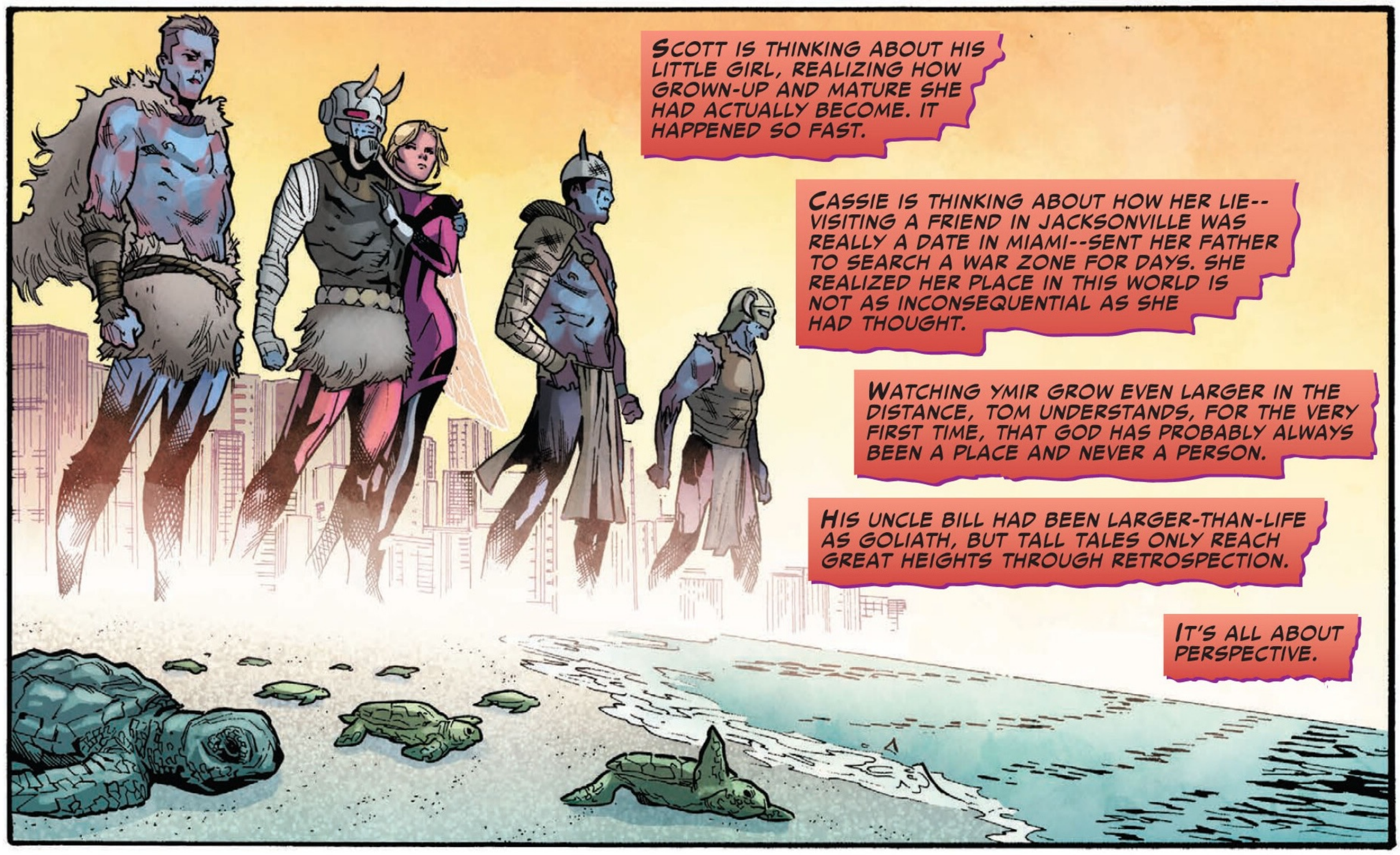
AHHHHHH!
RATHER THAN TRY TO EXPLAIN WHY THEY WERE WRONG, INSTEAD RAZ MADE AN EXECUTIVE DECISION.


BECAUSE GOD OR NOT, YMIR WAS BEING HELD CAPTIVE AND TORTURED. ANYTHING LESS THAN HIS UNCONDITIONAL FREEDOM IS A COMPROMISE OF RAZ'S ETHICS.


RAZ MALHOTRA WILL NEVER AGAIN STRUGGLE WITH BEING ASSERTIVE.
GRRRRRRRRR...


KRAKOOM


WHILE WATCHING AN ANCIENT GOD UNFURL HIS INCOMPARABLE MASS FROM THE SHACKLES OF ENCHANTMENT AND LEAVE THIS REALM, THE MORTALS ON THE GROUND EACH HAD THEIR OWN VERSION OF A RELIGIOUS EXPERIENCE.
AS SHE FLED, KARLA REALIZED THAT AGREEING TO IMPRISON THIS CREATURE WAS ALWAYS GOING TO BE AN IMPOSSIBILITY AND AN ATROCITY. SHE WAS SET UP TO FAIL.


SCOTT IS THINKING ABOUT HIS LITTLE GIRL, REALIZING HOW GROWN-UP AND MATURE SHE HAD ACTUALLY BECOME. IT HAPPENED SO FAST.
CASSIE IS THINKING ABOUT HOW HER LIE--VISITING A FRIEND IN JACKSONVILLE WAS REALLY A DATE IN MIAMI--SENT HER FATHER TO SEARCH A WAR ZONE FOR DAYS. SHE REALIZED HER PLACE IN THIS WORLD IS NOT AS INCONSEQUENTIAL AS SHE HAD THOUGHT.
WATCHING YMIR GROW EVEN LARGER IN THE DISTANCE, TOM UNDERSTANDS, FOR THE VERY FIRST TIME, THAT GOD HAS PROBABLY ALWAYS BEEN A PLACE AND NEVER A PERSON.
HIS UNCLE BILL HAD BEEN LARGER-THAN-LIFE AS GOLIATH, BUT TALL TALES ONLY REACH GREAT HEIGHTS THROUGH RETROSPECTION.
IT'S ALL ABOUT PERSPECTIVE.

WAR OF THE REALMS: JOURNEY INTO MYSTERY #1

With the Will to Protect

FZZASHH

FWOOOSH

OKAY, QUICK UPDATE--

--WE ARE STILL BEING CHASED, AND NOW THEY ARE HURLING FIRE AT US!

THOUGHT YOU MIGHT LIKE TO KNOW, KATE, IN CASE YOU WANTED TO COME BACK HERE AND ZING A FEW EXPLOSIVE ARROWS AT THEM!

GOSH, SPIDEY, I WOULD LOVE TO DO THAT--

--IF ANYBODY ELSE IN THIS GROUP KNEW HOW TO DRIVE!!!

WHERE ARE THE HOOKS?!

I THINK THIS CAR SEAT IS DEFECTIVE.

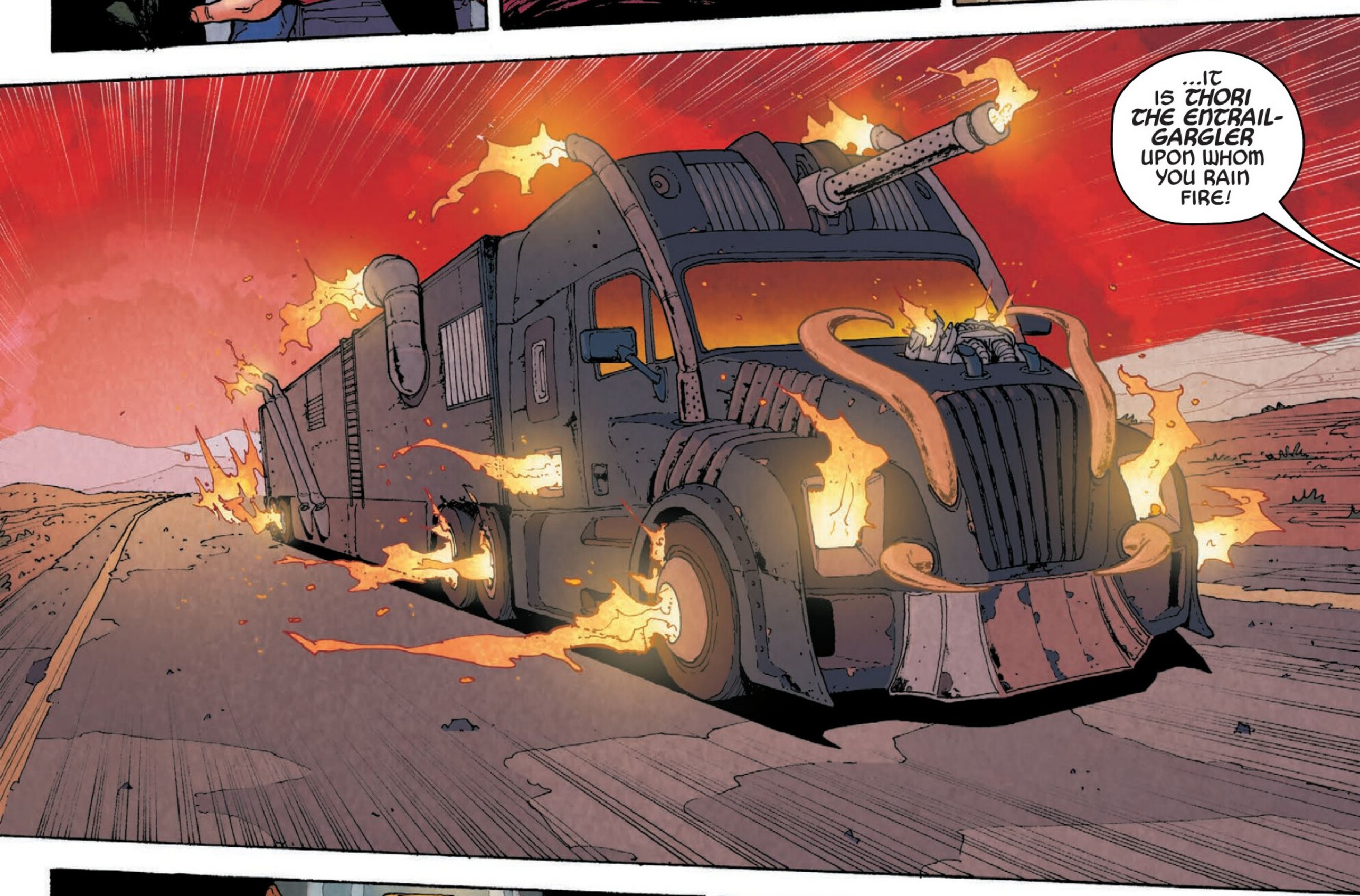
...HAVING ATTACHED HOOK-H TO THE SEAT FRAME...

WONDER MAN, I'M PRETTY SURE YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO HAVE THE BABY SEAT HOOKED UP BEFORE YOU START DODGING FIREBALLS.

LET ME DO IT, FOR THE LOVE OF GOD!

DE-DEE-DE
GODDESS! I STAND CORRECTED.

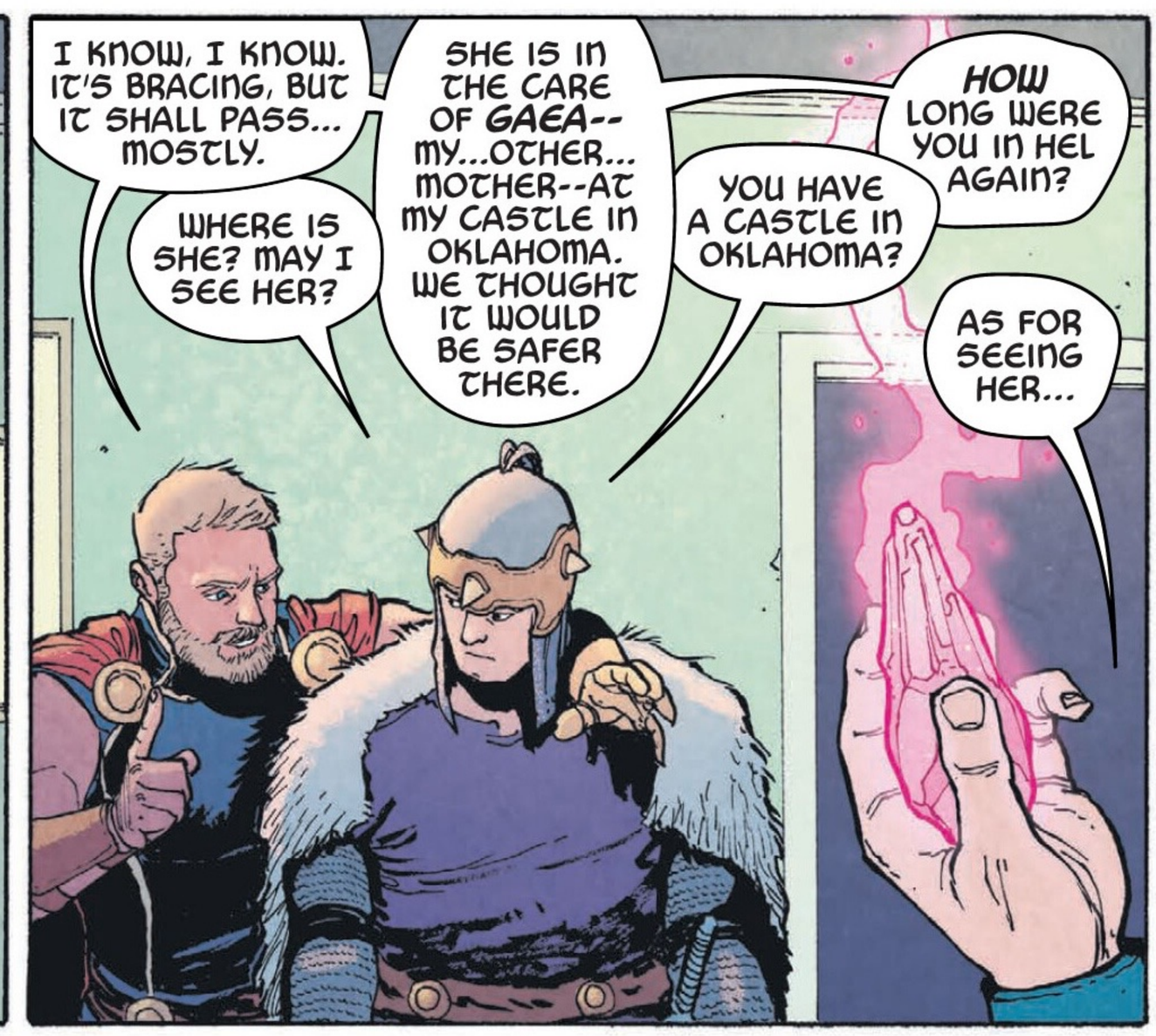
AND A GOD DOG, DEATH LOCKET!
THAT'S RIGHT, TAIL-SNIFFERS...


...IT IS THORI THE ENTRAIL-GARGLER UPON WHOM YOU RAIN FIRE!

BALDER! CAN YOU DO SOMETHING ABOUT YOUR DOG?!
HE'S ACTUALLY MY BROTHER'S DOG, LADY HAWKEYE!
WHATEVER! JUST TELL HIM TO QUIT ANTAGONIZING THE ANTAGONISTS!
SIGH

WHO THE HELL ARE THESE GUYS?
I DON'T THINK THEY ARE FROM HEL, YOUNG DRUID.
I WAS JUST THERE. I WOULD REMEMBER THEM.
WELL, YOU BETTER FIGURE IT OUT QUICK, BIG GUY--

"--'CAUSE YOU GOT US INTO THIS."
THOR HAS A BABY SISTER?!
Four weeks ago, The Bronx...
YEA, VERILY! AND IF YOU THINK IT THROUGH, BROTHER BALDER...
SHE'S MY SISTER AS WELL!
YEA, VERILY... AGAIN.



OH, LITTLE QUEEN, THESE ARE UNFORTUNATE TIMES FOR YOUR FAMILY!

ODIN MISSING...THOR EXILED...LOKI DEAD!*

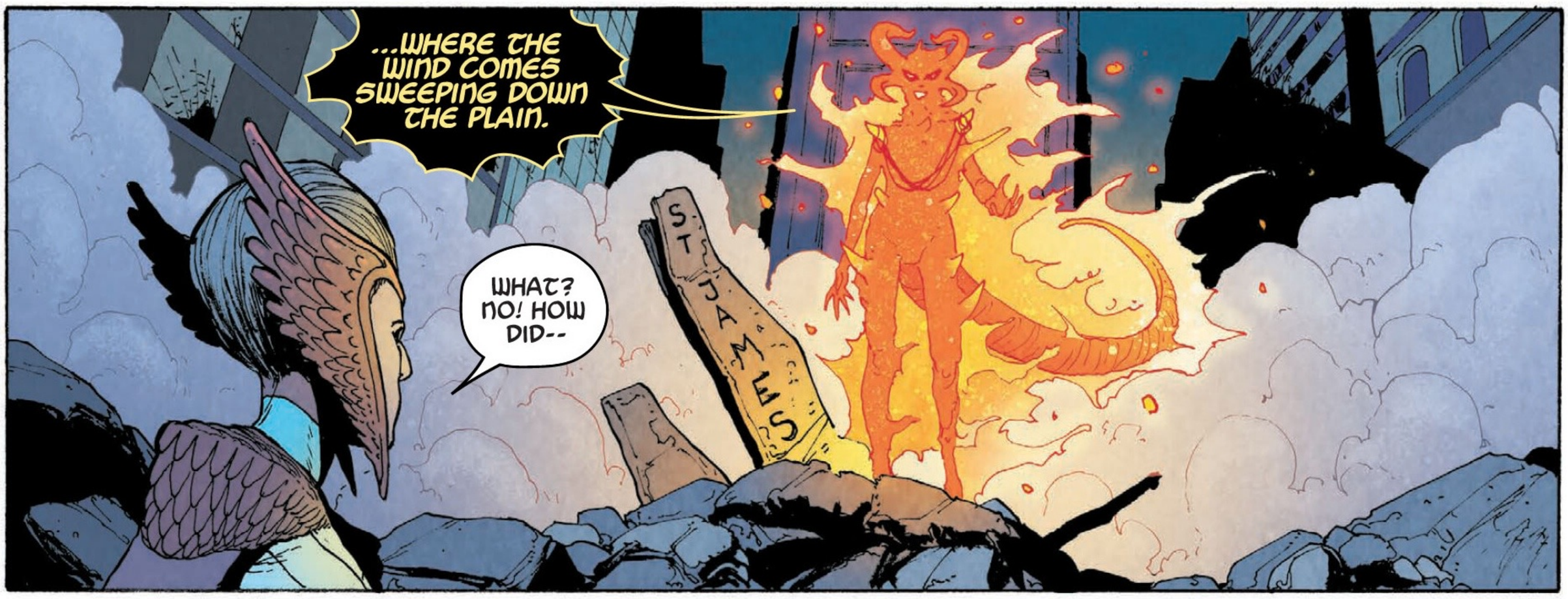
I WONDER HOW IT WILL FEEL TO SIT ON THE THRONE OF MY NEW MUSPELHEIM HERE ON EARTH... AFTER I KILL YOU, OF COURSE...

AND THE BABY.

THEN YOU WILL NEVER GET TO THAT THRONE, SINDR! SHE IS HIDDEN AWAY WHERE YOU CAN NEVER FIND HER!

CURSE YOU YOU AND YOUR CLEVERNESS, FREYJA! YOU HAVE THWARTED THE QUEEN OF CINDERS BY SENDING YOUR DAUGHTER...

*SEE WAR OF THE REALMS #1! --WIL



ST JAMES
REALLY, FREYJA. A GIANT ASGARDIAN CASTLE IN OKLAHOMA? IT WASN'T ALL THAT HARD TO FIGURE OUT.

THORI KNOWS NOT WHAT ANY OF YOU ARE TALKING ABOUT! THORI WOULD LIKE TO START BITING NOW!
I HAVE SOMEONE ON THE WAY THERE NOW TO DEAL WITH THE WHELP.
BALDER...

...YOU KNOW WHAT YOU MUST DO.
BUT LADY FREYJA, THE BATTLE, I--
REMEMBER YOUR PLEDGE!
OTHERS WILL GIVE YOU AID!

AND TAKE THOR'S DAMNED DOG WITH YOU!

SEE, THIS IS WHAT I'M ALWAYS TELLING THE TOURISTS--

--STAY THE HELL AWAY FROM TIMES SQUARE!

DON'T FEEL BAD, GUYS!
SOME OF THOSE PHOTO-OP PEOPLE LOOK JUST LIKE THE REAL THING!
WELL, NOT, LIKE, THE THING THING. I MEANT LIKE--

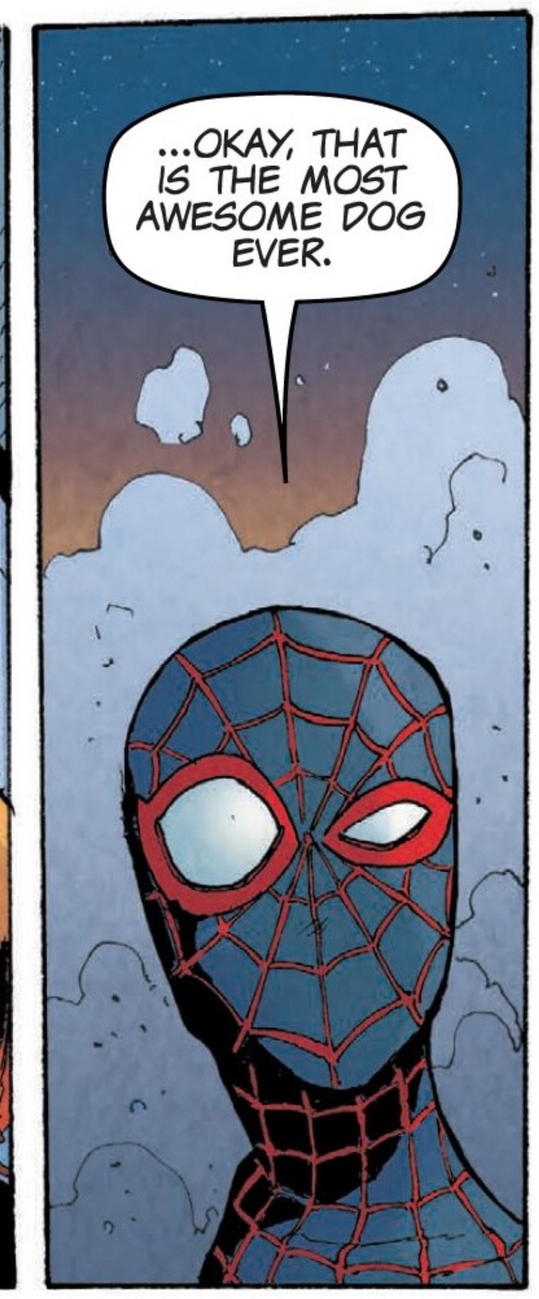
NEVER MIND. I DON'T THINK I HAVE YOUR FULL ATTENTION ANYWAY.
WHUMP

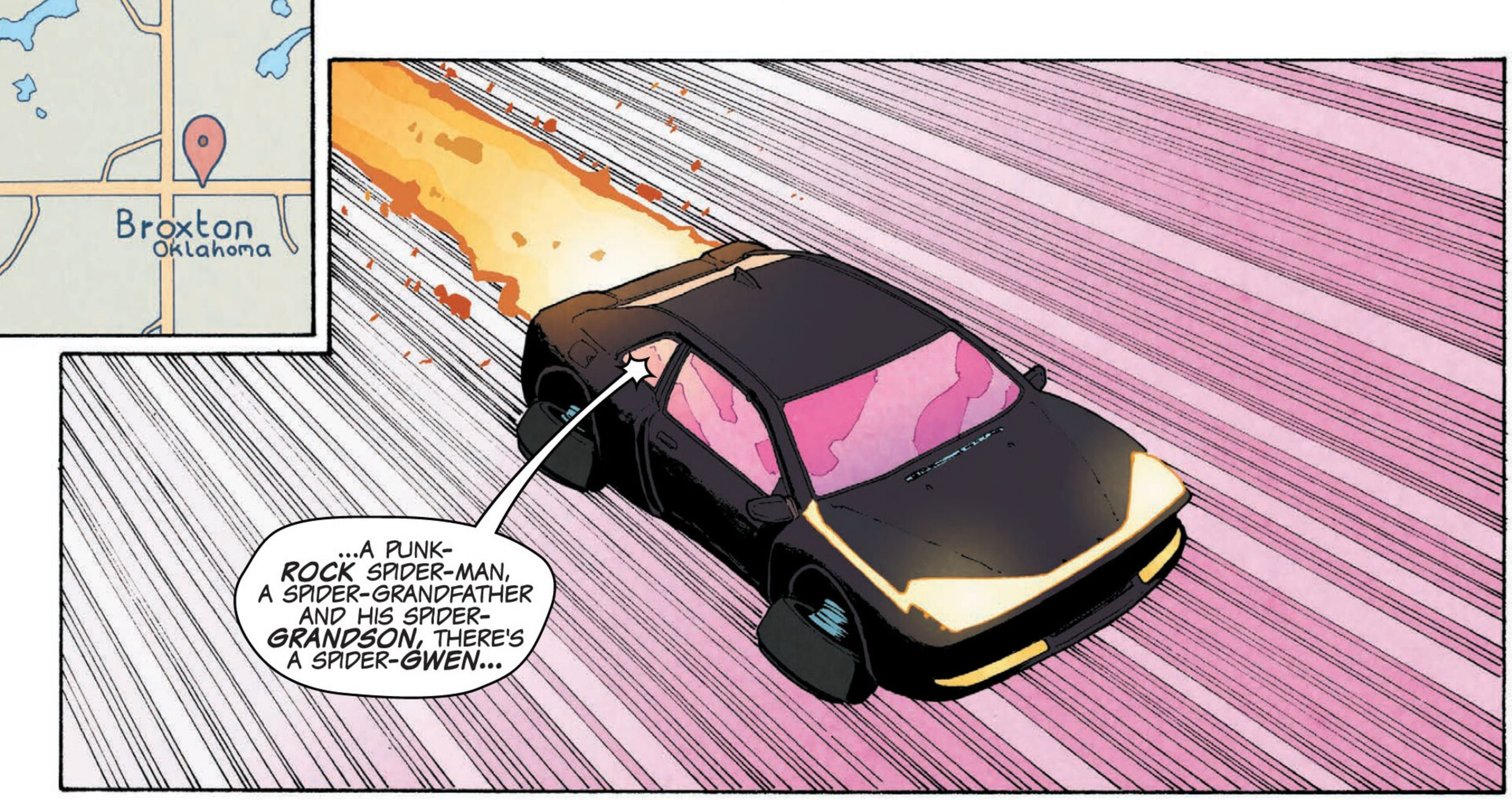
RARGH!
...OR... MAYBE I DO!
WAIT, WE SHOULD TALK ABOUT THI--

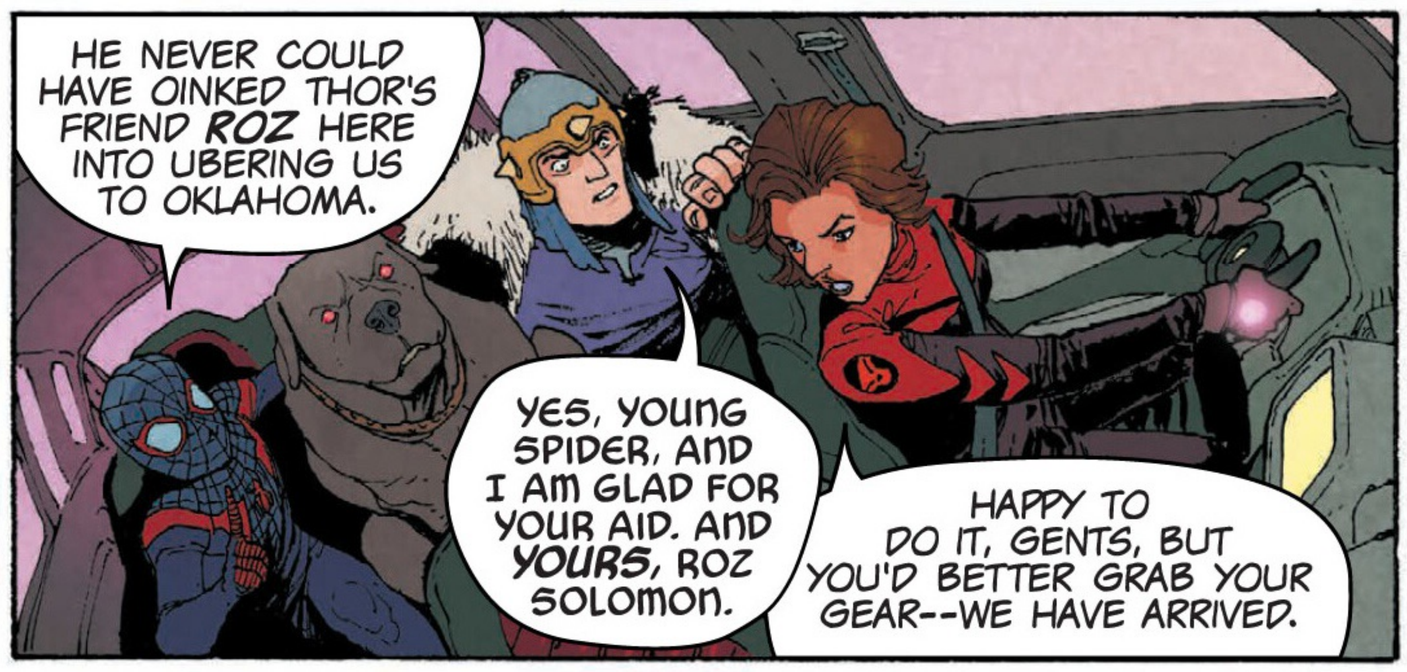
SHLISSSHH
WHOA.

SPIDER-MAN, I REQUIRE YOUR AID!
YOU MAY REMEMBER ME. I AM BALDER THE BRAVE.
UH, PRETTY SURE WE'VE NEVER--
SNIF SNIF

AND THIS IS THORI.
FORI FAYS FREETINGS!


...OKAY, THAT IS THE MOST AWESOME DOG EVER.





"AND I HOPE YOU'VE GOT A RESERVATION, 'CAUSE IT LOOKS LIKE A POPULAR SPOT..."

I'LL SEE WHAT I CAN DO ABOUT SLOWING DOWN SATAN'S TRICK OR TREATERS OUT THERE!

YOU'RE THE BEST, ROZ!
GOOD! THE BRAVE GOD AND THE MAN OF SPIDERS!
I THOUGHT YOU WOULD NEVER ARRIVE!

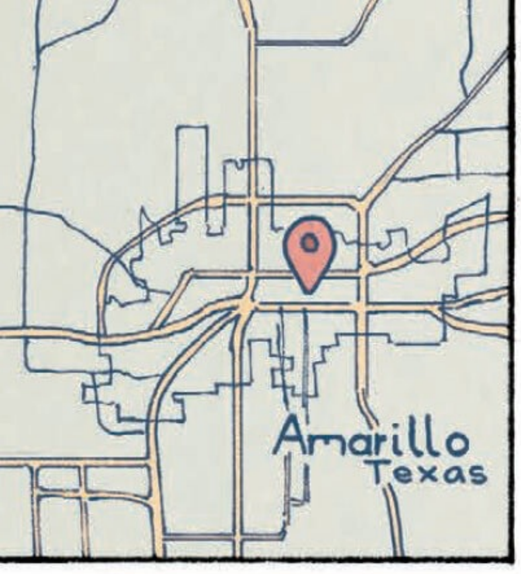
SKULD WELCOMES YOU!

MILES, THIS IS SKULD THE SILENT NORN.
NAMED IRONICALLY, NO DOUBT.
WITHOUT MY TWO SISTERS TO INTERPRET MY VISIONS OF THE FUTURE, I HAD TO FIND MY OWN VOICE...
WAAAAH!

...AS HAS YOUR SISTER, BALDER.
WAH?

NOBLE BALDER, TO YOU I PASS THE HONOR OF PROTECTING THIS PRECIOUS CHILD.
WITH EVERY BREATH IN MY BODY, LADY GAEA.
GAA
I GOTTA ADMIT...THAT IS ONE CUTE KID!
HEED MY VISION, BALDER THE BRAVE...

YOU MUST TAKE THE CHILD AND HEAD WEST, AS FAR FROM THE BATTLE AS YOU CAN GO.
TRAVEL IN SECRET, AWAY FROM THE EYES OF THOSE WHO WOULD HARM HER.
FATE WILL PROVIDE COMRADES TO ASSIST YOU: THE MAN OF SPIDERS...
YOU KNOW I'M NOT, LIKE, MADE OF SPIDERS, RIGHT? THAT'S ANOTHER DUDE.
HE IS HERE.
ALSO HERE IS THE DOG OF GODS...
GOD OF DOGS!
THE BRAVE ARCHER WHO NEVER MISSES...
NOBLE HAWKEYE!
HE WHO WOULD BE SORCERER SUPREME...
STEPHEN STRANGE! A WORTHY ALLY!
THE HALF-MACHINE WARRIOR...
HMM, DEATHLOK, MAYBE? THE CYBORG GUY?
AND THE ONE OF WONDERS.
SIMON WILLIAMS! WONDER MAN! ONE OF THE MIGHTIEST AVENGERS OF ALL!
JUST KEEP IN MIND, NOBLE GOD...
YOU HAVE BEEN IN HEL FOR QUITE A WHILE...
BE BRACED FOR... CHANGES.



FLAMM
FLAMM
I FLY 1,072 MILES... COACH...FOR A FIGHT IN A CONSTRUCTION SITE? YOU KNOW THIS IS A HUGE CLICHÉ, RIGHT?!
AND YOUR SUPER VILLAIN NAME: SLAUGHTER-MAN?

FOOM
FOOM
FIRST OF ALL, I'M NOT A SUPER VILLAIN... I'M A MERC!
SECOND, IT'S A TAKEOFF ON "MANSLAUGHTER"! IT'S CLEVER WORDPLAY!

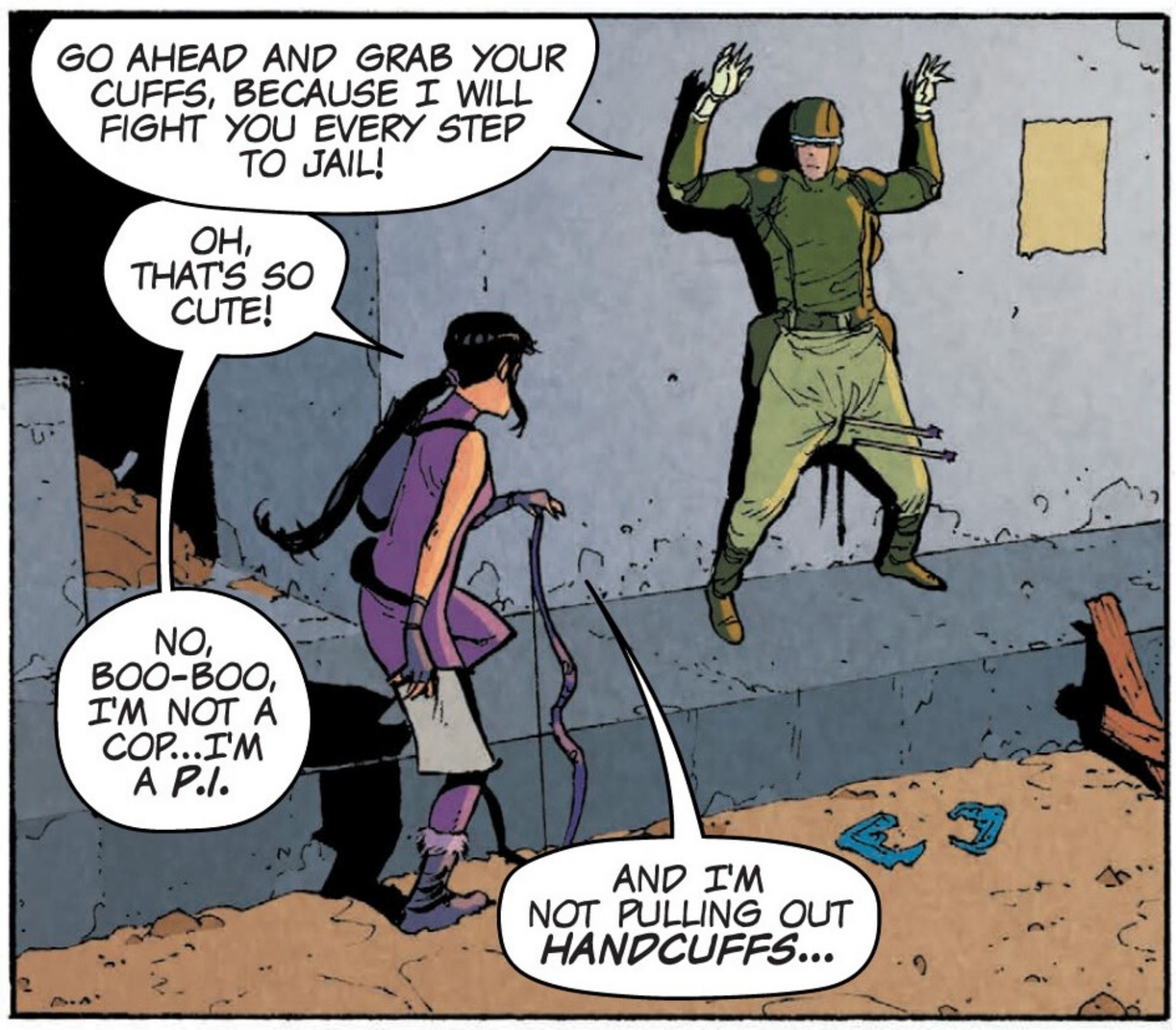
WHOOOOMPF
FASHION SENSE, MARKSMANSHIP AND MODESTY?

YOUR WIFE MUST FEEL SO LUCKY!
THWONG

HURK!
THUNK
THUNK

NOW DROP THE RAY GUNS...
...OR I SPLIT THE DIFFERENCE.

KLUNK
KLUNK


GO AHEAD AND GRAB YOUR CUFFS, BECAUSE I WILL FIGHT YOU EVERY STEP TO JAIL!
OH, THAT'S SO CUTE!
NO, BOO-BOO, I'M NOT A COP...I'M A P.I.
AND I'M NOT PULLING OUT HANDCUFFS...

YOU'VE BEEN SERVED.
ALSO YOU GOT SERVED... BY ME. JUST NOW. WHEN WE FOUGHT.

THAT'S CLEVER WORDPLAY.
HAWKEYE?!
..."IRRECONCILABLE DIFFERENCES"...?

"CHANGES" INDEED.
SNIF

Albuquerque
New Mexico

BECCA, HONEY, I'M TELLING YOU, PICOTECH IS THE WAY TO GO!
I KNOW, DAD, I KNOW.
DON'T LISTEN TO THAT OLD WRECK, KID, FLUID-DATA IS THE FUTURE!
I HEAR YOU, UNCLE DUM-DUM.

ENOUGH, YOU TWO. LET THE CHILD ENJOY HER PARTY!
THANKS FOR THE RESCUE, AUNT 'TASHA.

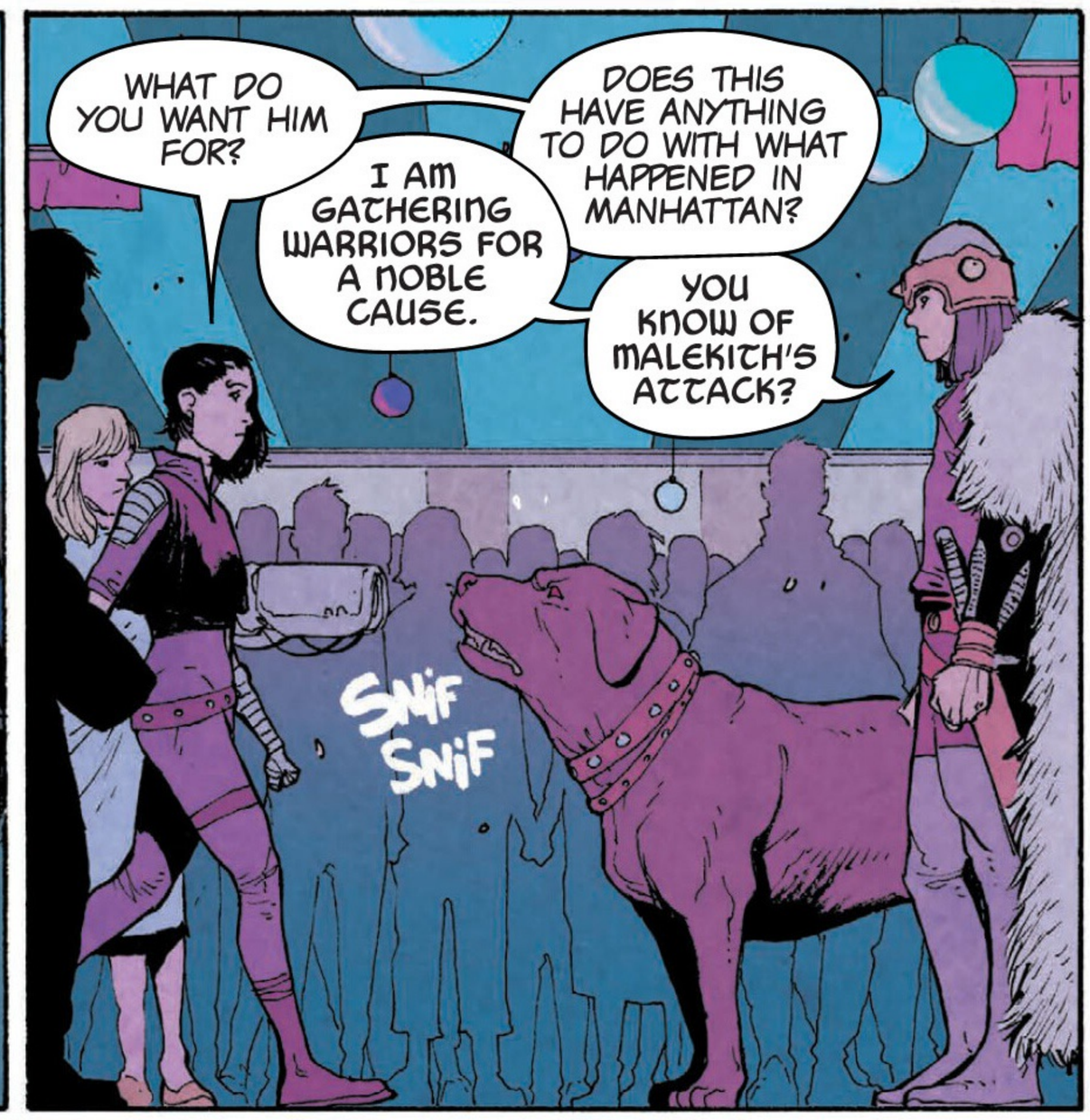
YOU DON'T WANT TO SPEND YOUR PARTY WITH US OLD RELICS.
HAVE SOME FUN WITH THE NEWER MODELS!

BECCCAAAA!!!
DAMN, BECCA! IS TONY STARK YOUR UNCLE?!
YOUR AUNT NATASHA IS HOT, BEC.
NOT REALLY, JUST A CLOSE FAMILY FRIEND.
HE LOOKS AMAZING!
EXCUSE ME, I HATE TO INTERRUPT YOUR JUBILEE, BUT--

KLICK
HUUMMM
K-CHALK
BUZZZ
IT HAPPENS TO BE A PRIVATE JUBILEE.

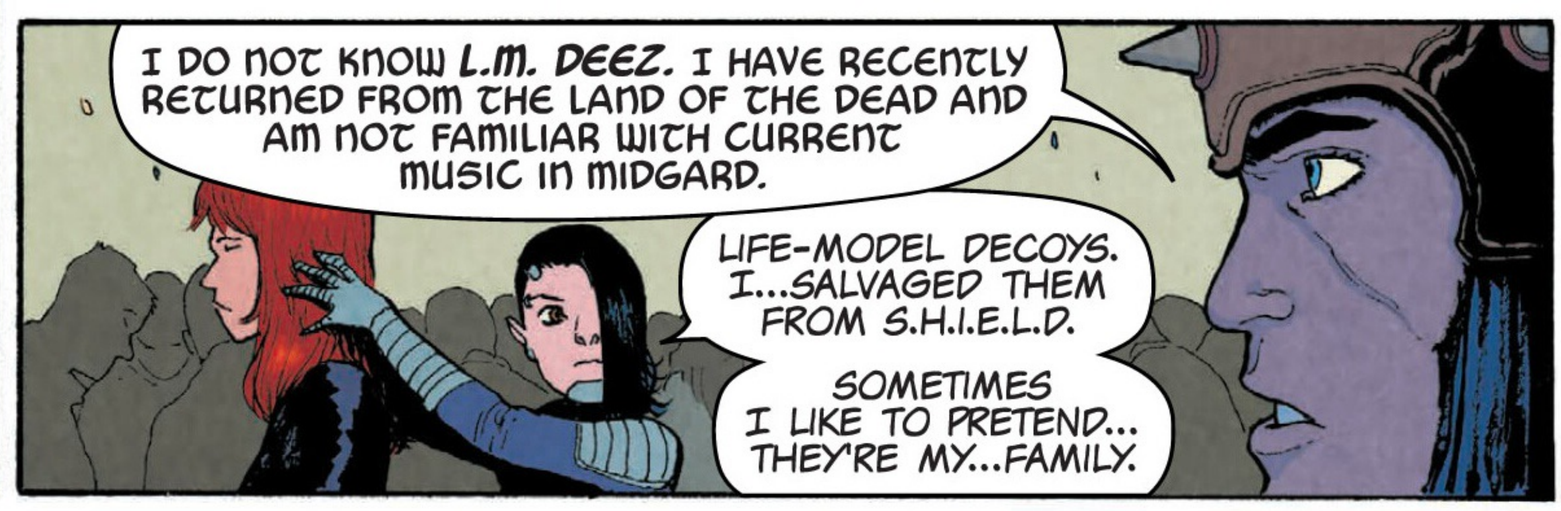
...
MAYHAPS I COULD BEGIN AGAIN?

I AM BALDER THE BRAVE OF ASGARD. I COME AS A FRIEND.
I WAS LED TO BELIEVE I COULD FIND THE CYBORG DEATHLOK HERE?

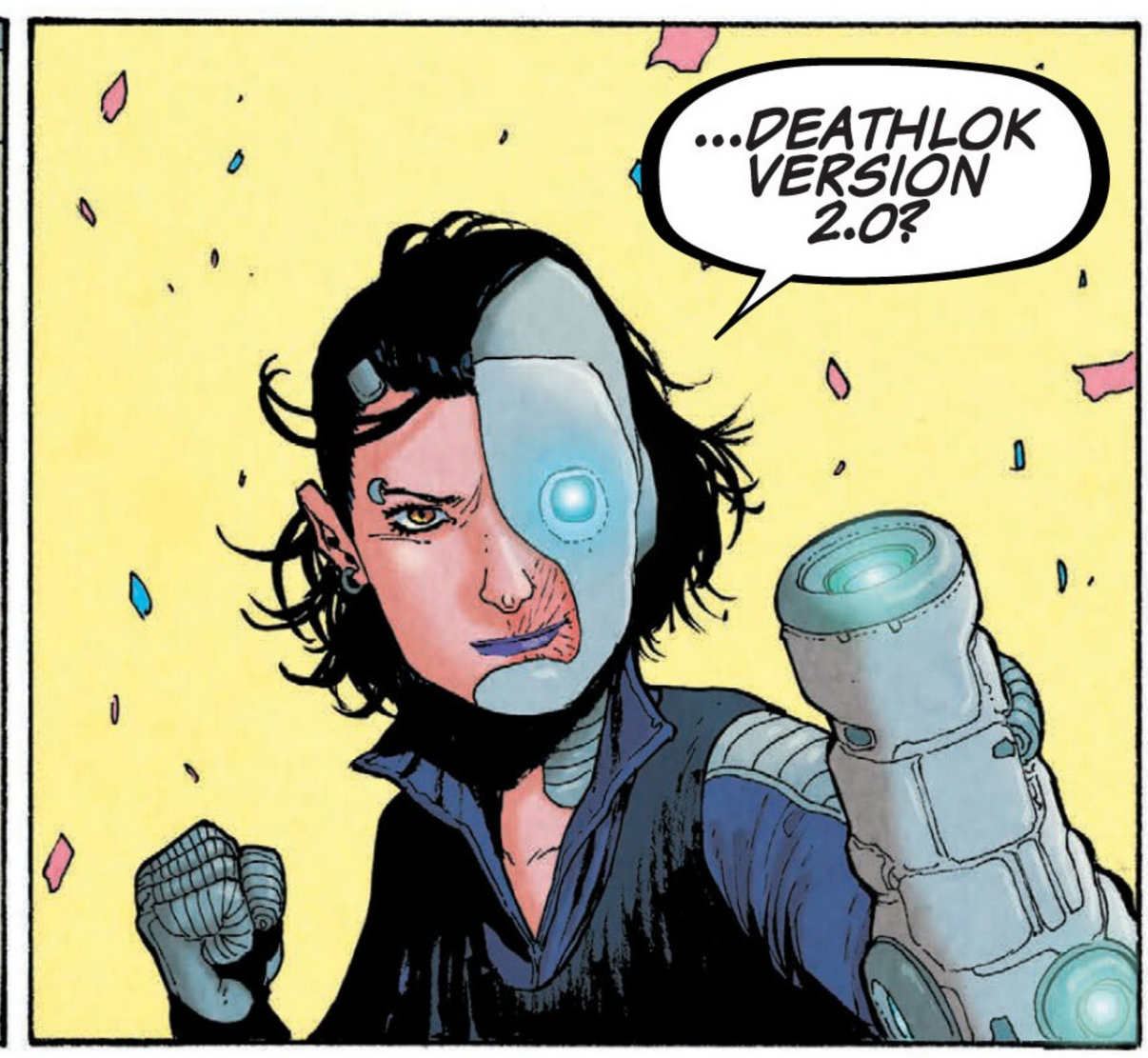

WHAT DO YOU WANT HIM FOR?
I AM GATHERING WARRIORS FOR A NOBLE CAUSE.
DOES THIS HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH WHAT HAPPENED IN MANHATTAN?
YOU KNOW OF MALEKITH'S ATTACK?
SNIF SNIF

I'M PRETTY PLUGGED IN.
BEEP

THE WIZARD HAS SLAIN THEM ALL!
THORI LIKES HER!
LMDs.
HMZZZZZZSH


I DO NOT KNOW L.M. DEEZ. I HAVE RECENTLY RETURNED FROM THE LAND OF THE DEAD AND AM NOT FAMILIAR WITH CURRENT MUSIC IN MIDGARD.
LIFE-MODEL DECOYS. I...SALVAGED THEM FROM S.H.I.E.L.D.
SOMETIMES I LIKE TO PRETEND... THEY'RE MY...FAMILY.

"FAMILY" IS WHY I SOUGHT THE AID OF DEATHLOK.
WELL, HOW ABOUT...


...DEATHLOK VERSION 2.0?

Flagstaff
Arizona
I WANT MY TOBLERONE!!!
I'M GETTING YOUR TOBLERONE! I'M TRYING TO FIND MY WALLET!
WOW. YOUR SON REALLY LIKES TOBLERONE.
SHOES
ORANGE

HE'S NOT MY SON. I'M A NANNY.
TOBLEROOOOONE!
FIRST DAY ON THE JOB?
SECOND, ACTUALLY.
ENTER HERE

WHY WON'T YOU GIVE ME MY TOBLERONE?!
UH, HOW DEEP ARE THE POCKETS OF THAT COAT?
YOU HAVE NO IDEA.
OH, WAIT!

CRAP! WRONG POCKET!
FZZZASSSHHH

THE KID'S MOM PICKED HIM UP...
FIVE MORE MINUTES AND WE WOULD HAVE TOSSED HIM IN A CELL TOO.
SHE ALSO SAID... YOU'RE SO-O-O-O FIRED.

GIVE A SHOUT WHEN YOU'RE READY TO TELL US WHERE YOU HID THE WEAPON.
SWEET COAT, BY THE WAY.

HE'S RIGHT ABOUT THAT.
WOULD YOU CONSIDER DONATING IT TO COATS FOR TYKES?
THAT'S ME, BY THE WAY: NAME'S CLERVALL TYKES.
WRENCH

GRRRRR
HOW FUN...

...THORI HAS NEVER EATEN A CLERVALL BEFORE.
YOU... ARE NOT THE SORCERER SUPREME... THAT I WAS EXPECTING...

I WAS IN THE RUNNING! I SWEAR TO GOD!
WHICH ONE?
WHICHEVER ONE YOU GOT!
MY NAME IS SEBASTIAN DRUID...AND WHOEVER YOU ARE, WHATEVER IT IS YOU'RE PUTTING TOGETHER--

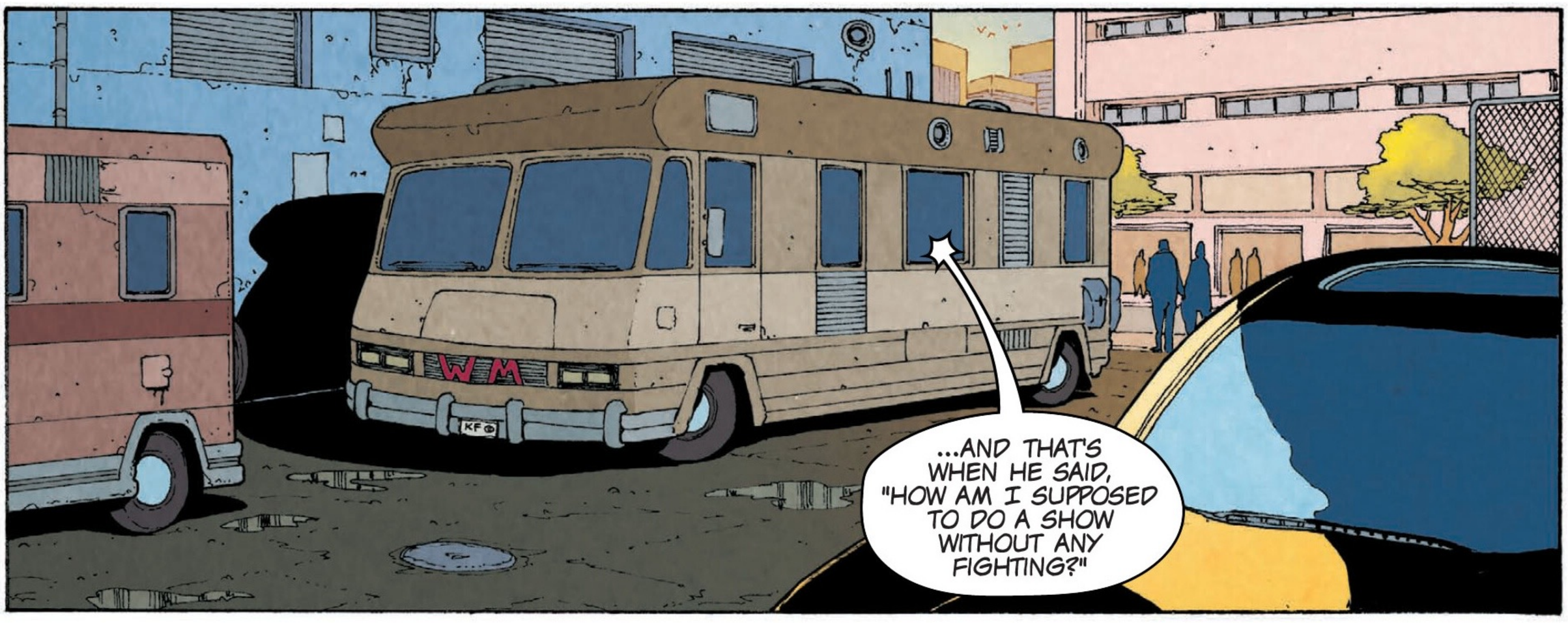
--I'M IN!

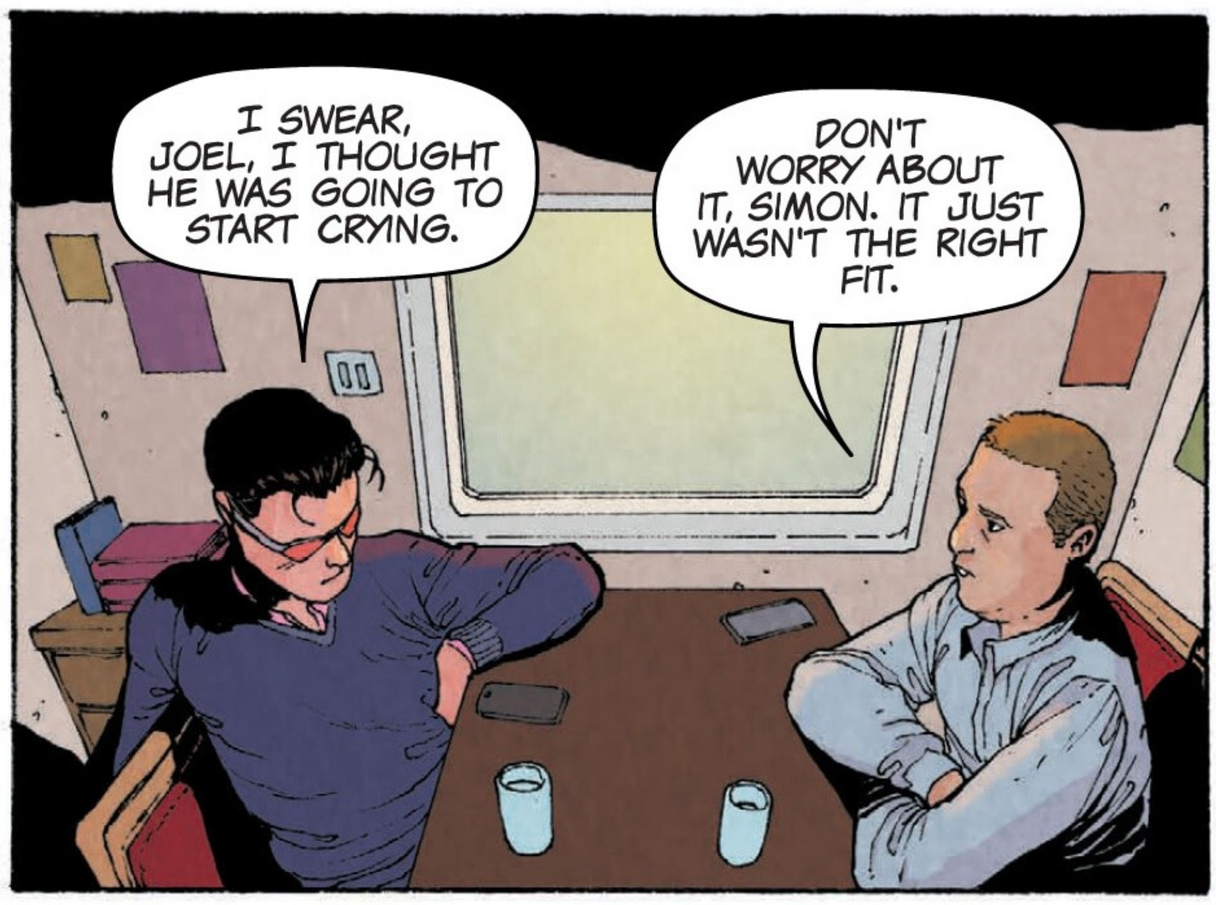
Los Angeles
California
AND HERE, WONDER MAN IS CLOBBERING HIS ARCHNEMESIS, THE APPARITION!
OBVIOUSLY, HE'S THE VISION, BUT MY LAWYER SAYS WE CAN'T GET THE LICENSING FOR HIM, SO WE WENT TO THE WRITER'S BEST FRIEND--THE THESAURUS.

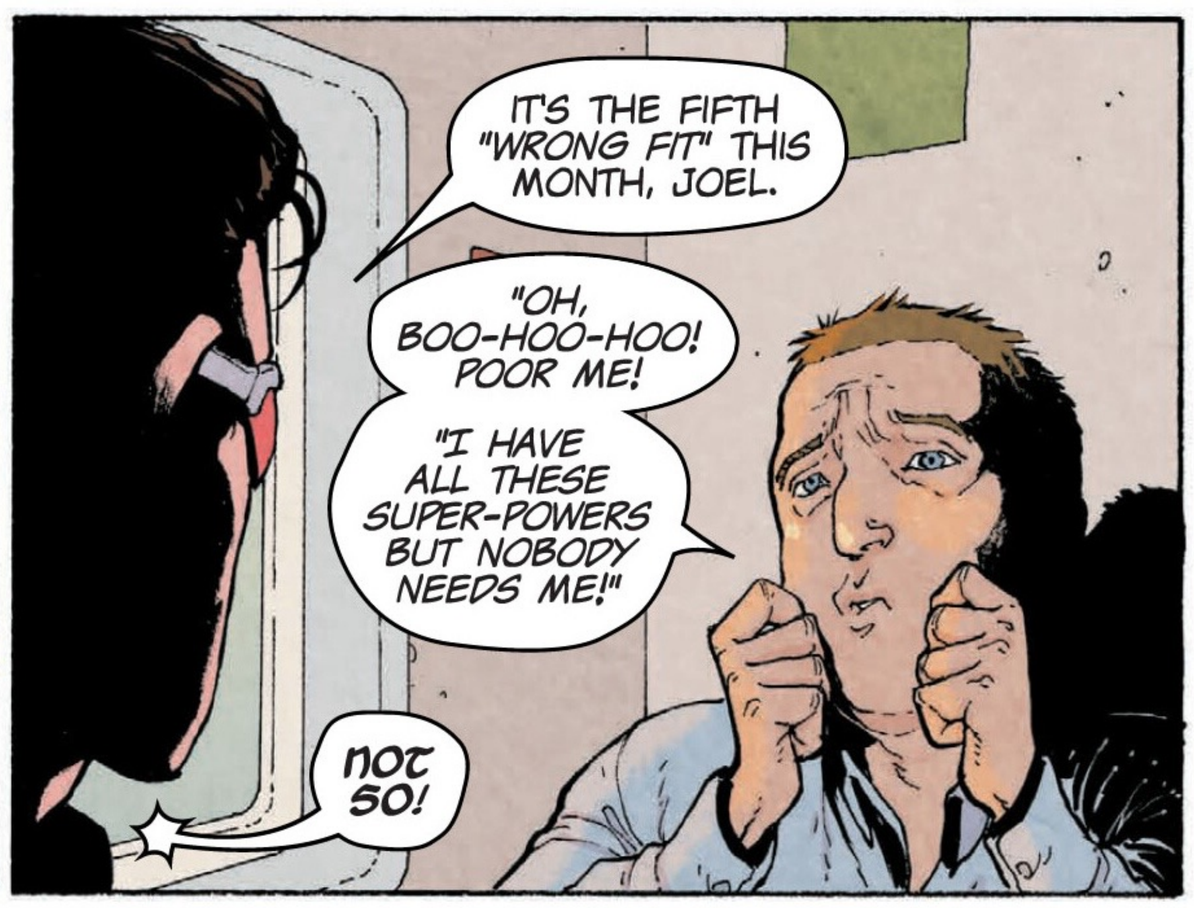
YOU...KNOW HE'S MY BROTHER, RIGHT?
I THOUGHT THE GUY WITH THE SICKLE WAS YOUR BROTHER?

HIM TOO. HE'S CALLED THE GRIM REAPER.
OOH! A SUPER-TEAM! SUPER-TEAMS ARE VERY BIG RIGHT NOW!
AND THREE BROTHERS TO BOOT! EVERYONE LOVES BROTHER TEAMS!
BEATIN' UP THE BAD GUYS TOGETHER!
I'VE GOTTA STOP YOU RIGHT THERE, GARE-BEAR.

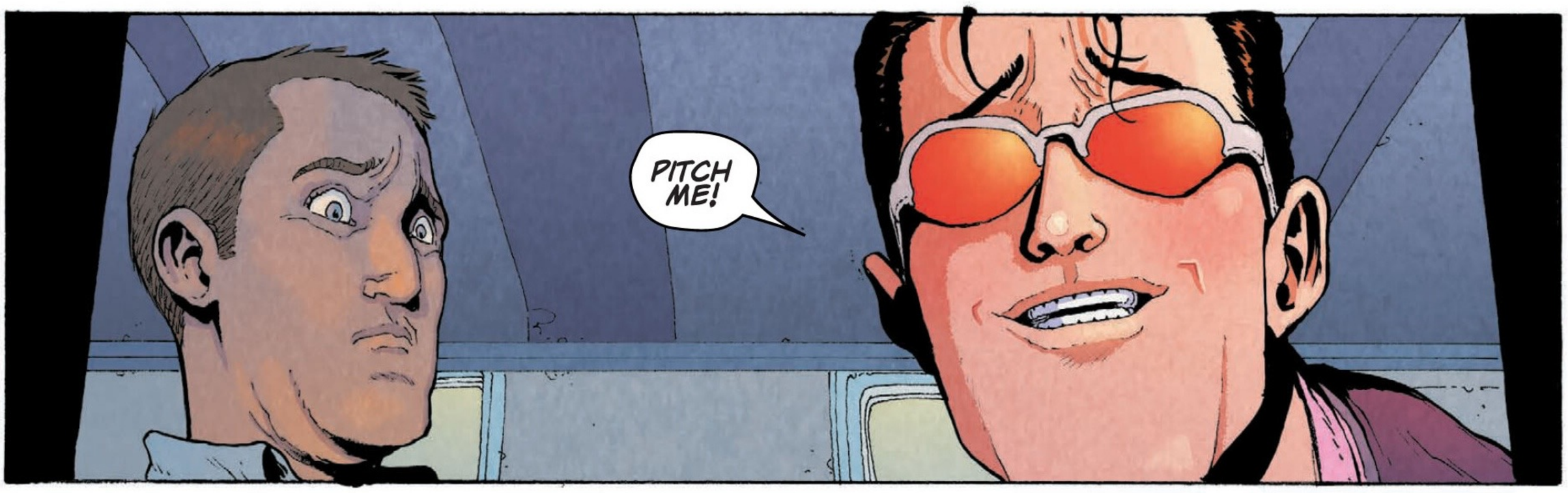
I DON'T DO THAT ANYMORE.
THE BEATING UP.
I'M A PACIFIST.


...AND THAT'S WHEN HE SAID, "HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO DO A SHOW WITHOUT ANY FIGHTING?"


I SWEAR, JOEL, I THOUGHT HE WAS GOING TO START CRYING.
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT, SIMON. IT JUST WASN'T THE RIGHT FIT.


IT'S THE FIFTH "WRONG FIT" THIS MONTH, JOEL.
"OH, BOO-HOO-HOO! POOR ME!
"I HAVE ALL THESE SUPER-POWERS BUT NOBODY NEEDS ME!"
NOT SO!

WE HAVE GREAT NEED OF THEE, SIMON WILLIAMS!


PITCH ME!

Now.

IT'S GETTING CLOSER, RIGHT?

FWOOM

'CAUSE IT LOOKS LIKE IT'S GETTING CLOSER!

YES! YES!!! COME CLOSER! CLOSER TO DEATH IN THE BLOODY JAWS OF THORI!

NO, MURDER-DOG! CLOSER IS THE OPPOSITE OF WHAT WE WANT!

WAA-AHHH!

SHHHH...

EVERYTHING'S OKAY...

WAAAAAA-AHHHH!!!

I'M LYING TO A BABY! I SHOULD NOT BE LYING TO A BABY!!!

FRIEND SIMON! YOU CAN FLY!

THAT MEANS YOU ARE THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN STOP OUR PURSUERS!

I CAN'T!

I'M A PACIFIST NOW, BALDER! I CAN'T ATTACK THEM!

A PACIFIST? WHEN DID THIS HAPPEN?!

WHILE YOU WERE--

WHILE I WAS IN HEL-- YES, I GET IT!

HERE'S A THOUGHT...

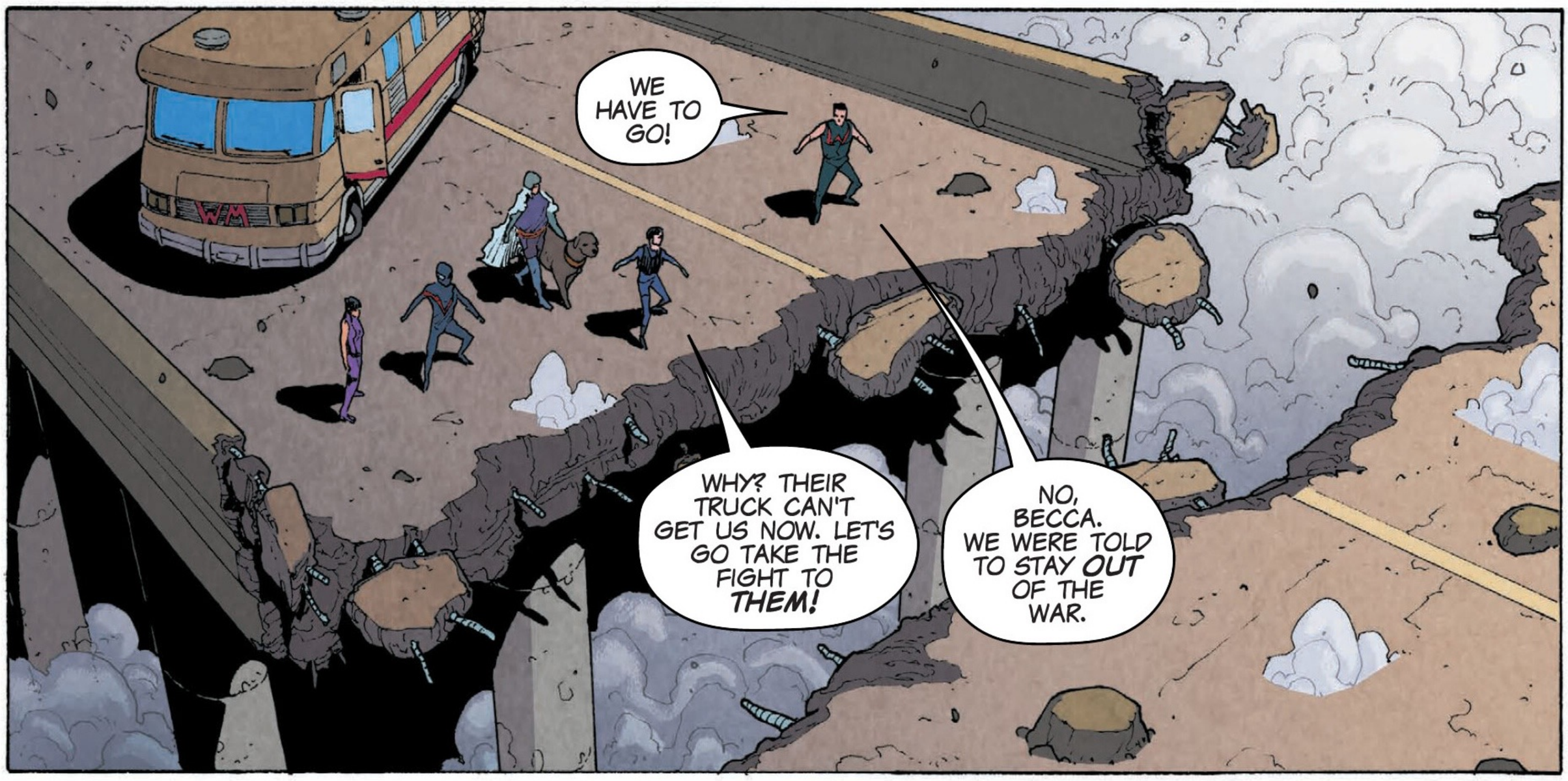
THIS PACIFISM OF YOURS. DOES IT EXTEND TO...

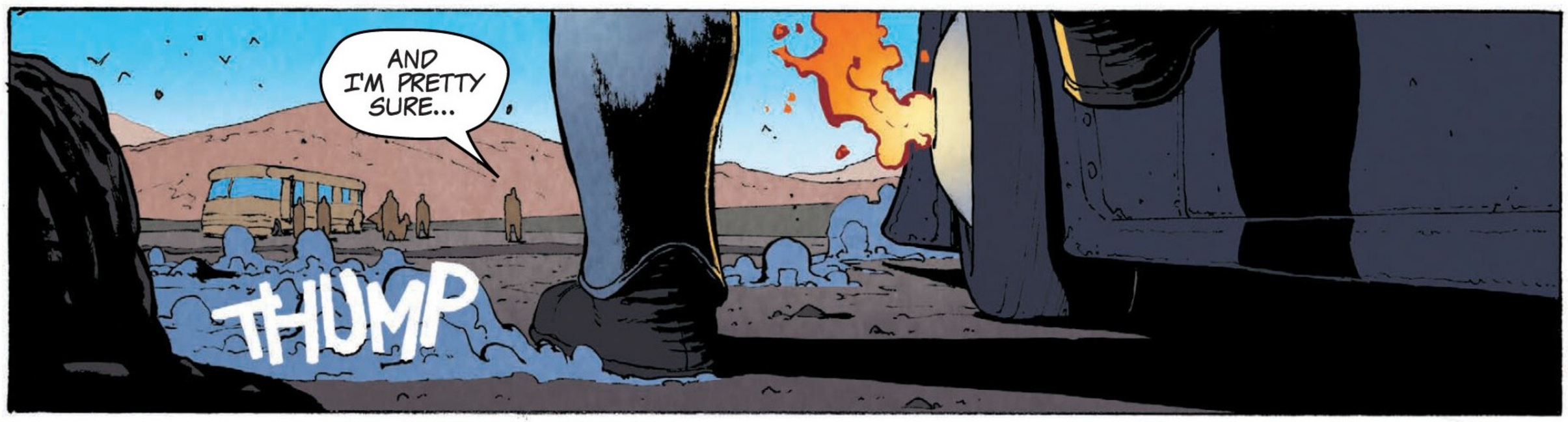
...CONCRETE?

WHRASHH

SCREESSHH

MAN! WE'RE NOT DOING SO HOT ON THE WHOLE "STAYING UNDER THE RADAR" THING, ARE WE?
WAY TO GO, GANDHI!
WHY DID YOU STOP?!


WE HAVE TO GO!
WHY? THEIR TRUCK CAN'T GET US NOW. LET'S GO TAKE THE FIGHT TO THEM!
NO, BECCA. WE WERE TOLD TO STAY OUT OF THE WAR.


AND I'M PRETTY SURE...
THUMP

"...THAT'S THE GUY WHO INVENTED IT!"
·ALA·
2018

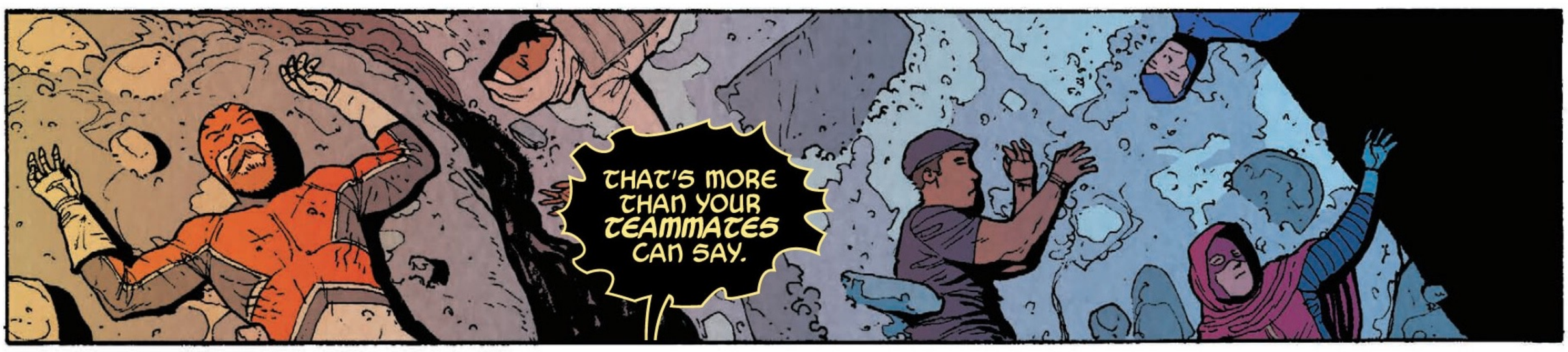
WAR OF THE REALMS: JOURNEY INTO MYSTERY #2

They Who Became Powerful

Back during Malekith's assault on New York...

WHY SO SAD, LITTLE ARES?

YOU ARE STILL CONSCIOUS!

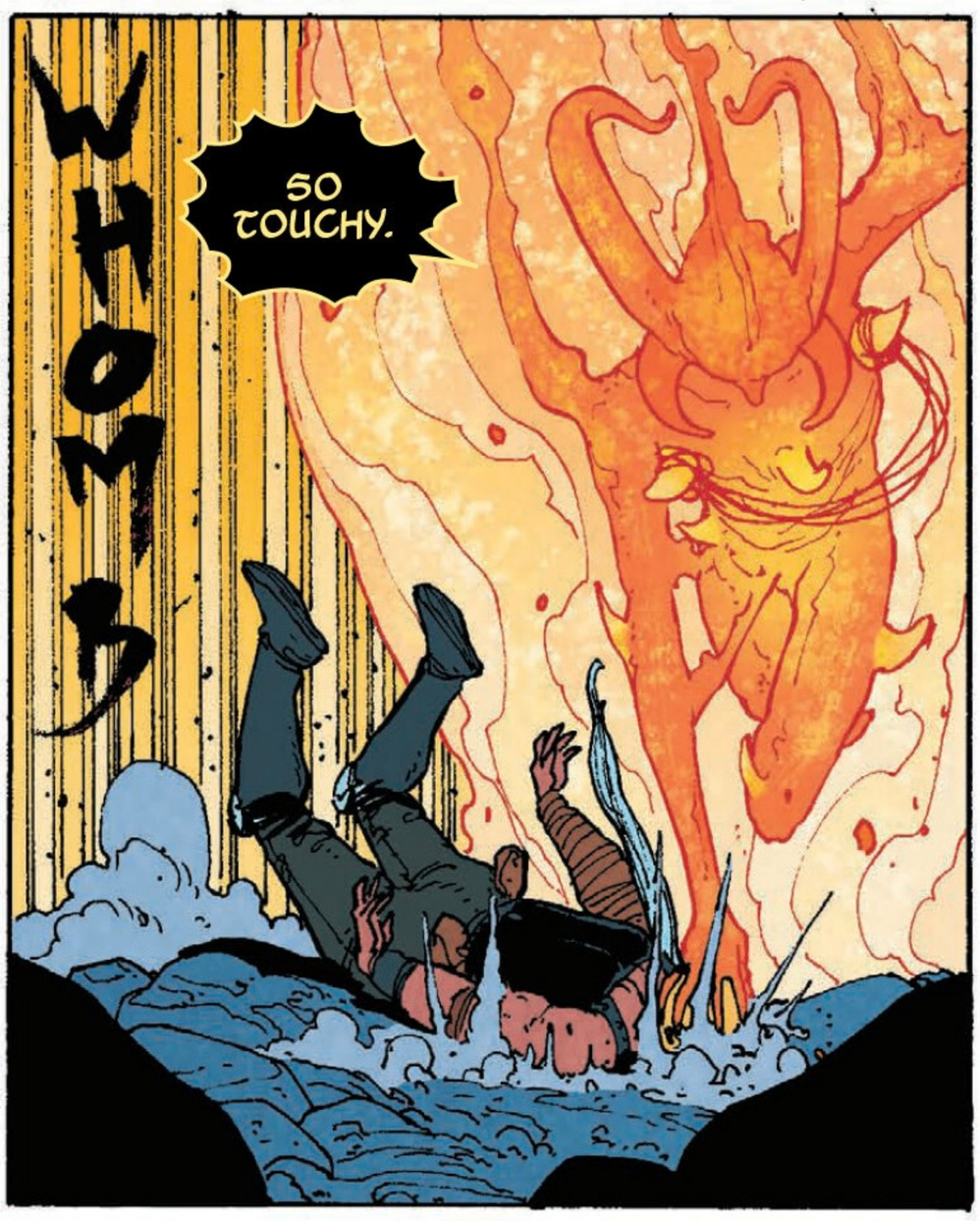


YOU AND YOUR FELLOW CHAMPIONS CAME ALL THE WAY FROM EUROPE TO JOIN THE BATTLE AGAINST US?

SO SAD.

I DON'T WANT YOUR PITY, I WANT YOUR FIRE! FINISH IT. FINISH ME!

WHY SO ANXIOUS TO DIE, GOD OF WAR?
WAIT. LET ME GUESS...
...YOU MISS YOUR SON!
H-HOW DO YOU...KNOW THAT?
OH, I KNOW THE STING OF ABSENT FAMILY ALL TOO WELL, OLYMPIAN!
I'M SINDR, DAUGHTER OF SURTUR, WHO WAS SLAIN BY A CERTAIN ONE-EYED BASTARD AND HIS SON.
BUT WE WERE TALKING ABOUT YOUR SON...
I BELIEVE HE IS CALLED... ALEXANDER?
DON'T SAY HIS NAME!


WHOMP
SO TOUCHY.

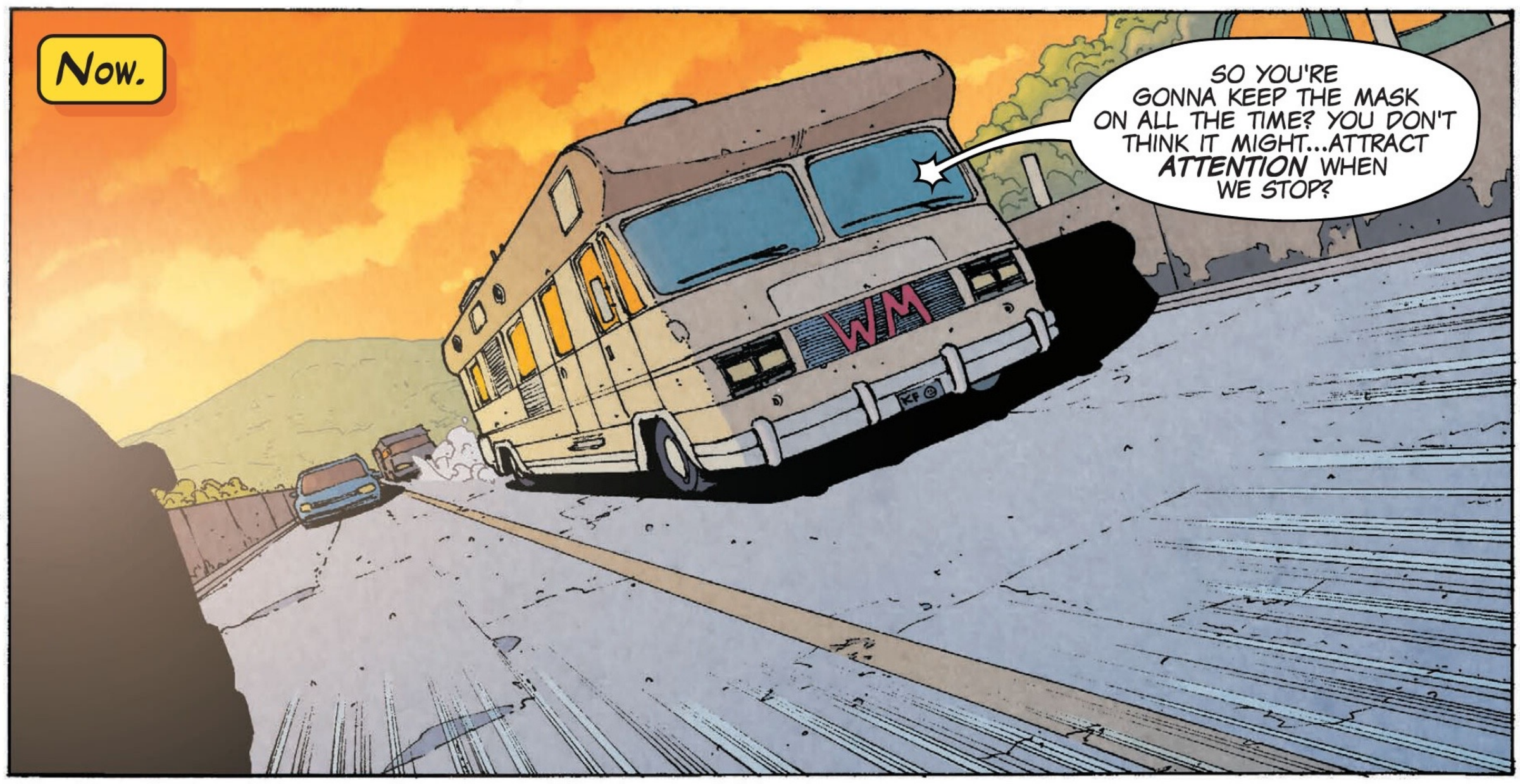
DO YOU PREFER *PHOBOS?* SO DO I. MUCH MORE... GOD-ISH.
POOR, DEAD PHOBOS. ALL ALONE IN THE AFTERLIFE... THE ELYSIAN FIELDS...
...MISSING HIS PAPA.
MY SON...

AND YOU, IN RETURN, ACHE FOR THE SWEET REUNION YOUR DEATH WILL BRING!
BUT YOU CAN'T JUST *OFF YOURSELF*, CAN YOU?
OH NO-O-O-O... YOUR DEATH MUST COME IN *HONEST* BATTLE!

BE JOYOUS! THE QUEEN OF CINDERS INTENDS TO GRANT YOUR REQUEST...
YOU SEE, YOU'RE THE REASON I TOOK TIME FROM MY VERY BUSY DAY TO COME HERE...
I WILL GRANT YOU THE GLORIOUS DEATH YOU DESIRE. BUT FIRST, I WOULD ASK A SMALL *FAVOR* OF YOU, GOD OF WAR...

I'M... *LISTENING.*

I NEED YOU TO FETCH ME A *BABY.*


Now.
SO YOU'RE GONNA KEEP THE MASK ON ALL THE TIME? YOU DON'T THINK IT MIGHT...ATTRACT ATTENTION WHEN WE STOP?
WM

I JUST WON'T...GET OUT.
HAVE YOU SEEN THE BATHROOM ON THIS THING?
OKAY, THAT'S A GOOD POINT.
COME ONNNN...

ALL RIGHT. I'LL LOSE THE MASK... IF YOU LOSE THE SHADES.
DEAL.

I'M KATE.
I'M MI--

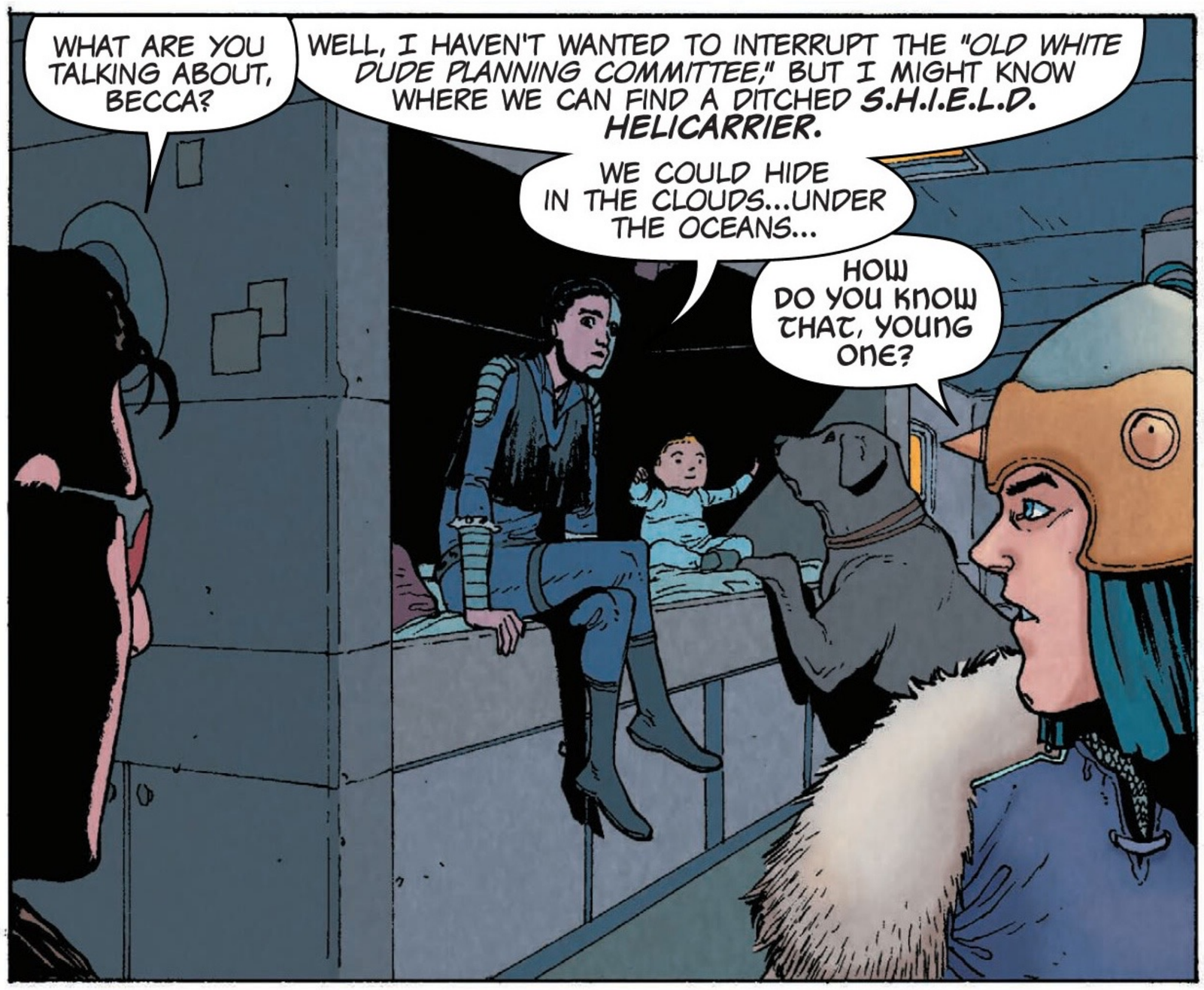
HEY!
IS THERE A CB RADIO ON THIS THING?
TRUCKERS WOULD KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON WITH THE WAR OF THE REALMS, RIGHT?

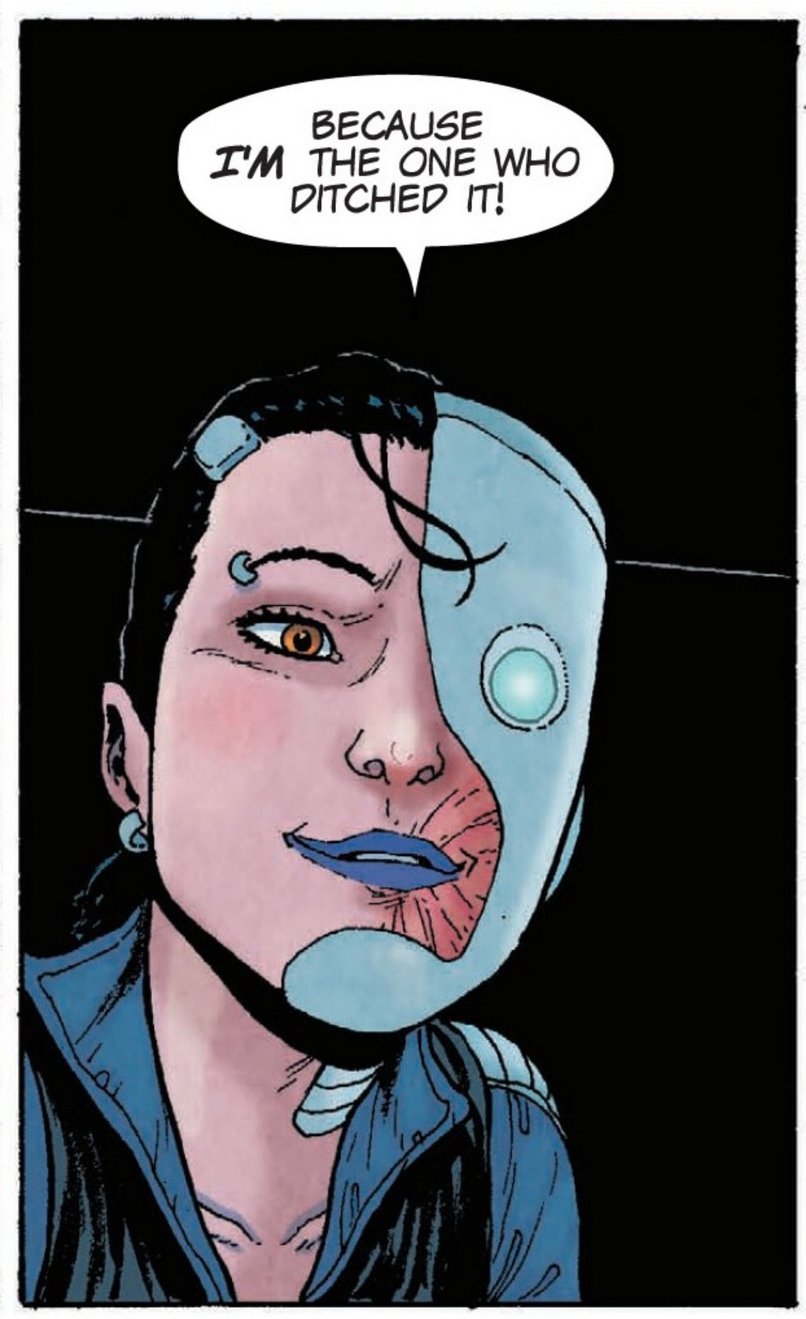
SEBASTIAN, YOU'RE IN MY BUBBLE AGAIN.
WE NEED A BIGGER RV...OR A SMALLER HERO SQUAD.
NEVER MIND. I'LL WATCH THE VIDEO FEED ON MY PHONE.

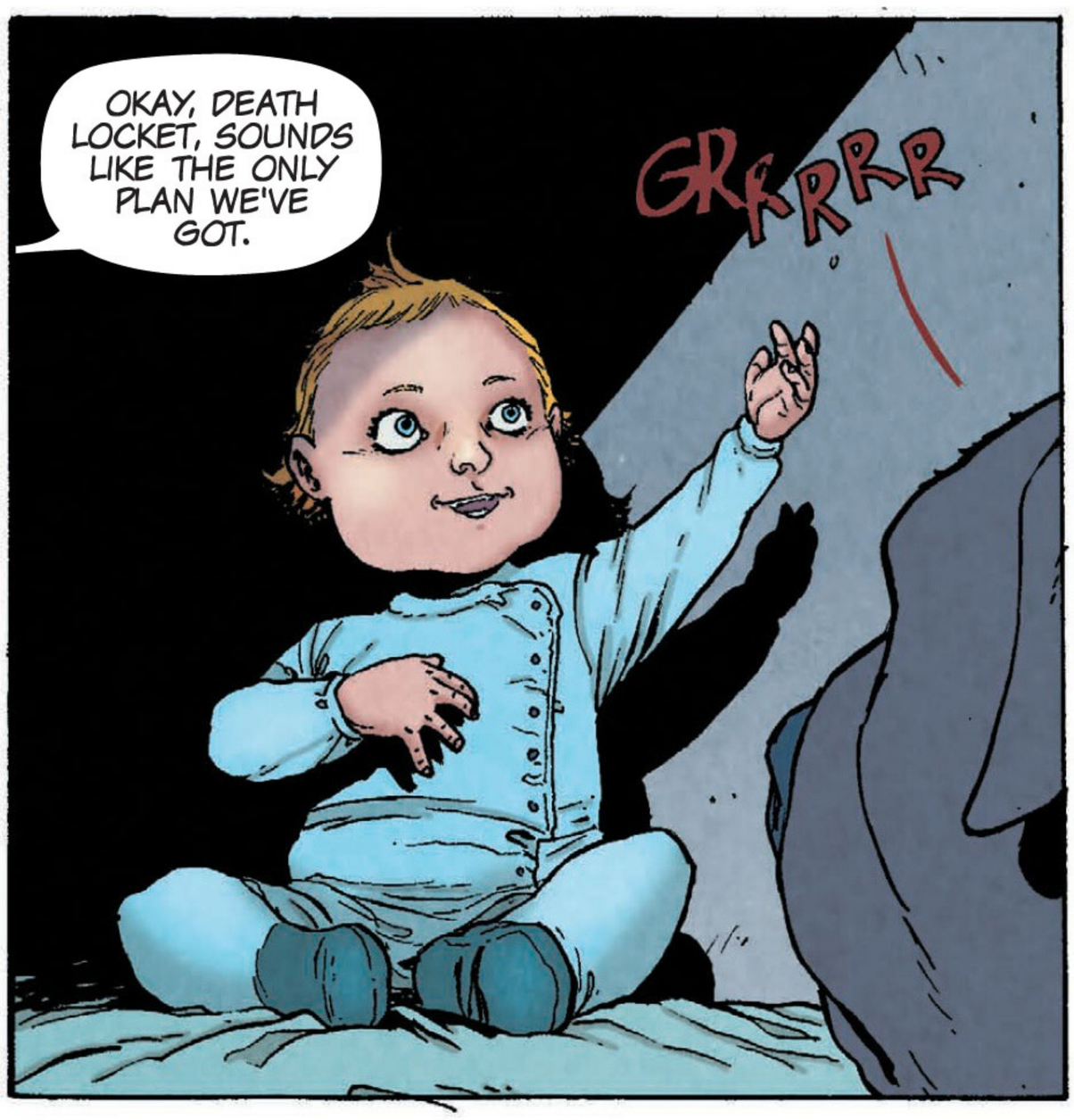
PLEASE, FRIEND WONDER MAN! YOU MUST HELP ME DECIDE ON A DESTINATION!
WITH THE GOD OF WAR PURSUING US, OUR STRATEGY OF TRAVELING AIMLESSLY ACROSS MIDGARD IS... INEFFECTIVE.
I KNOW, BALDER. WE NEED TO FIND A SAFE PLACE TO HOLE UP FOR A WHILE.

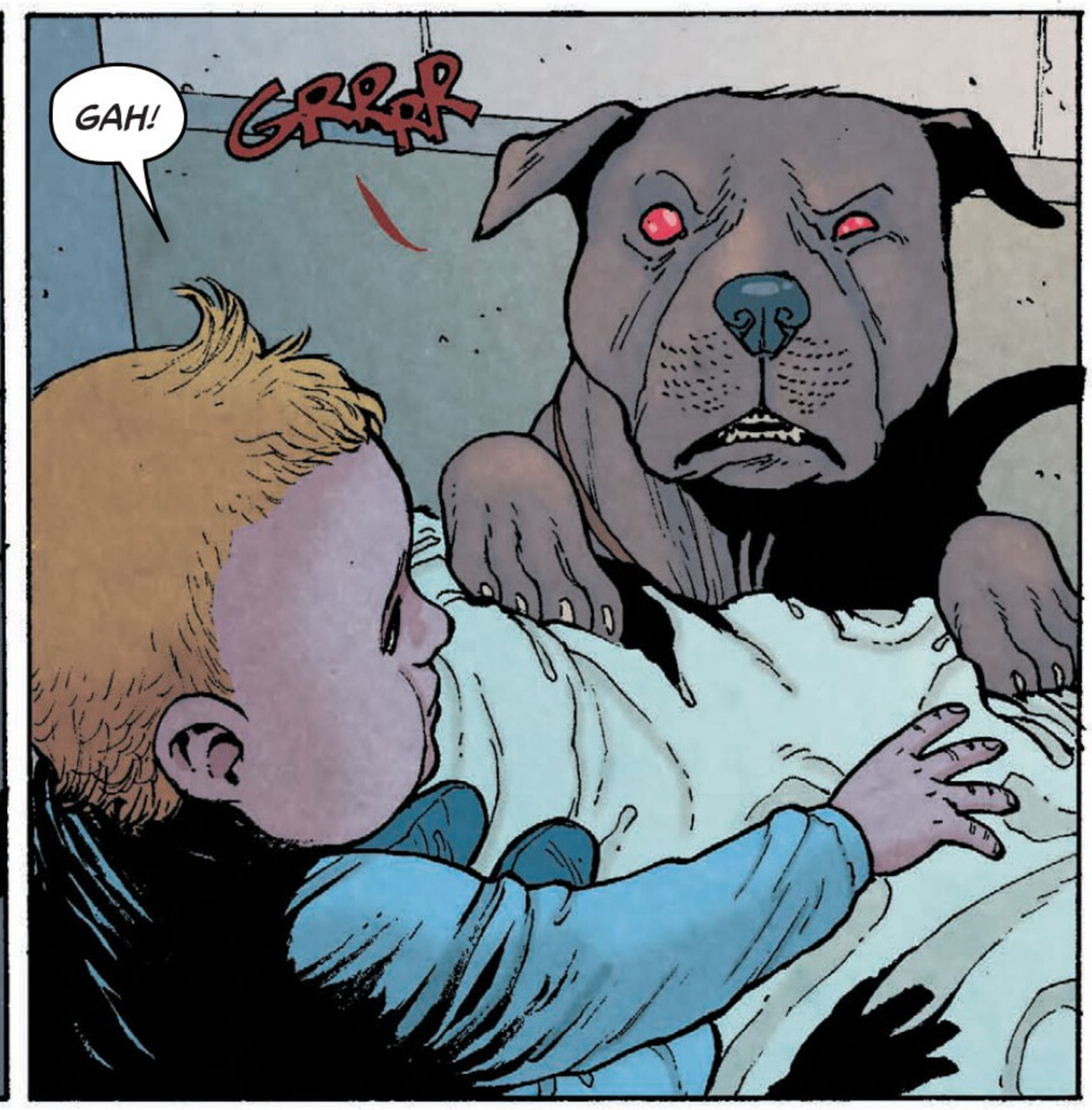
THAT...MIGHT BE DIFFICULT...

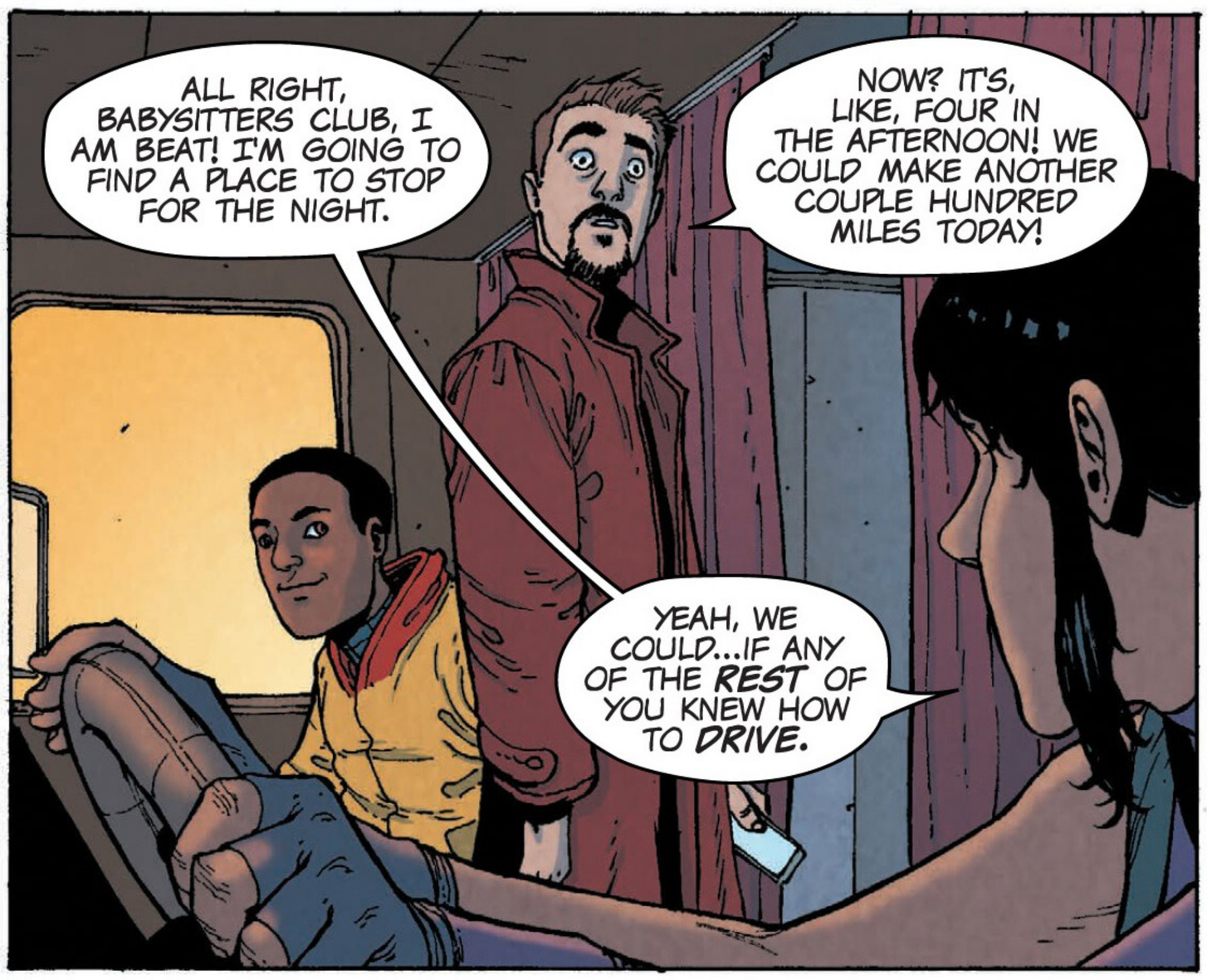
KIND OF HARD TO FIND A SAFE SPOT WITH FROST GIANTS TAKING OVER THE CONTINENT!
I SAY WE JUST KEEP AIMLESSLY TRAVELING!
OR FLYING. OR DIVING...
NEWS FEED
Frost giants dominate North America - UPDATE


WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT, BECCA?
WELL, I HAVEN'T WANTED TO INTERRUPT THE "OLD WHITE DUDE PLANNING COMMITTEE," BUT I MIGHT KNOW WHERE WE CAN FIND A DITCHED S.H.I.E.L.D. HELICARRIER.
WE COULD HIDE IN THE CLOUDS...UNDER THE OCEANS...
HOW DO YOU KNOW THAT, YOUNG ONE?


BECAUSE I'M THE ONE WHO DITCHED IT!


OKAY, DEATH LOCKET, SOUNDS LIKE THE ONLY PLAN WE'VE GOT.
GRRRRR


GAH!
GRRRR

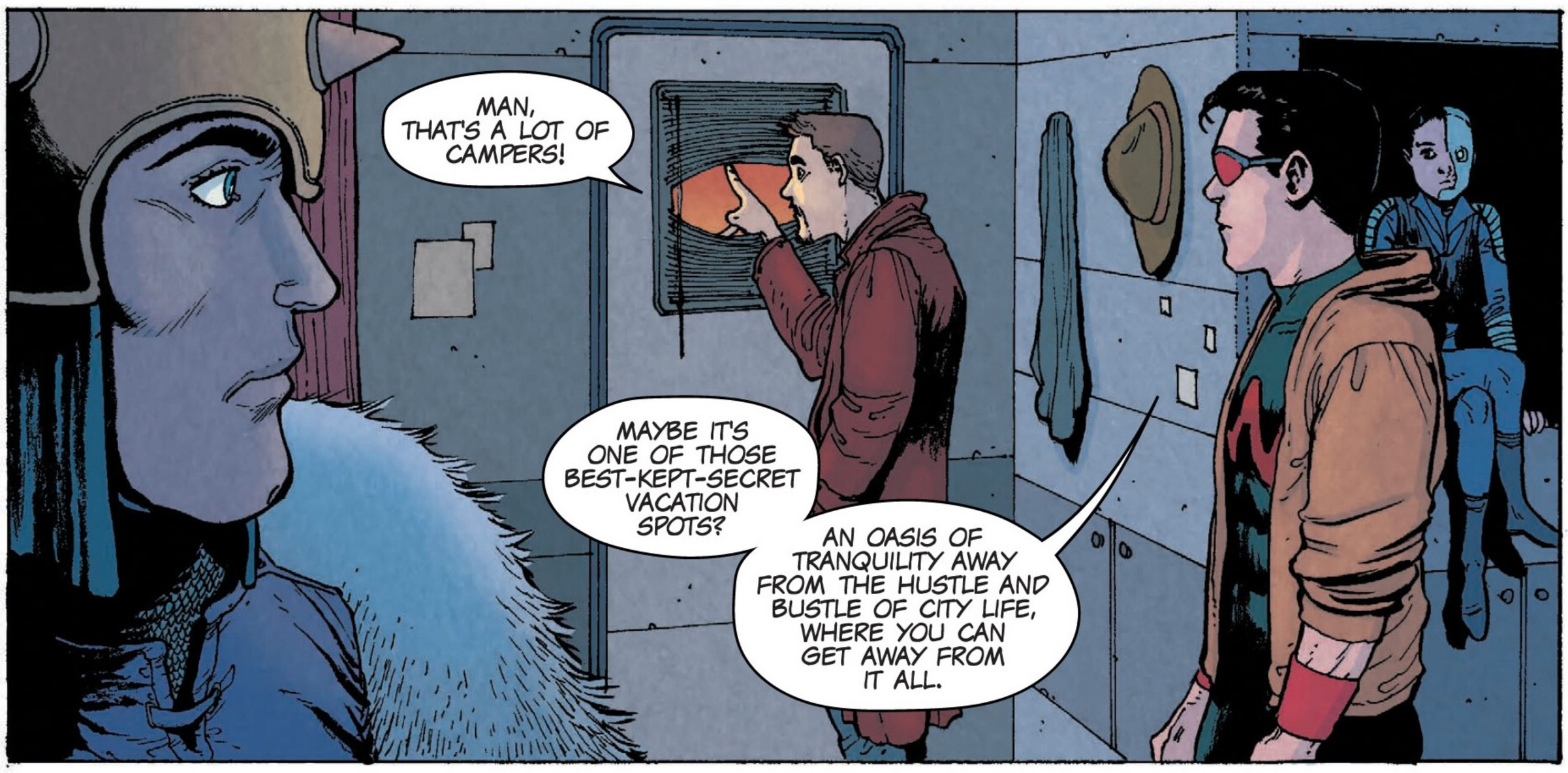

ALL RIGHT, BABYSITTERS CLUB, I AM BEAT! I'M GOING TO FIND A PLACE TO STOP FOR THE NIGHT.
NOW? IT'S, LIKE, FOUR IN THE AFTERNOON! WE COULD MAKE ANOTHER COUPLE HUNDRED MILES TODAY!
YEAH, WE COULD...IF ANY OF THE REST OF YOU KNEW HOW TO DRIVE.

FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH, I'M SIGNED UP FOR DRIVER'S ED NEXT SEMESTER.
AT THIS MOMENT IT'S WORTH VERY, VERY LITTLE.
YEAH...

...I HOPE THERE IS A NEXT SEMESTER...
Bide-a-Wee
RV Campground
Faraway from everything
Except Contentment

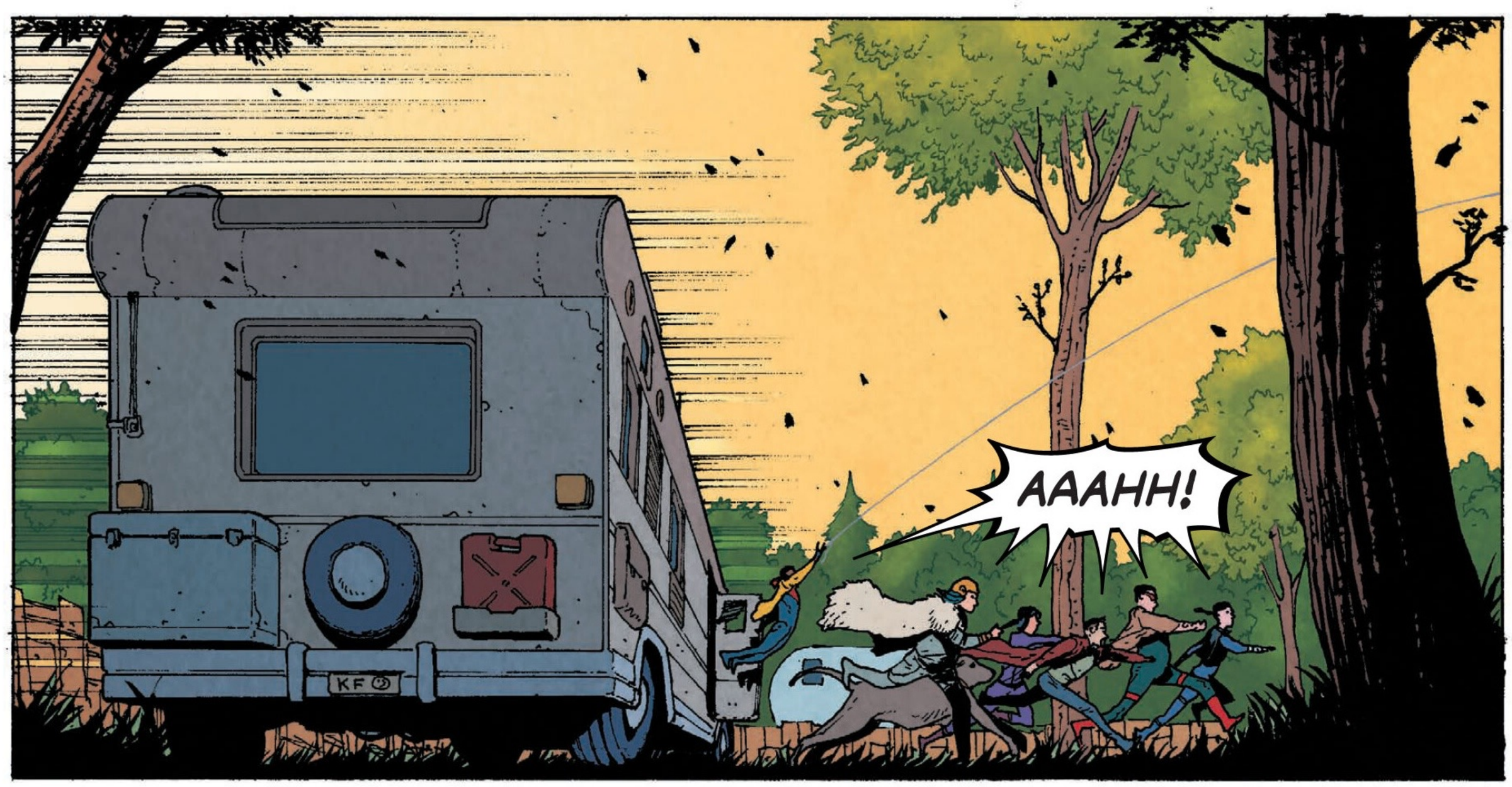
"BIDE-A-WEE RV CAMPGROUND"? HOW DID YOU KNOW ABOUT THIS PLACE? DID YOU SEE A HIGHWAY SIGN? DID YOU YELP IT?
NO...

IT JUST... FELT LIKE THE RIGHT PLACE TO BE.
GAH GAH.


MAN, THAT'S A LOT OF CAMPERS!
MAYBE IT'S ONE OF THOSE BEST-KEPT-SECRET VACATION SPOTS?
AN OASIS OF TRANQUILITY AWAY FROM THE HUSTLE AND BUSTLE OF CITY LIFE, WHERE YOU CAN GET AWAY FROM IT ALL.

...
WHAT? I DID A PILOT OR TWO FOR THE TRAVEL CHANNEL, OKAY?
BE THAT AS IT MAY...
...WE WOULD BE WISE TO STAY WITHIN THE WALLS OF THE VEHICLE.

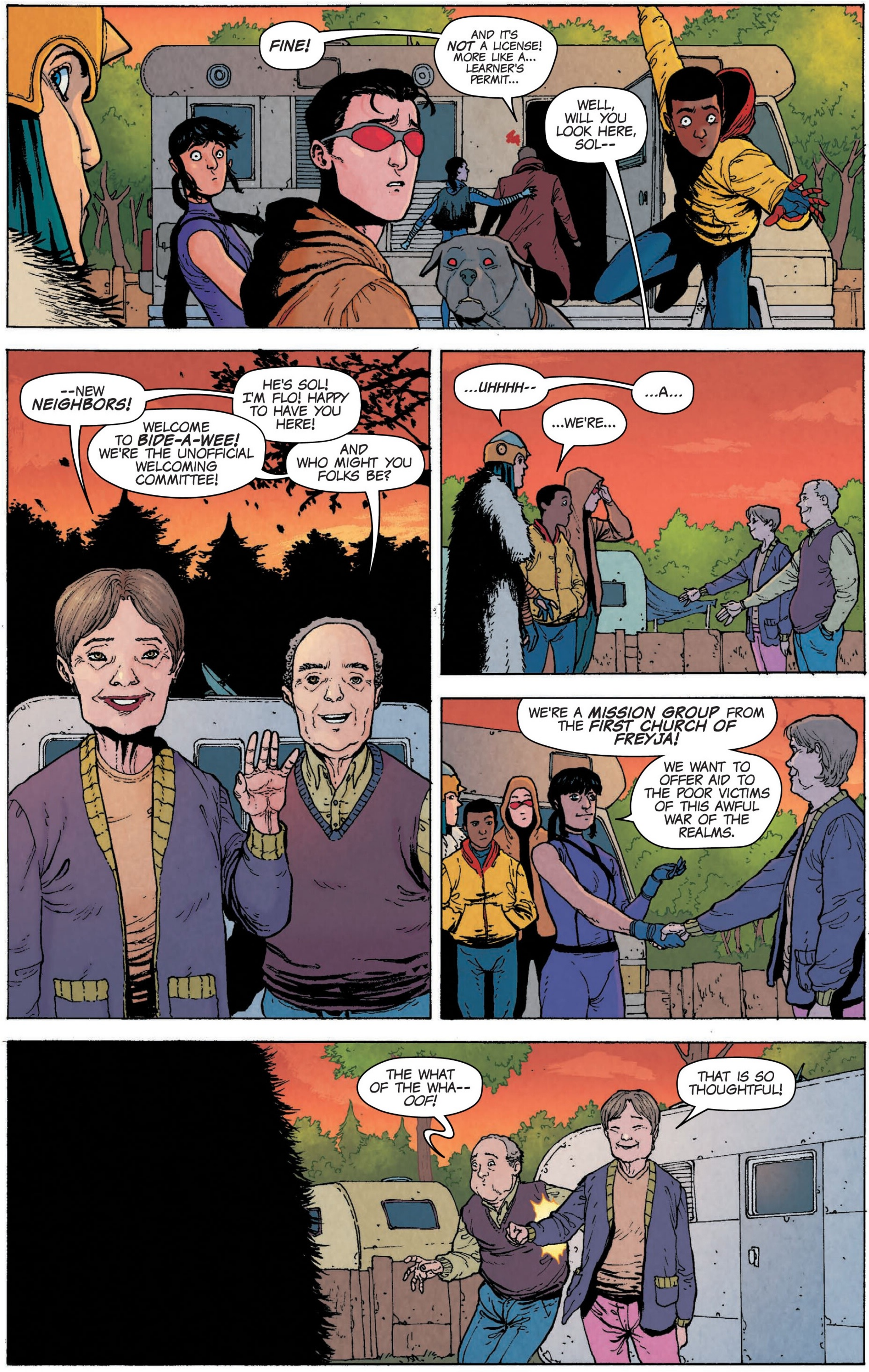
THORI SMELLS SOMETHING... EVIL.
SNIF
SNIF

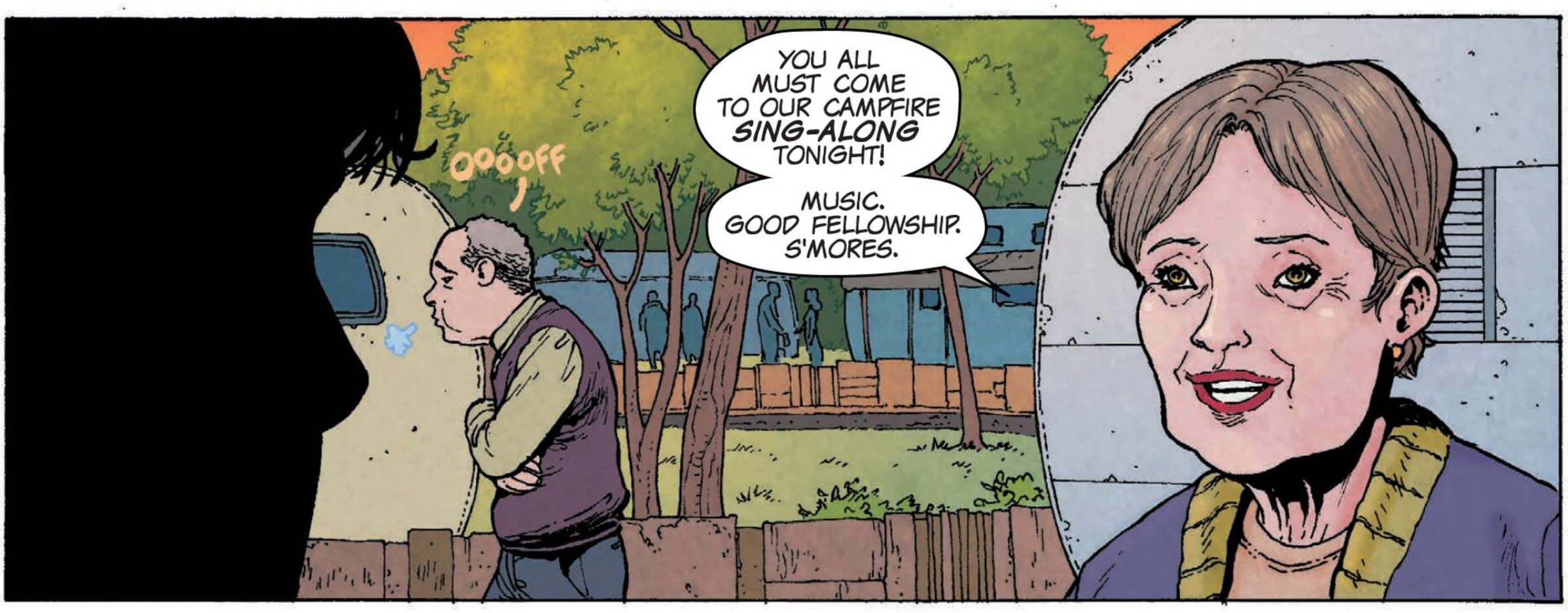

AAAHH!

THAT'S WORSE THAN THE TIME GANKE GAVE ME A DUTCH OVEN!
MAYBE ALL ASGARDIAN DIRTY DIAPERS SMELL LIKE THAT?
NOTHING IN ASGARD SMELLS LIKE THAT. NOT EVEN VOLSTAGG AFTER ALL SIX DAYS OF THE DEBAUCHERY FESTIVAL.
HOLY $#!+!

EXACTLY! NICE WORK, KID!
SO, UHHH... WHO'S GONNA CHANGE HER?

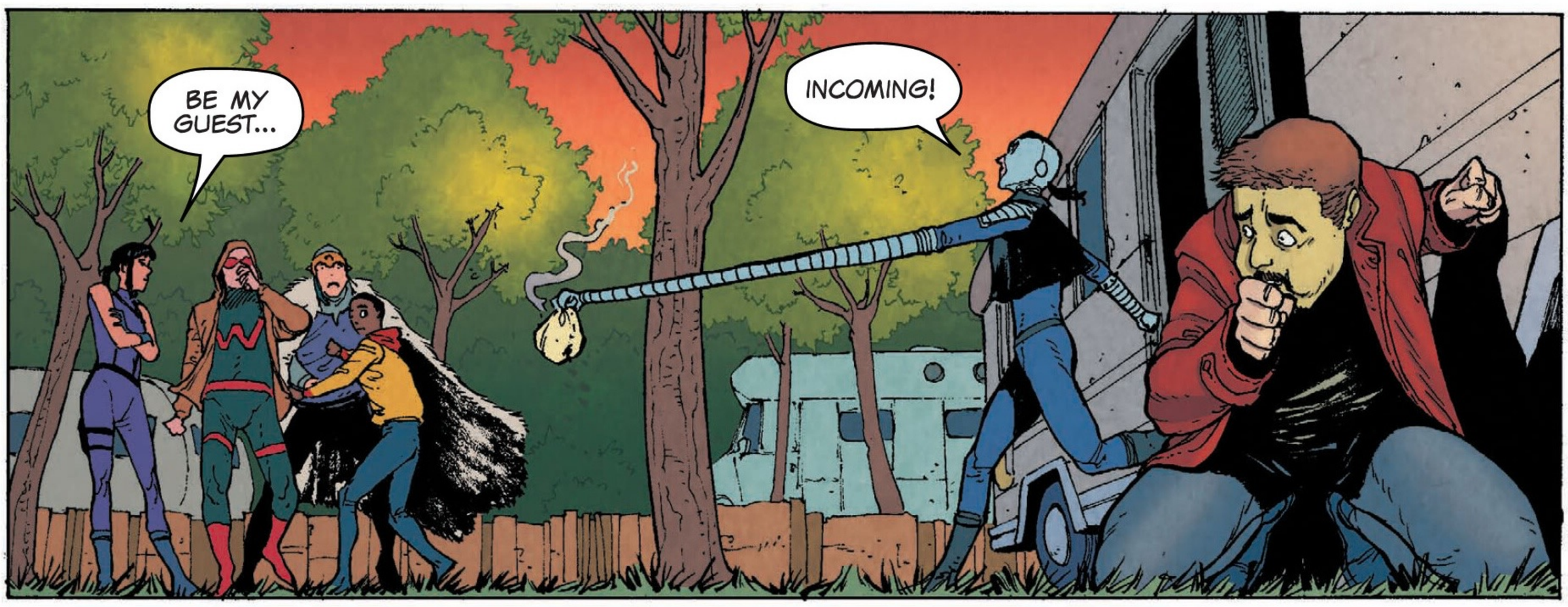
MY VOTE WOULD BE FOR THE PERSON WITH THE NANNY LICENSE!
BUT... IT...I...


FINE!
AND IT'S NOT A LICENSE! MORE LIKE A... LEARNER'S PERMIT...
WELL, WILL YOU LOOK HERE, SOL--
--NEW NEIGHBORS!
WELCOME TO BIDE-A-WEE! WE'RE THE UNOFFICIAL WELCOMING COMMITTEE!
HE'S SOL! I'M FLO! HAPPY TO HAVE YOU HERE!
AND WHO MIGHT YOU FOLKS BE?
...UHHHH--
...A...
...WE'RE...
WE'RE A MISSION GROUP FROM THE FIRST CHURCH OF FREYJA!
WE WANT TO OFFER AID TO THE POOR VICTIMS OF THIS AWFUL WAR OF THE REALMS.
THE WHAT OF THE WHA-- OOF!
THAT IS SO THOUGHTFUL!


OOOOFF
YOU ALL MUST COME TO OUR CAMPFIRE SING-ALONG TONIGHT!
MUSIC. GOOD FELLOWSHIP. S'MORES.

S'MORES? I LOVE S'MORES!
WE'LL BE THERE!
SEE YOU AT SEVEN!

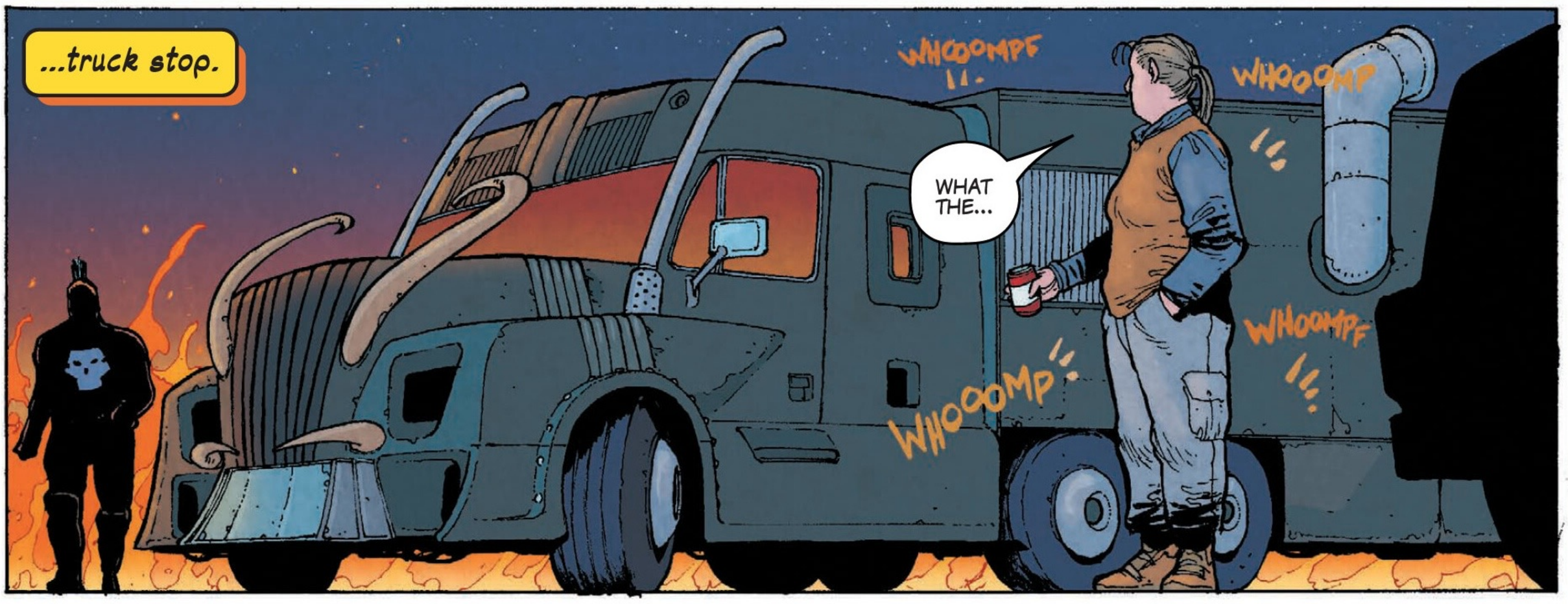
WHAT ARE S'MORES?
"WE'LL BE THERE"?
WHAT HAPPENED TO STAYING INSIDE THE WONDER WAGON?!


BE MY GUEST...
INCOMING!

Meanwhile...
KSSHHHH

...at a nearby...

...(and former)...

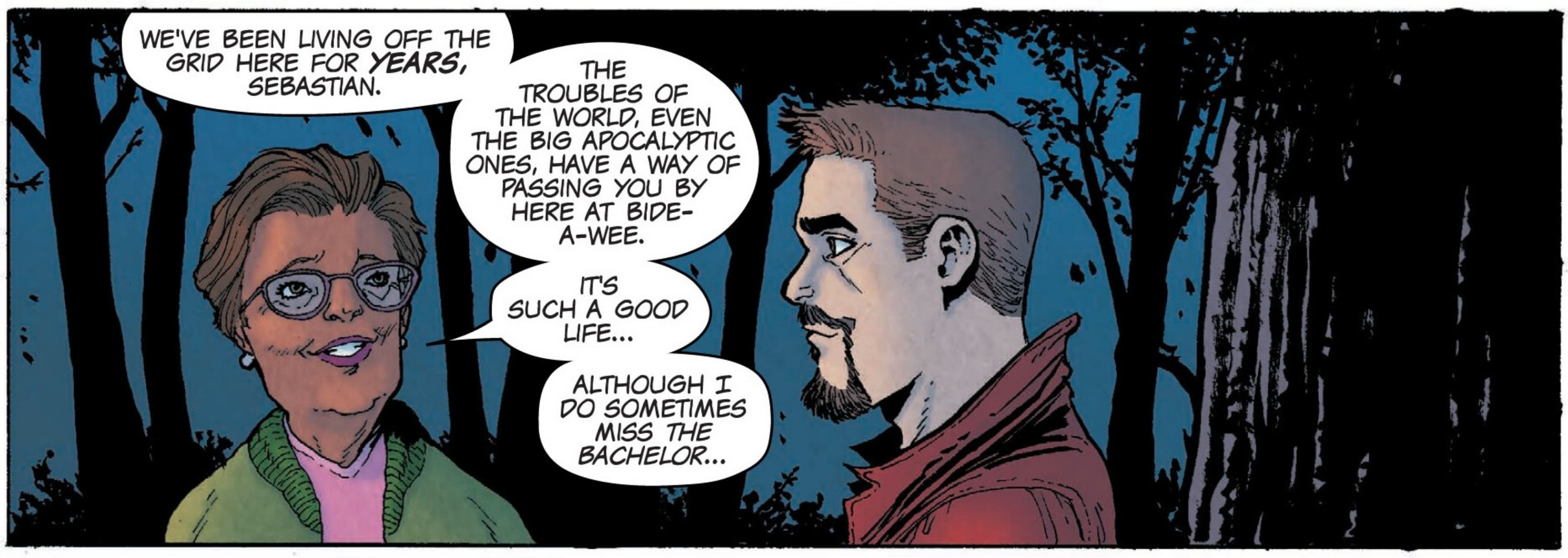

...truck stop.
WHOOOMPF
WHOOOMP
WHAT THE...
WHOOOMPF
WHOOOMP

HEY, BIG MAN! THE HELL ARE YOU HAULING?

EXACTLY.
THUMP

GREAT GOOGA MOOGA!
FRESH FOOD
CHEETZ
MAKE TO ORDER

I AM UNEASY LEAVING LAUSSA UNGUARDED, KATE.
SHE'S NOT UNGUARDED, BALDER. THORI'S WITH HER.
THE KID NEEDED SLEEP AND NOBODY IN THIS GROUP KNOWS HOW TO USE "INSIDE VOICES."
MISSISSIPPI MOON WON'T YOU KEEP SHINING ON ME-E-E-E!
SO, MARIE... YOU GUYS DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT THE WAR OF THE REALMS?


WE'VE BEEN LIVING OFF THE GRID HERE FOR YEARS, SEBASTIAN.
THE TROUBLES OF THE WORLD, EVEN THE BIG APOCALYPTIC ONES, HAVE A WAY OF PASSING YOU BY HERE AT BIDE-A-WEE.
IT'S SUCH A GOOD LIFE...
ALTHOUGH I DO SOMETIMES MISS THE BACHELOR...

THORI IS NO WET NURSE.
THORI IS THE EVISCERATOR OF DEMONS...
...THE NIGHTMARE OF FROST GIANTS...
...THE BANE OF--

RUR?!
GAH GAH!

--ME.

SOL, NO!

WE HAVE BEEN DECEIVED!

NO, BALDER! IT'S A SKRULL.
ACTUALLY, SIMON...

...IT'S A WHOLE MESS OF SKRULLS!
WELL, THEY KNOW WHO WE ARE NOW.

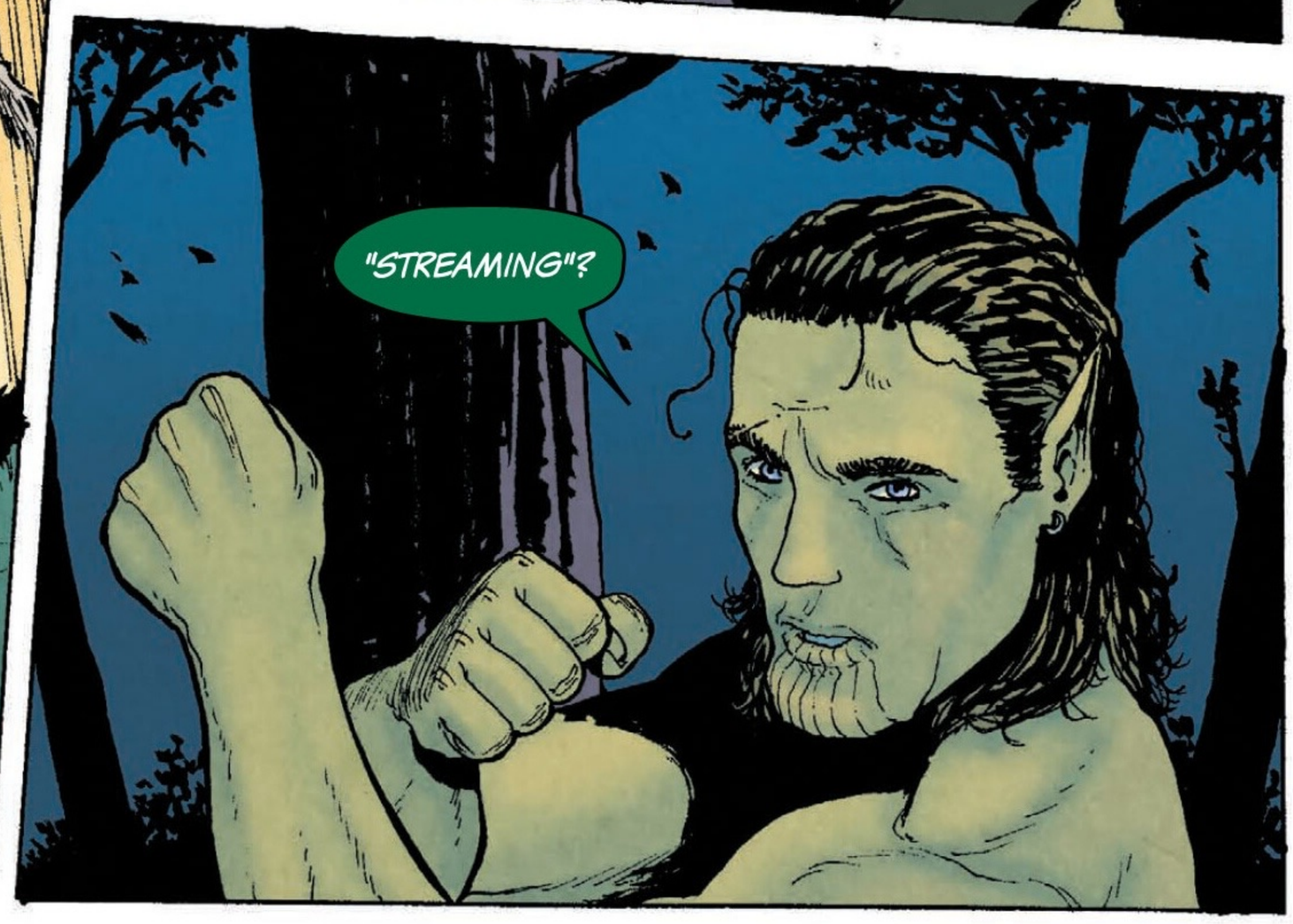
WIPE 'EM OUT!

AND EVERYTHING WAS GOING SO WELL...
YEAH, I WAS GONNA DO SOME CARLY RAE NEXT.

AW, I WOULD HAVE PAID TO SEE THAT!
THWIPP

DEATH LOCKET! YOU MUST PROTECT LAUSSA!
WHOOM
ALL OVER IT, JON SNOW!

WHOA, THAT VAN DAMME STANCE IS SPOT ON!
I WAS UP FOR A ROLE ON THAT STREAMING VIDEO SERIES HE DID.
BUT THE SITE SHUT DOWN BEFORE THEY COULD GET IT FINISHED...


"STREAMING"?

KATE! TAKE THIS!
IT'S CALLED PINAKA! THE BOW OF SHIVA!

OH HELL YEAH.
ANY CHANCE YOU HAVE SOME "ARROWS OF SHIVA" IN YOUR MAGIC RAINCOAT?

JUST PULL THE STRING!

OHHHH, MAMA LIKE!
ZHOOM
ZHOOM
ZHOOM

GREAT WORK, SOL! ALL THESE YEARS STAYING OUT OF SIGHT AND NOW WE HAVE TO KILL THESE NICE SUPER HEROES!
GIMME A BREAK, FLO! IT'S LIKE THAT EMBER HAD IT OUT FOR ME!

LAUSSA!

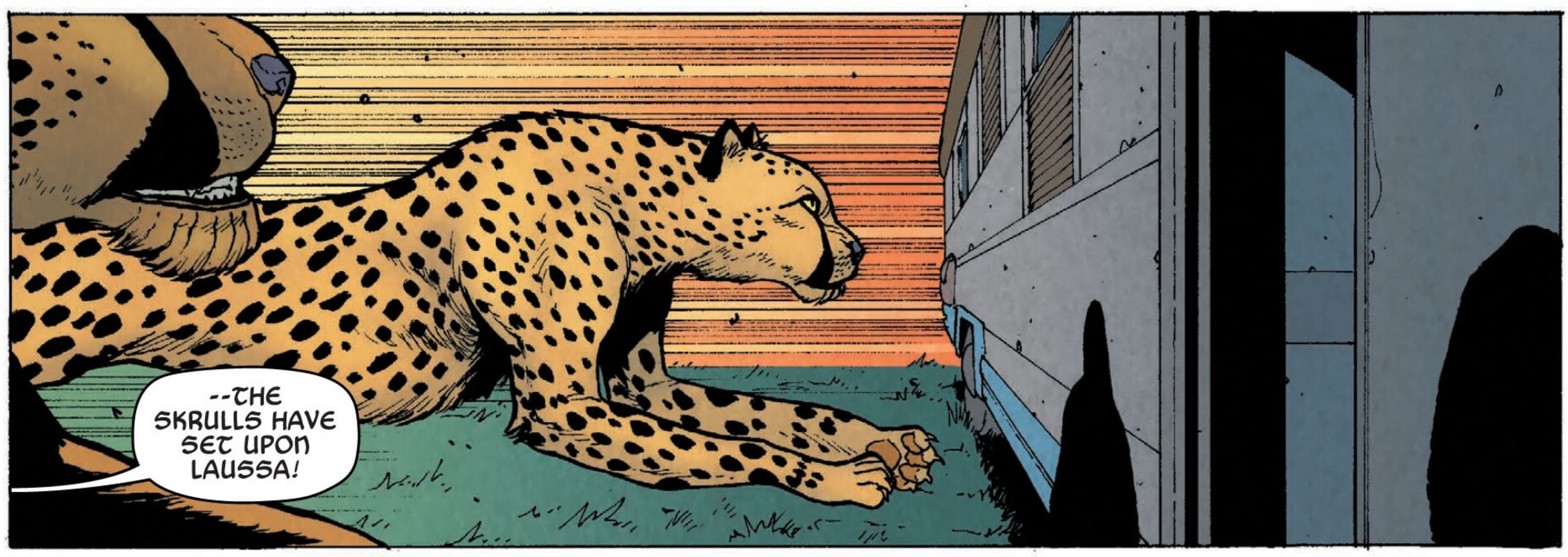
FOUL CREATURE! YOU CHOSE TO ATTACK A WARRIOR WHO HAS VANQUISHED GIA--

WHAM

VANQUISHED GIANTS, HUH? NOT THIS ONE!

WHAT'S WITH ALL THE '90s JUNK? YOU PEOPLE REALLY HAVE BEEN OFF THE GRID!
FZZZSHUM
AGH!

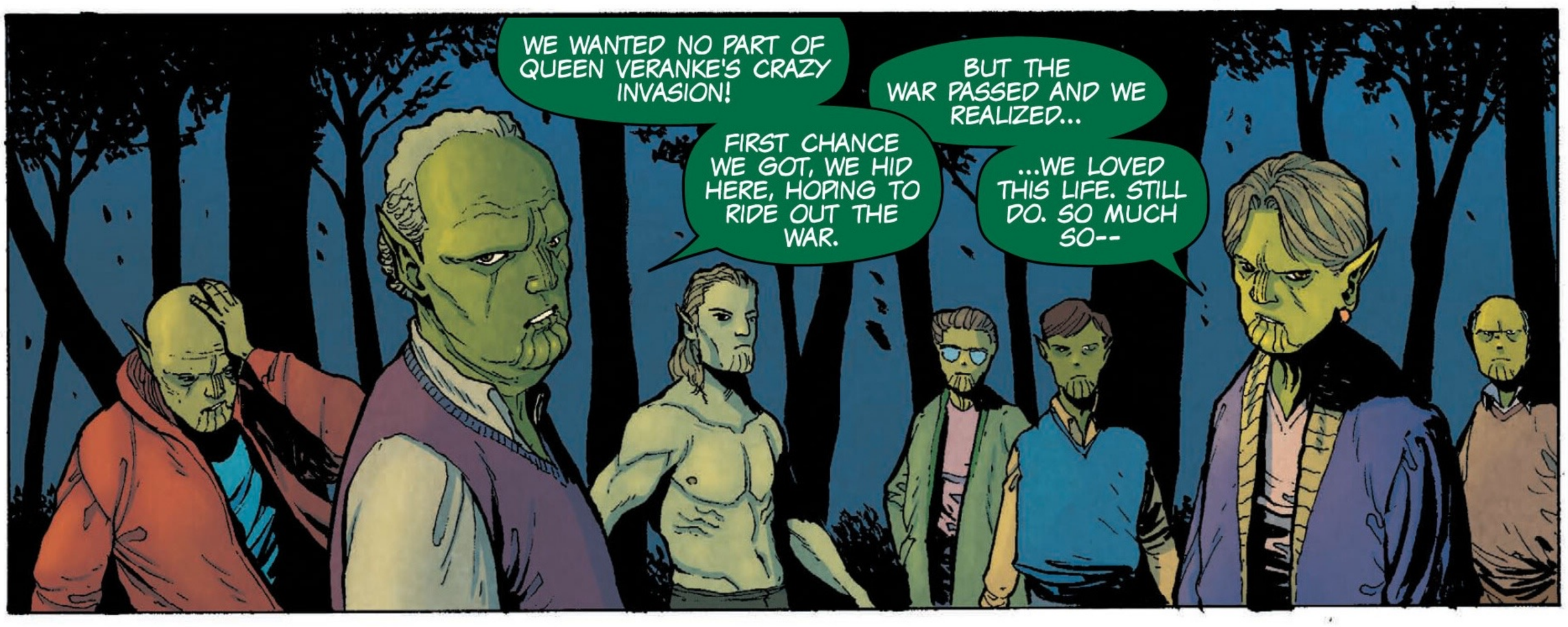
FIRST OFF, THE PRINCESS BRIDE CAME OUT IN 1987.
AND SECOND, IT'S A TIMELESS CLASSIC THAT SHAPED--
NOT NOW, DRUID--


--THE SKRULLS HAVE SET UPON LAUSSA!

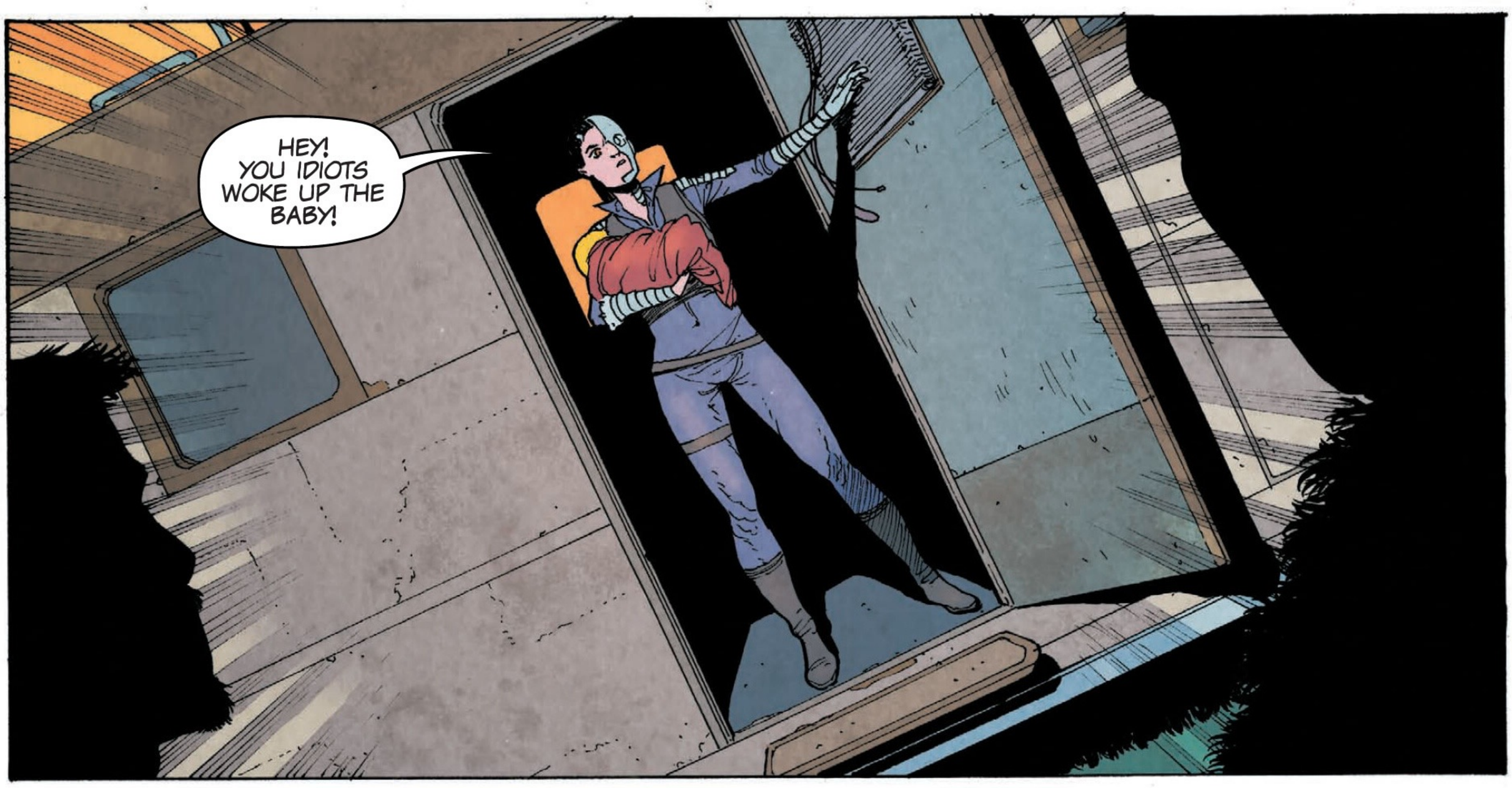
CATS!
THOOM

FINALLY! THORI'S DISTRUST OF THEIR KIND HAS PROVEN SOUND!

THEY'RE SORT OF LIKE ALIEN DOOMSDAY PREPPERS, POOCH!
THEY MUST HAVE BEEN HERE SINCE THE SECRET INVASION!

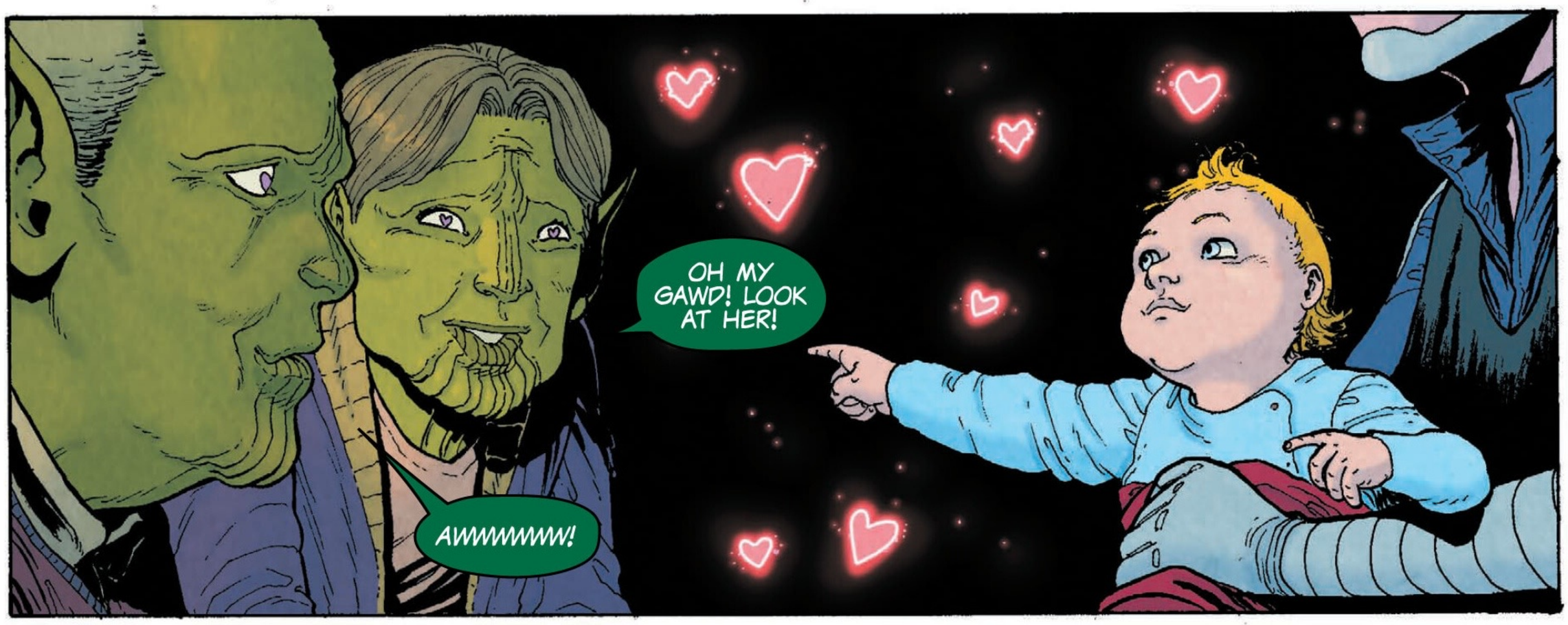

WE WANTED NO PART OF QUEEN VERANKE'S CRAZY INVASION!
FIRST CHANCE WE GOT, WE HID HERE, HOPING TO RIDE OUT THE WAR.
BUT THE WAR PASSED AND WE REALIZED...
...WE LOVED THIS LIFE. STILL DO. SO MUCH SO--

--THAT WE'RE WILLING TO KILL FOR IT.


HEY! YOU IDIOTS WOKE UP THE BABY!

LOCKET! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
I DON'T EXACTLY KNOW, BALDER! I JUST HAVE THIS WEIRD FEELING...

...BABY SIS WANTS TO SAY HI!


OH MY GAWD! LOOK AT HER!
AWWWWWW!

WHO'S A PRETTY GIRL? WHO'S A PRETTY GIRL?
WHAT A DOLL!
GOO-GOO-GOO! GOO-GOO-GOO!
SHE'S PERFECT!

WHAT... THE... HELL?!
IT'S LIKE THEY'VE MORPHED INTO MY GRAND-PARENTS.
WEIRD, THEY STILL LOOK LIKE SKRULLS TO ME.
SO DO GRAN-GRAN AND PEEPS.
BALDER, HAVE YOU EVER SEEN ANYTHING LIKE THIS?

NO, FRIEND DRUID. I HAVE NOT.
THORI IS NOT HAPPY...

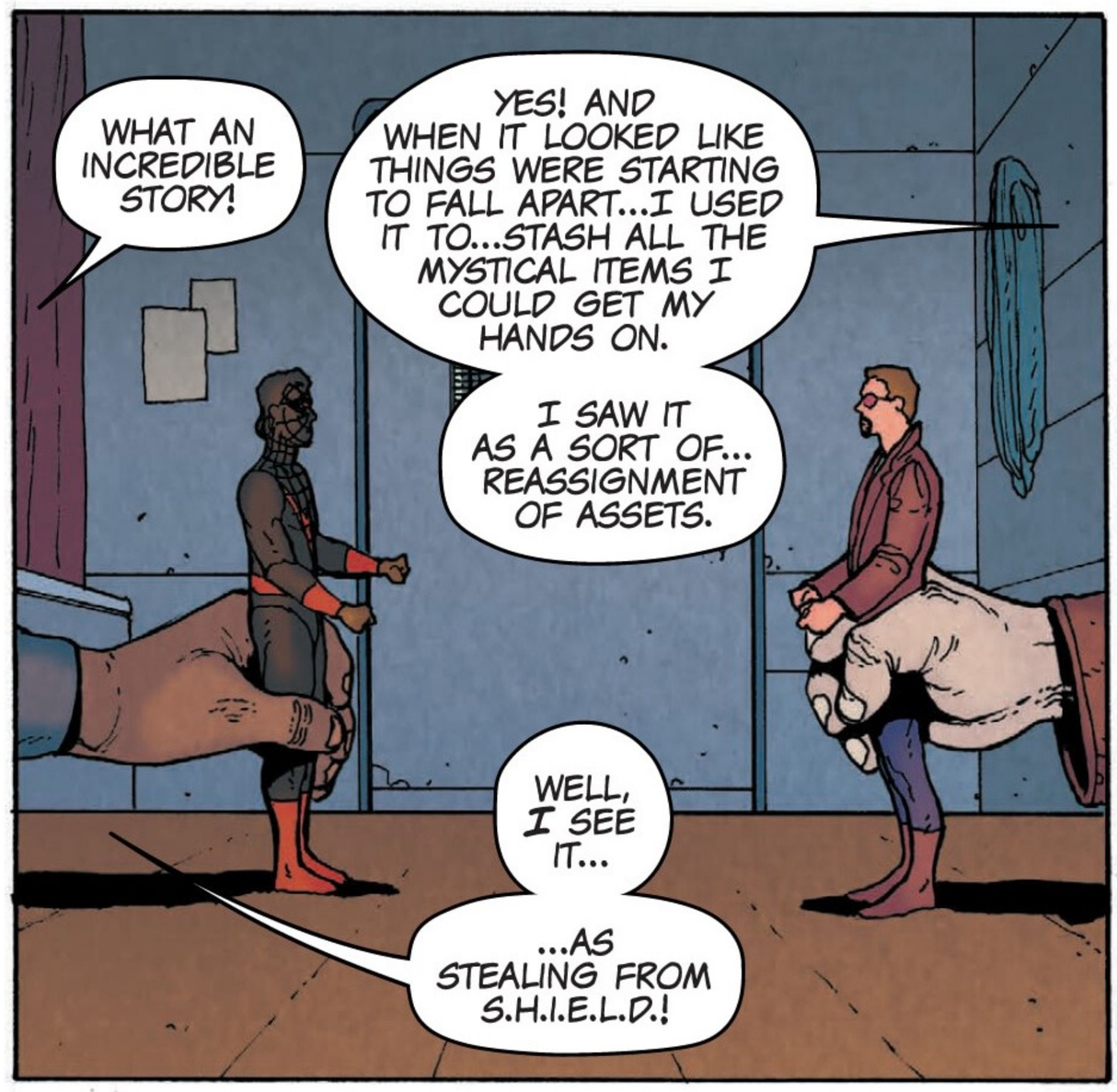
GAH GAH!
...NOT HAPPY AT ALL...

WAR OF THE REALMS: JOURNEY INTO MYSTERY #3

Overseers of the Community

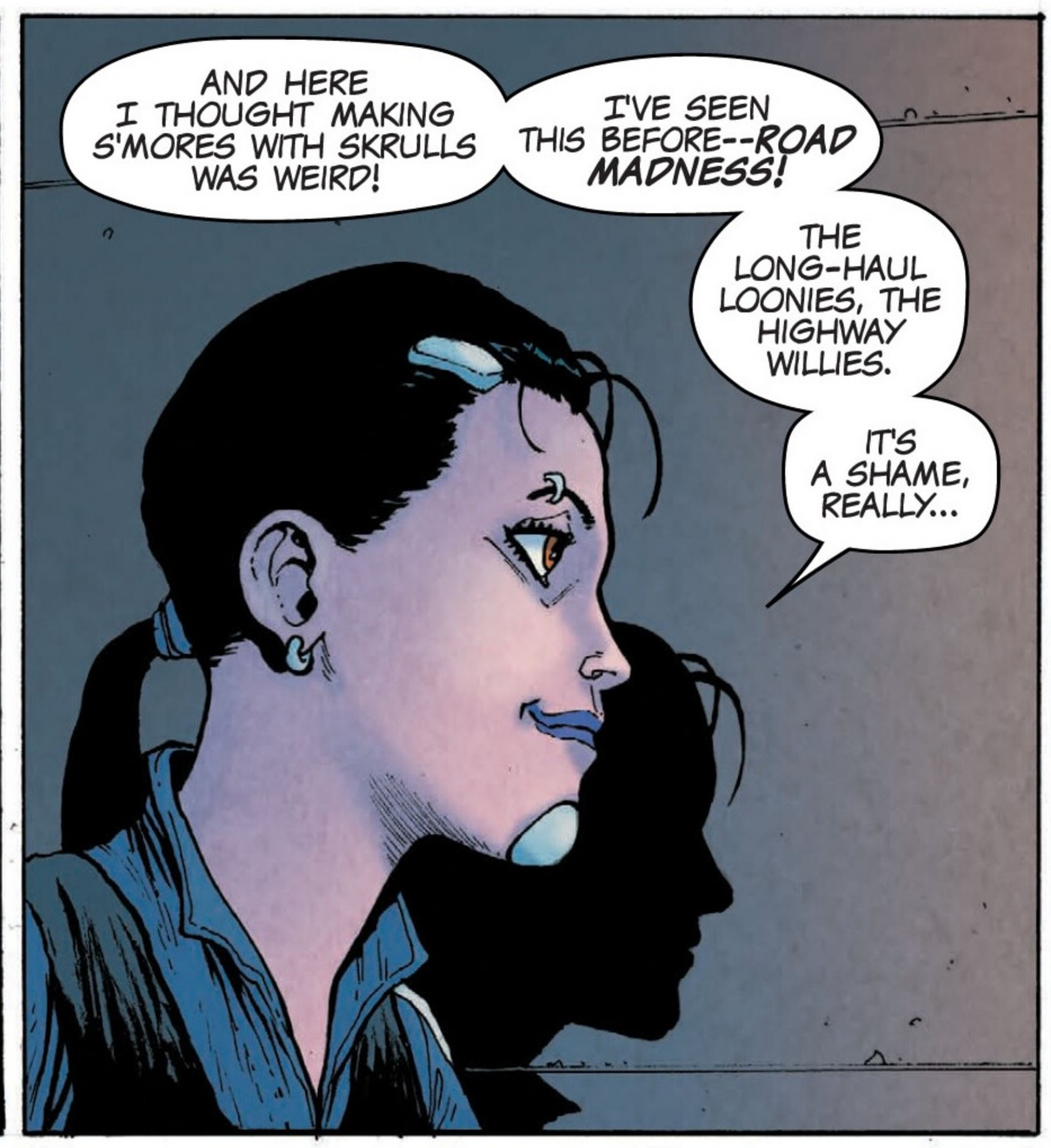
SO, SEBASTIAN DRUID, MASTER OF THE MYSTIC ARTS, ONETIME CANDIDATE TO BE SORCERER SUPREME, FORMER SECRET WARRIOR...
...THE QUESTION I MUST ASK:
WHERE DID YOU GET THAT AWESOME COAT??

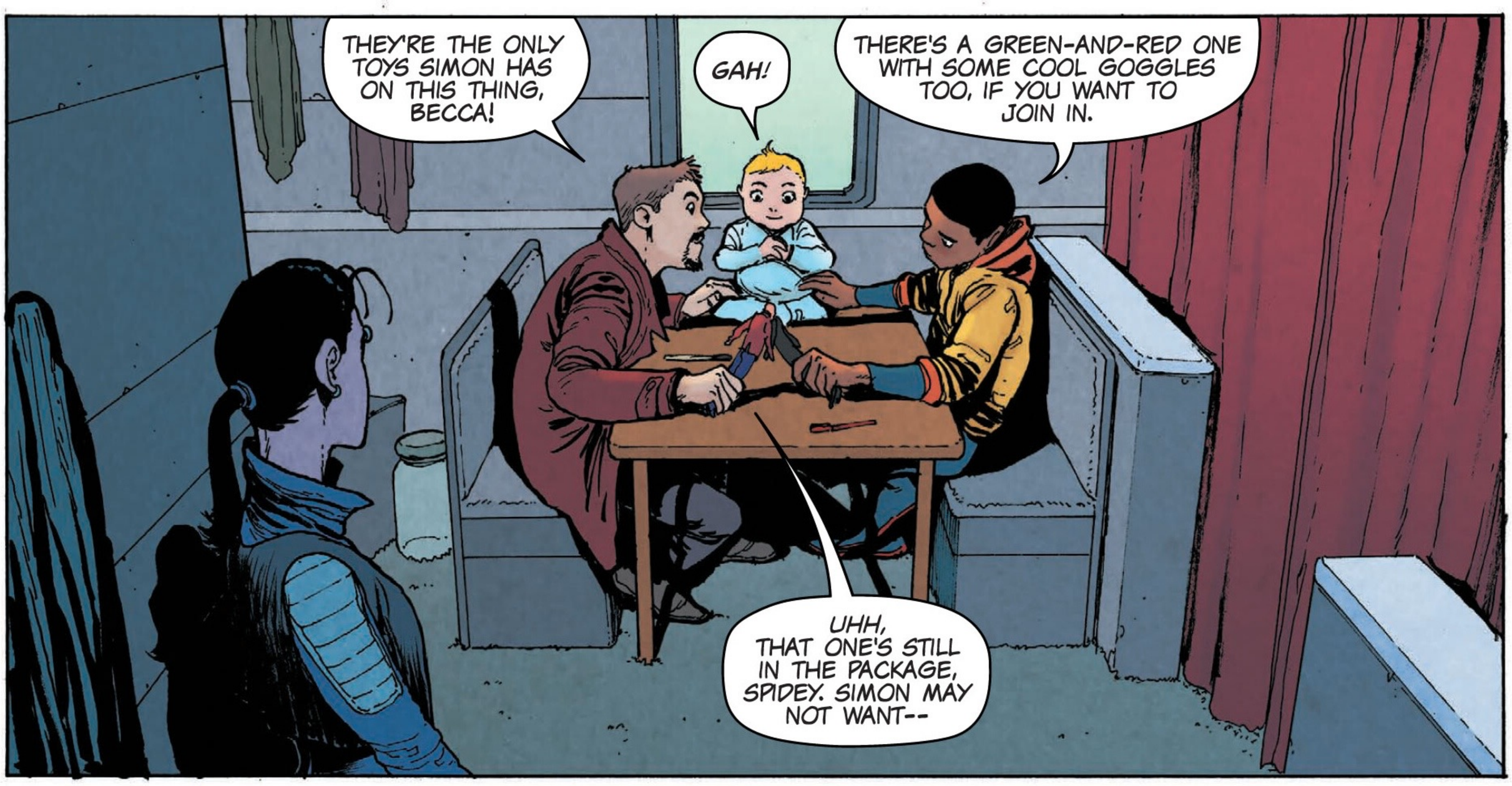
I WILL TELL YOU, SPIDER-MAN, COURAGEOUS CRIMEFIGHTER AND HERO TO THE PEOPLE!
NICK FURY HAD ME CATALOGUING MYSTICAL ITEMS S.H.I.E.L.D. HAD FOUND.
ONE OF THOSE ITEMS WAS A SHADOW CLOAK. IT COULD CHANGE ITS FORM AND CREATE A MAGIC PORTAL TO WHEREVER THE WEARER WANTED.


WHAT AN INCREDIBLE STORY!
YES! AND WHEN IT LOOKED LIKE THINGS WERE STARTING TO FALL APART...I USED IT TO...STASH ALL THE MYSTICAL ITEMS I COULD GET MY HANDS ON.
I SAW IT AS A SORT OF... REASSIGNMENT OF ASSETS.
WELL, I SEE IT...
...AS STEALING FROM S.H.I.E.L.D.!

WE MUST FIGHT!
WHAMMM!
SO BE IT!
SMASSHH!

POWW!
WHACCKK!


AND HERE I THOUGHT MAKING S'MORES WITH SKRULLS WAS WEIRD!
I'VE SEEN THIS BEFORE--ROAD MADNESS!
THE LONG-HAUL LOONIES, THE HIGHWAY WILLIES.
IT'S A SHAME, REALLY...


THEY'RE THE ONLY TOYS SIMON HAS ON THIS THING, BECCA!
GAH!
THERE'S A GREEN-AND-RED ONE WITH SOME COOL GOGGLES TOO, IF YOU WANT TO JOIN IN.
UHH, THAT ONE'S STILL IN THE PACKAGE, SPIDEY. SIMON MAY NOT WANT--

OH, DON'T WORRY ABOUT THAT. THOSE THINGS COST NINETEEN CENTS TO PRODUCE. I HAVE A GARAGE CHOCK-FULL OF THEM.
JUST DON'T TOUCH THE YELLOW-AND-GREEN VISION ONE. THAT'S A COLLECTOR'S ITEM!
SAWBONES

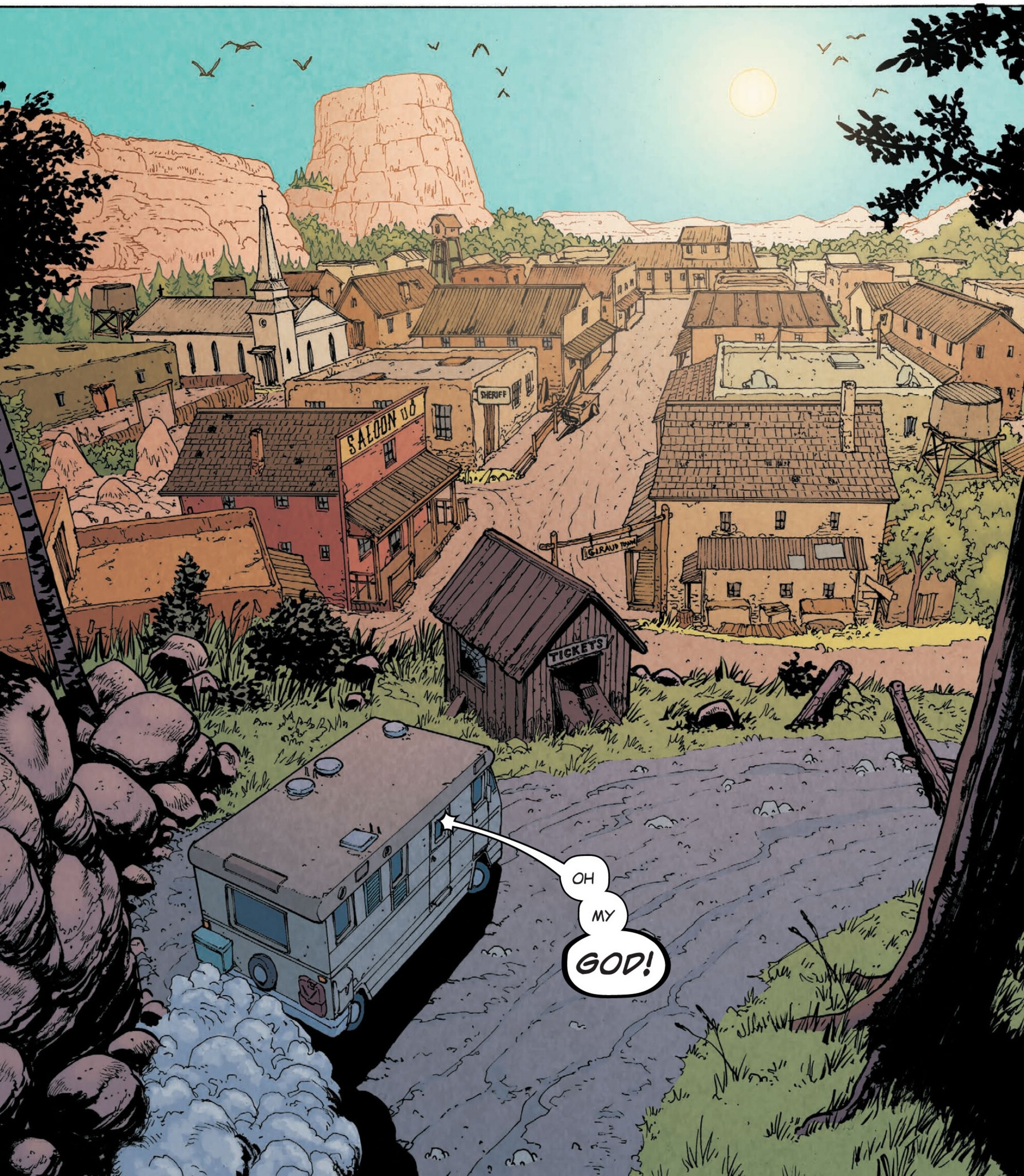
KATE BISHOP, ARE YOU SURE THIS IS THE BEST ROUTE TO GET TO BECCA'S BEACHED HELICARRIER?
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO SAID TO KEEP A LOW PROFILE, BALDER. THAT MEANS BACKROADS!
PLUS, SINCE THE FROST GIANTS HAVE TAKEN OVER ALL OVER, THIS IS THE BEST WAY TO AVOID THEM!
YOU MADE ME YOUR DRIVER, MY MAN--

--SO SIT BACK AND DO A SUDOKU OR SOMETHING.

CAN WE MAKE A PIT STOP SOON? THORI LOOKS IN DIRE NEED OF A BATHROOM BREAK.
YOU DARE?! THORI CAN VOICE HIS OWN NEED FOR RELIEF!

THOUGH, AS FATE WOULD HAVE IT, I DO REQUIRE... RELIEF.
YOU GOT IT.
THIS WAGON'S HUMAN TOILET... CONFOUNDS THORI.
YEAH, THAT'S GONNA BE A "YUCK" FROM ME.

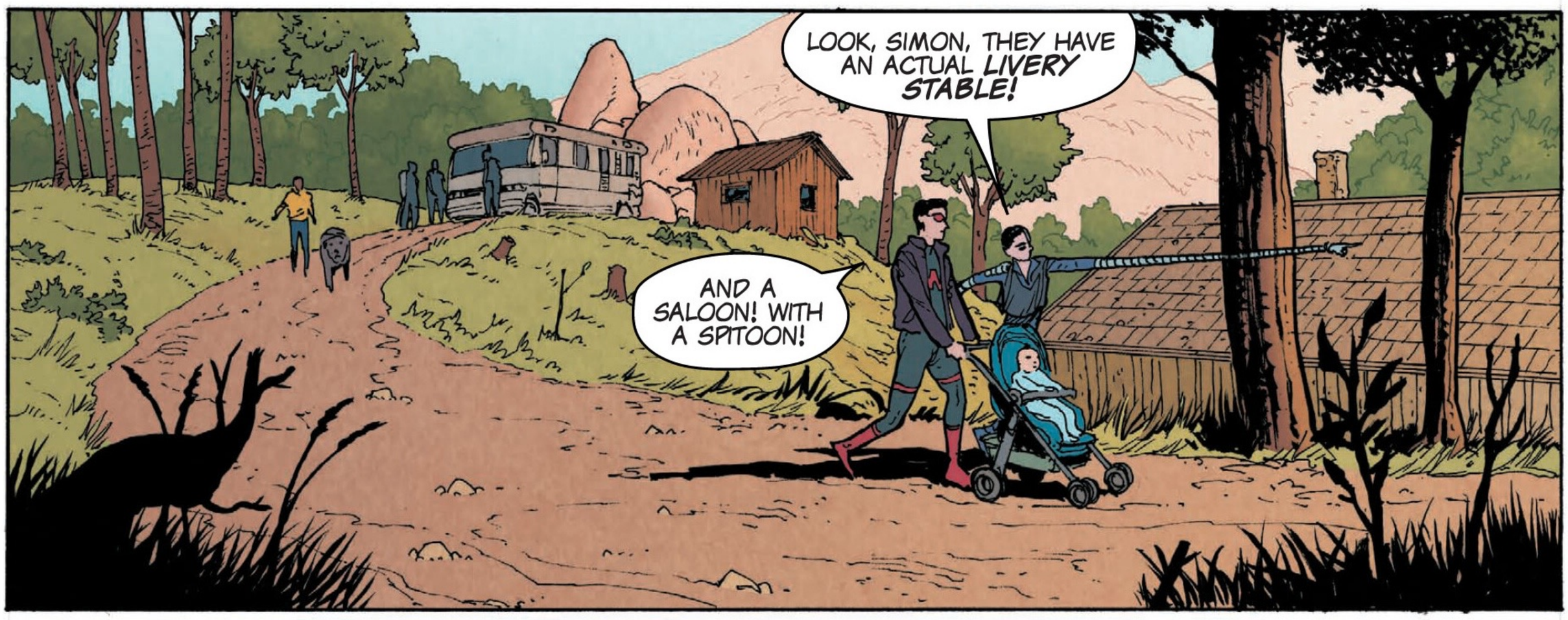
SIX GUN TERRITORY
Welcome Owlhoots!
Gunfights every hour!
Get ready to sla
CLOSED


SALOON
SHERIFF
GIRAUD TOWN
TICKETS
OH MY GOD!

THIS IS, HANDS DOWN, MY NEW FAVORITE LOCATION ON THE PLANET EARTH.
YOU'RE GOOFING, RIGHT?
NO GOOFING! THAT WESTWORLD-MEETS-DEFINITELY-HAUNTED-ABANDONED-AMUSEMENT-PARK VIBE? THAT IS EXPLICITLY MY JAM.

I'M WITH YOU, BECCA! LET'S GO FIND OURSELVES A COWBOY-GHOST!
TAKE LAUSSA! SHE COULD USE SOME FRESH AIR.
...

I MEAN, IF THAT'S OKAY WITH HER BIG BROTHER.
OH. OF COURSE. YES.


LOOK, SIMON, THEY HAVE AN ACTUAL LIVERY STABLE!
AND A SALOON! WITH A SPITOON!

HEY, THORI! WHATTAYA SAY, BOY?
WANT TO GO FOR A WALK WITH ME?
YES, MAN OF SPIDERS, I WOULD!

BUT I DO NOT THINK RESTRAINING YOU WITH THAT DEVICE IS NECESSARY.
OF COURSE. WHAT WAS I THINKING?

Bide-A-Wee RV Campground.

I'LL ASK YOU AGAIN, SKRULL--WHERE ARE THE ASGARDIANS?!

AND I'LL TELL YOU AGAIN--I DON'T KNOW WHO YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT!

I KNOW THEY WERE HERE!

JUST LIKE I KNOW THERE WERE MORE SKRULLS HERE!

WHAPP

WHY ARE THERE NOW ONLY FOUR OF YOU?!

HOW...CAN YOU POSSIBLY... KNOW ALL THIS...?

ISN'T THAT STRANGE?

SHE TOLD ME YOU WOULD SAY THAT...

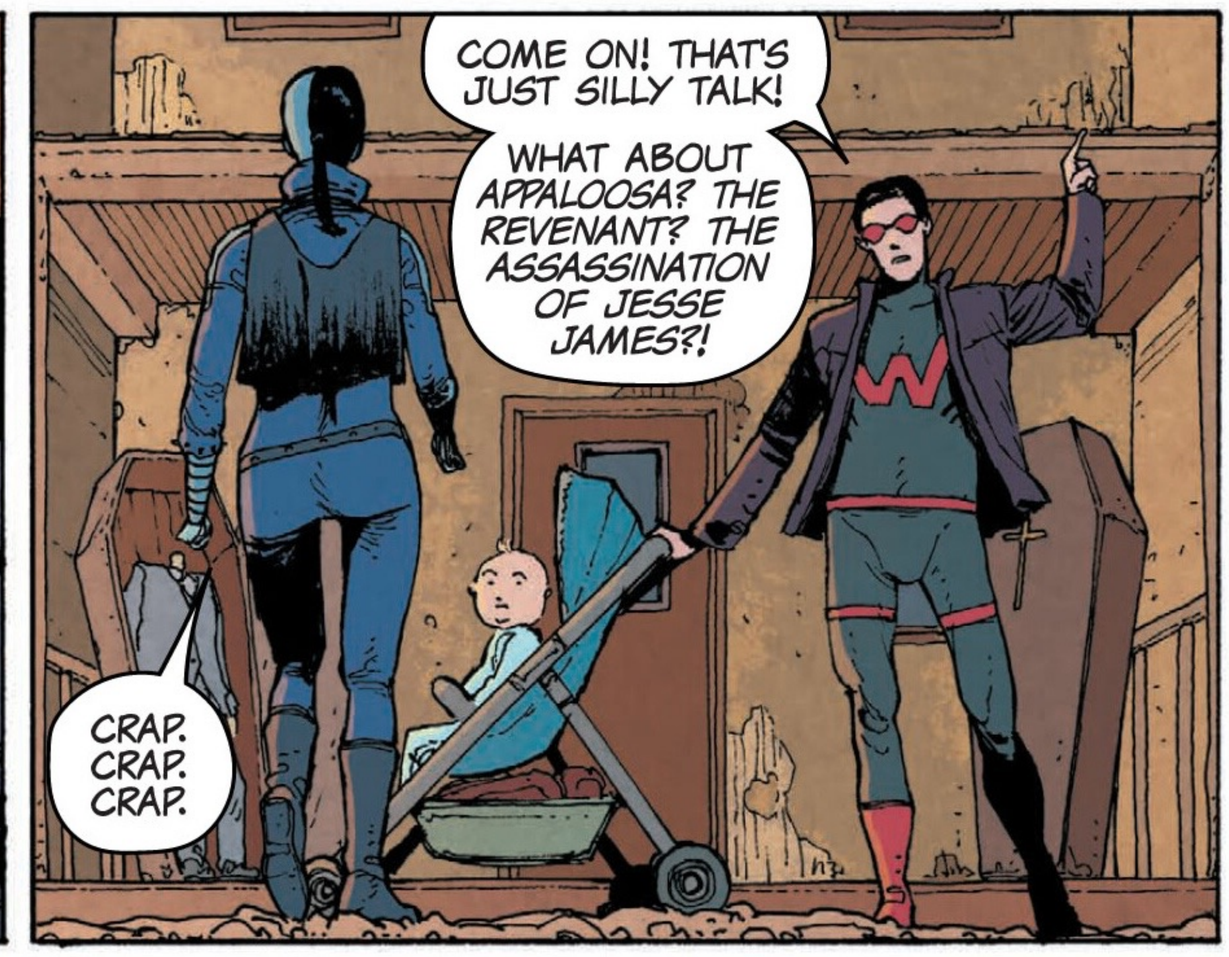
Six-Gun Territory.

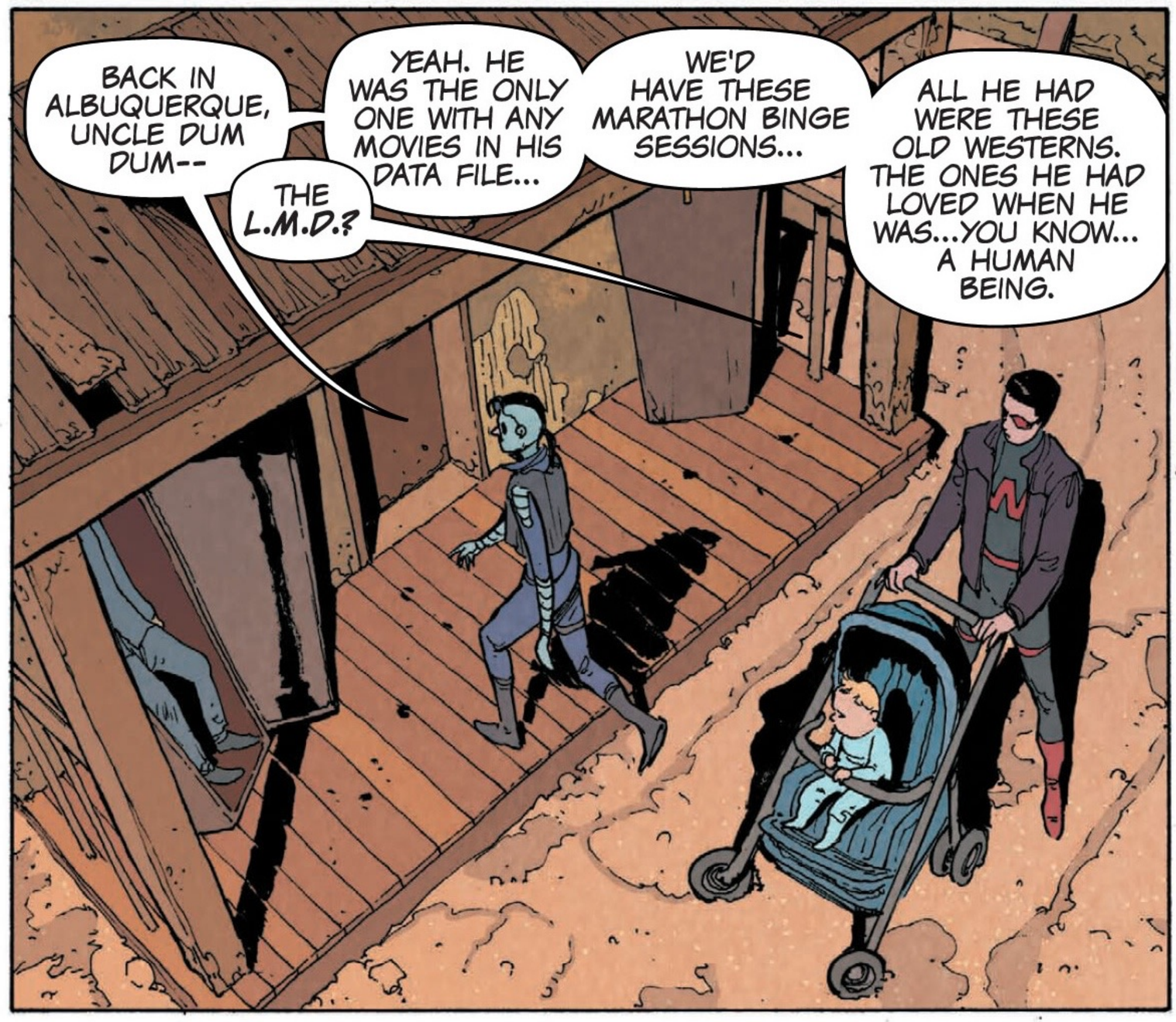
LOOK AT THE HOTEL! STRAIGHT OUT OF 3:10 TO YUMA!

OH, MAN! RUSSELL CROWE WAS *OUTSTANDING* IN THAT MOVIE! ONE OF MY FAVORITES!

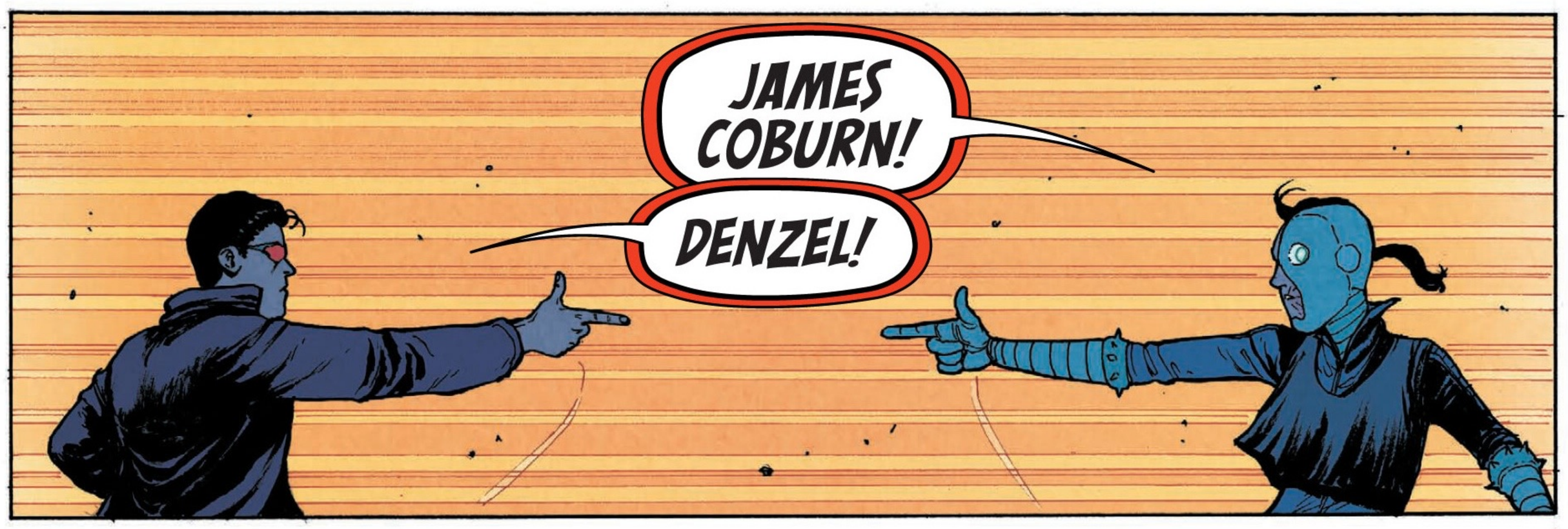
UNDERTAKER

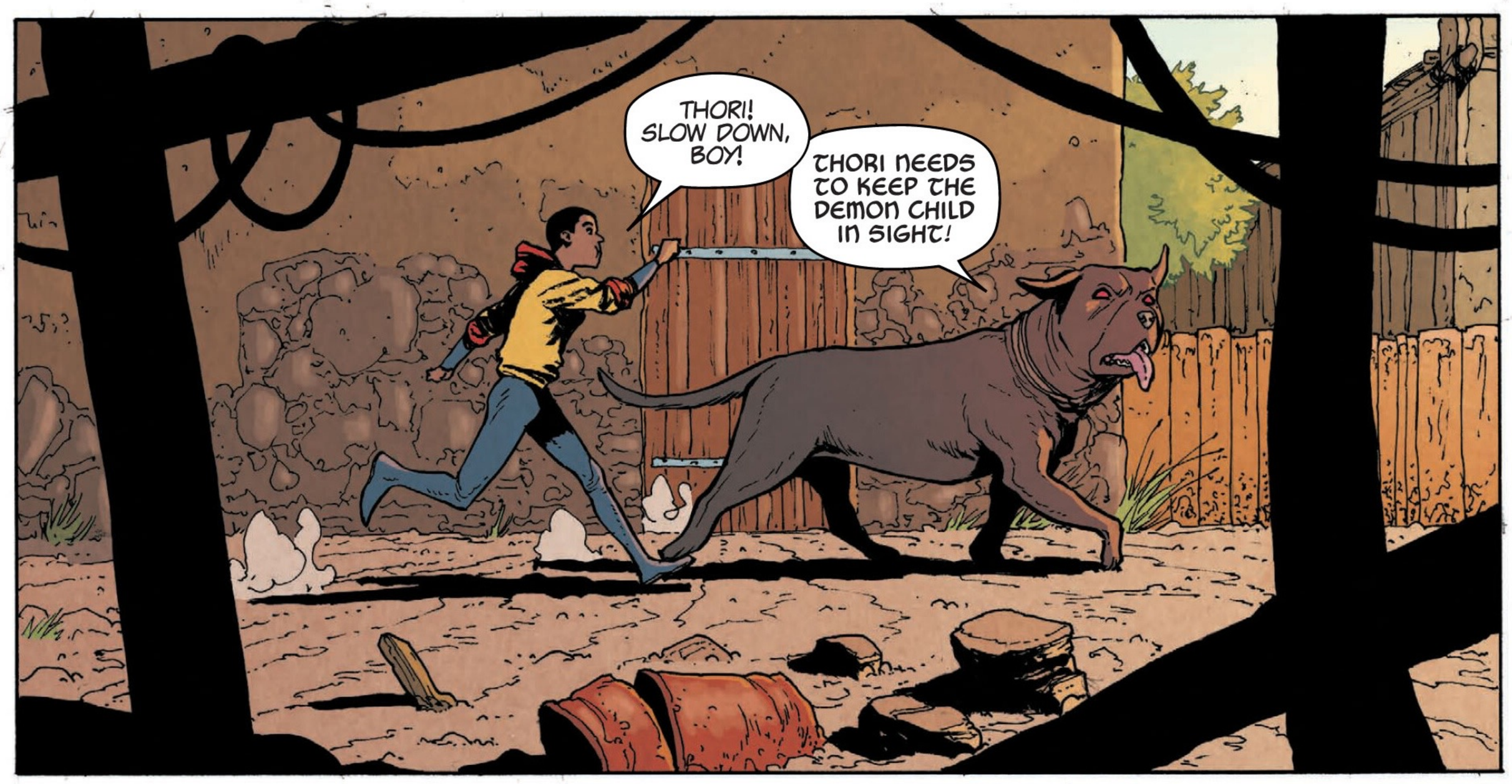
SIBELLIUS WORMFOOD PROPRIETOR



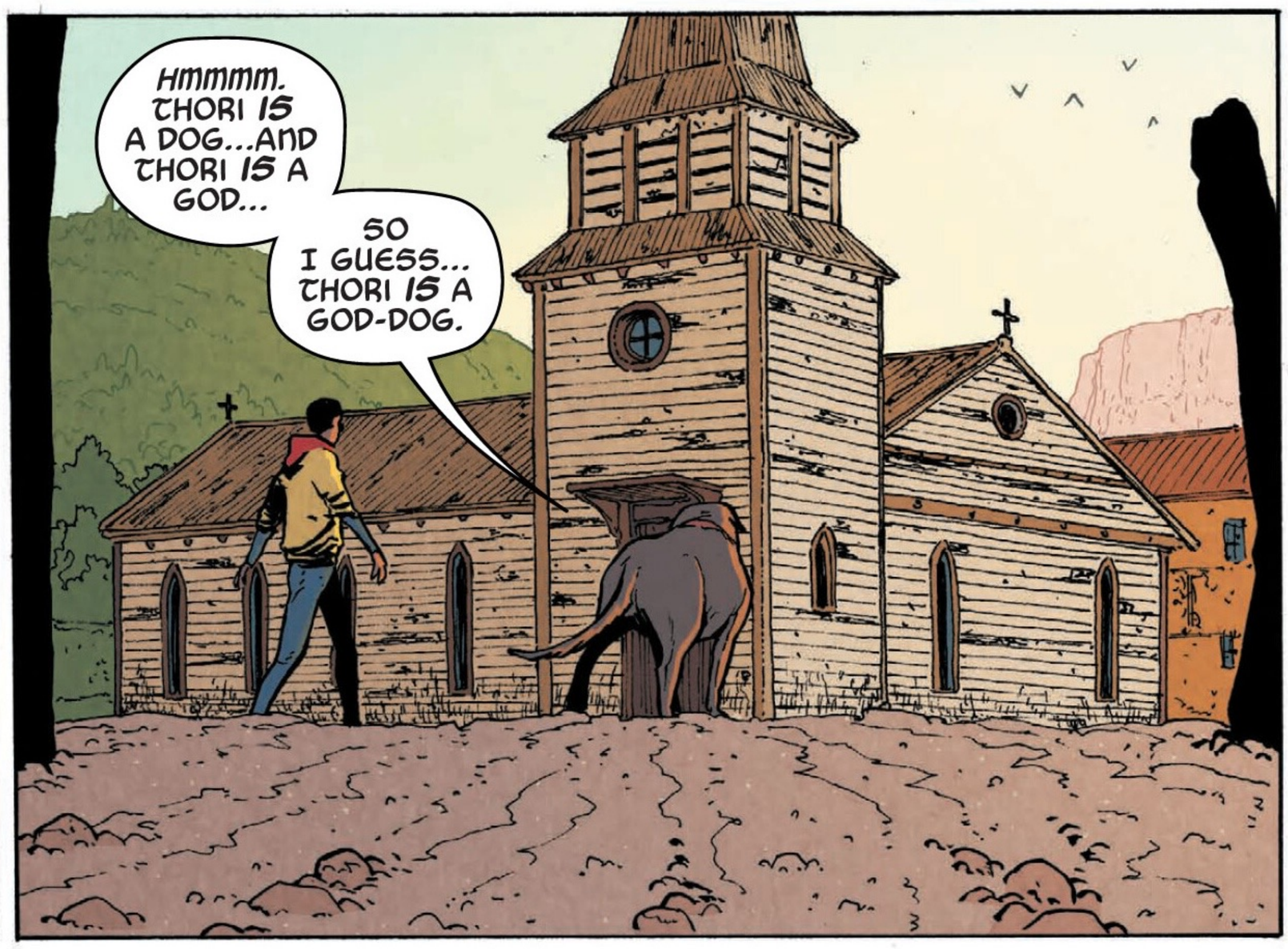


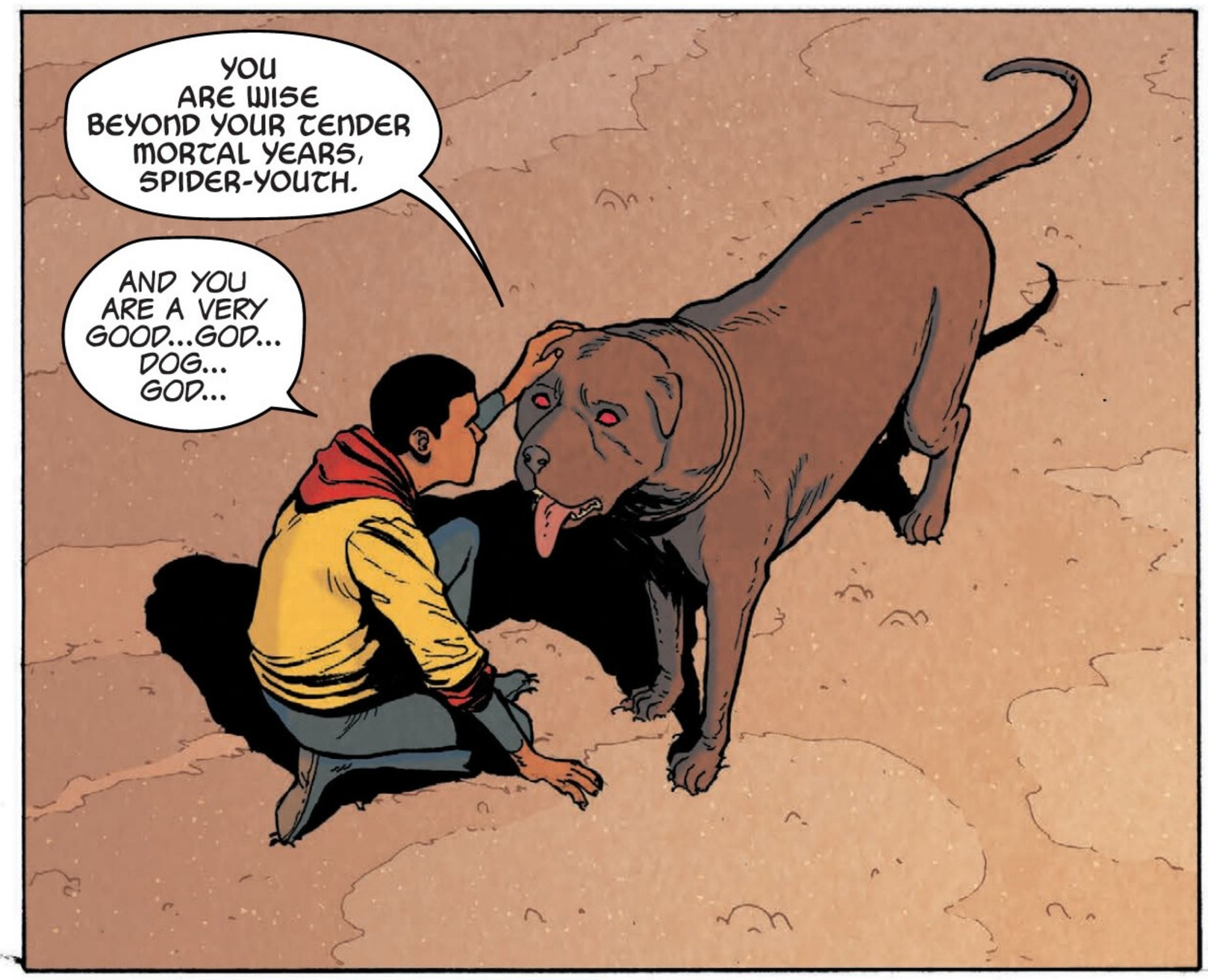
ALL RIGHT, THEN...WE'RE GONNA RESOLVE THIS RIGHT NOW!
ON THREE... NAME THE BEST MEMBER OF THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN.
ONE...
TWO...
...THREE!




THORI! SLOW DOWN, BOY!
THORI NEEDS TO KEEP THE DEMON CHILD IN SIGHT!

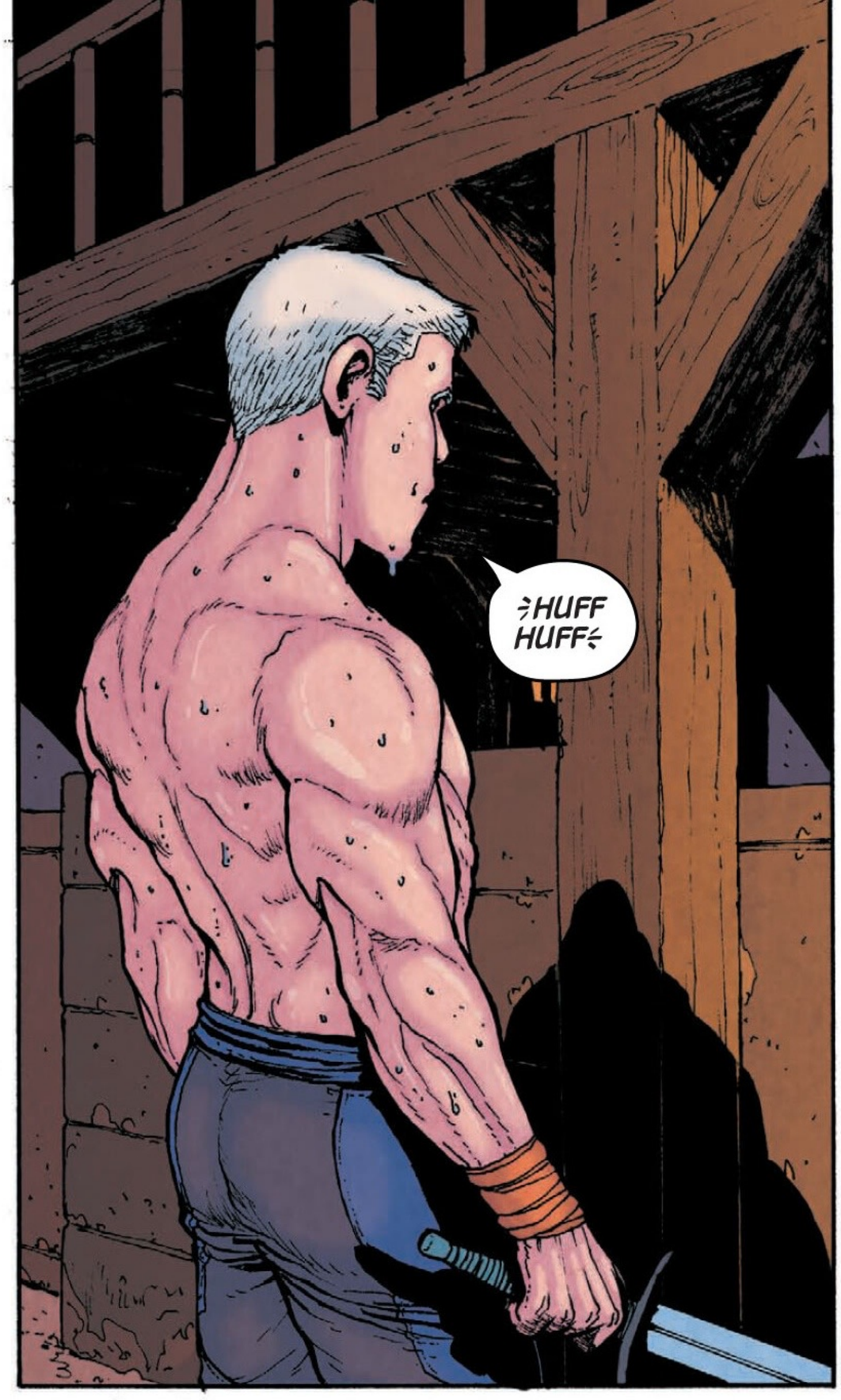
"DEMON CHILD"? THAT'S A LITTLE HARSH, DON'T YOU THINK?
BESIDES, AREN'T YOU, LIKE...HER GOD-DOG?


HMMMM. THORI IS A DOG...AND THORI IS A GOD...
SO I GUESS... THORI IS A GOD-DOG.


YOU ARE WISE BEYOND YOUR TENDER MORTAL YEARS, SPIDER-YOUTH.
AND YOU ARE A VERY GOOD...GOD... DOG... GOD...

KLUDDA-CLUMP
KLUDDA-CLUMP
WUF?

THIS IS NEW TO THORI!
GOD, I MISS BROOKLYN...


HUFF HUFF

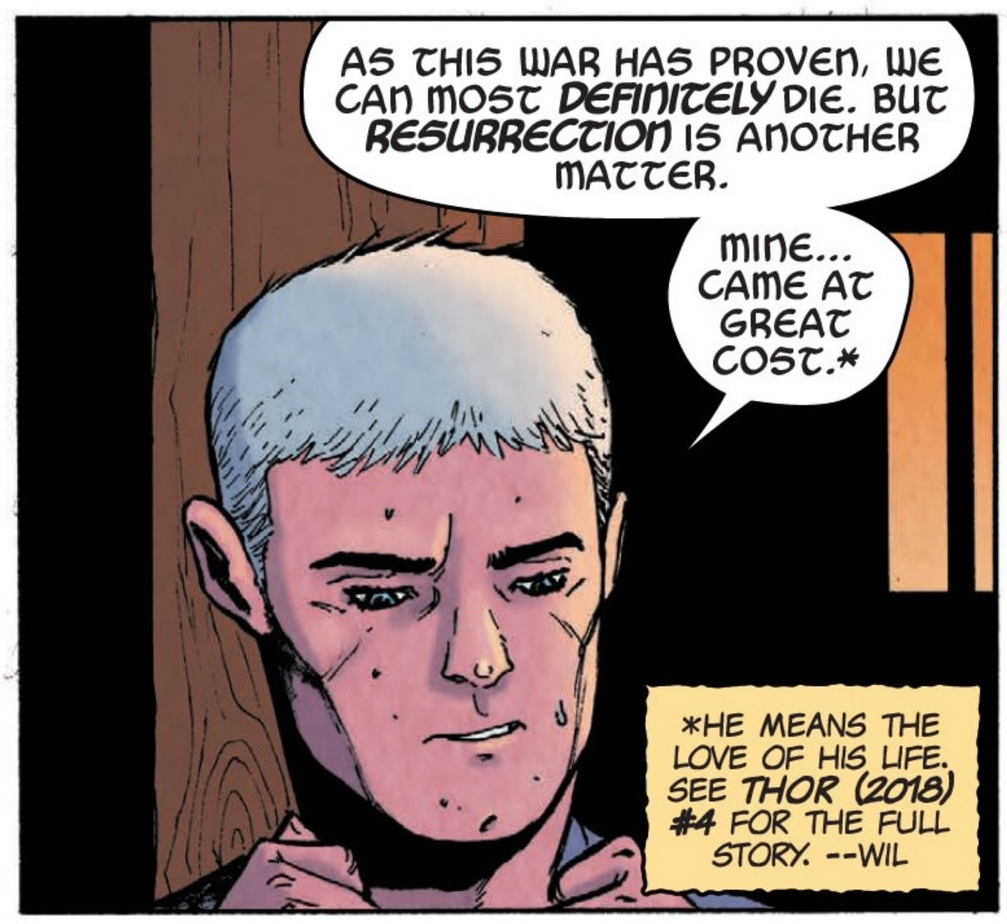
AHH--

--HO!
SHUNK
NICE!

YOU CERTAINLY TAUGHT THAT POST A LESSON IT WILL NEVER FORGET, BALDER!

KATE, WHAT--
IS IT ONE OF THE NEW MASTERS OF EVIL? SHOULD WE SEND OUT AN EMERGENCY CALL FOR THE AVENGERS?
IT MUST BE PRETTY HEINOUS TO TURN A DEITY SUCH AS YOURSELF INTO A BONA FIDE SWEATY FREDDY.
THUNK

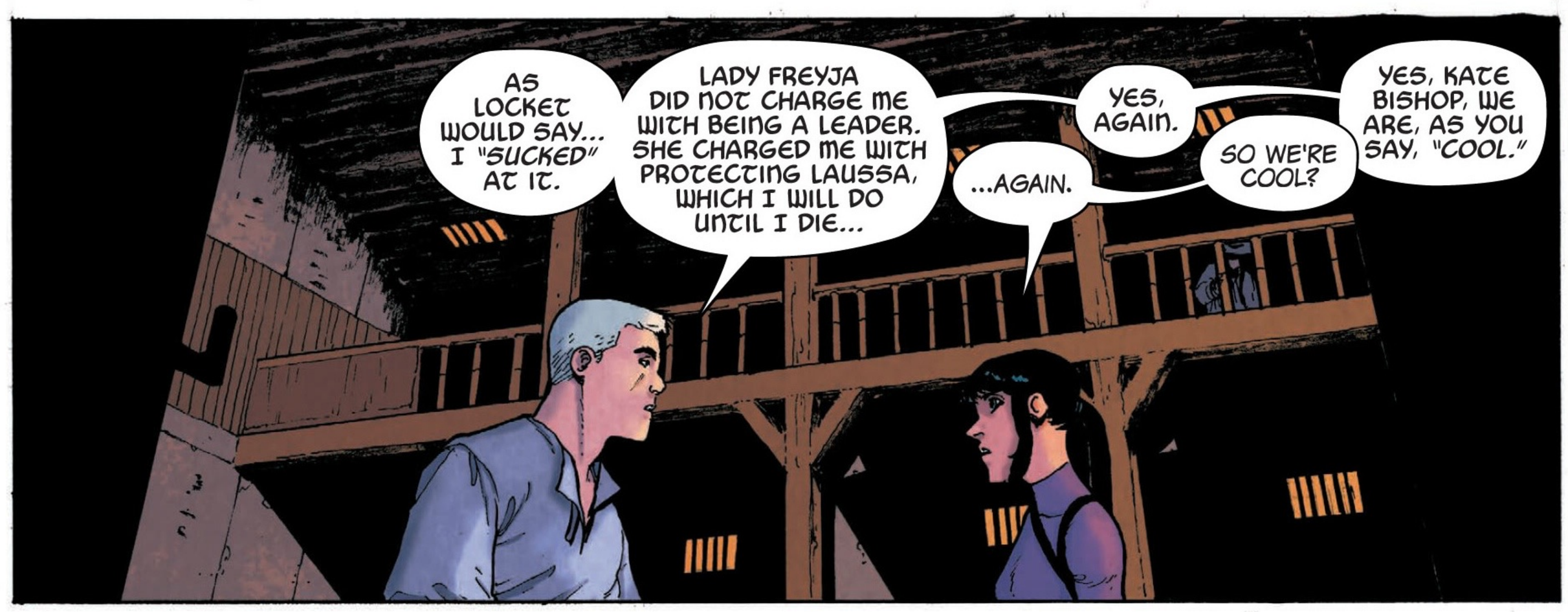
GODS PERSPIRE, KATE BISHOP. GODS DO EVERYTHING THAT MORTALS DO.
INCLUDING DIE, RIGHT?
SHUNK


AS THIS WAR HAS PROVEN, WE CAN MOST DEFINITELY DIE. BUT RESURRECTION IS ANOTHER MATTER.
MINE... CAME AT GREAT COST.*
*HE MEANS THE LOVE OF HIS LIFE. SEE THOR (2018) #4 FOR THE FULL STORY. --WIL

HUH. TRIPPY.
SO, LOOK, A FEW MINUTES AGO, BACK IN THE WONDER WAGON, I GOT THE IMPRESSION THAT YOU WERE PISSED.
I WANT YOU TO KNOW, I HAVE NO DESIRE TO TAKE OVER OUR LITTLE BABYSITTERS CLUB.
KATE. I WAS NOT... "PISSED"...

...I WAS RELIEVED.

YOU WERE?
NOT EVERYONE IS CUT OUT TO BE A LEADER, KATE BISHOP. I HAVE BEEN A LEADER BEFORE...IN ASGARD... IN LIMBO...IN HEL.


AS LOCKET WOULD SAY... I "SUCKED" AT IT.
LADY FREYJA DID NOT CHARGE ME WITH BEING A LEADER. SHE CHARGED ME WITH PROTECTING LAUSSA, WHICH I WILL DO UNTIL I DIE...
YES, AGAIN.
...AGAIN.
SO WE'RE COOL?
YES, KATE BISHOP, WE ARE, AS YOU SAY, "COOL."

GOOD. NOW, YOU HAVE GOT TO TEACH ME THAT SPIN ATTACK. YOU ARE ON SOME SERIOUS LEGEND OF ZELDA $#@&, AND I AM HERE FOR IT.

LET ME EXPLAIN SOMETHING TO YOU TINHORNS...

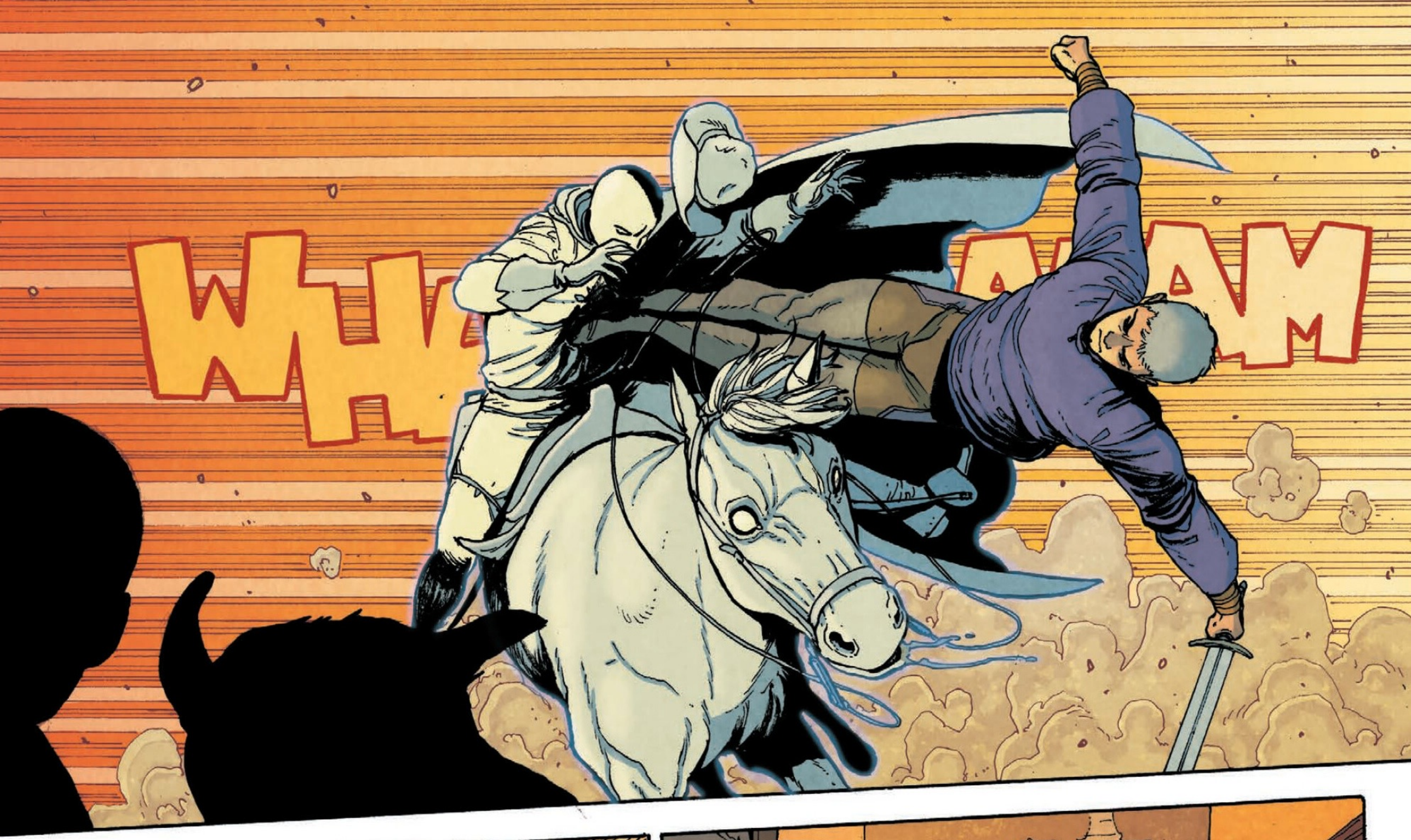
I AIN'T GOIN' NOWHARS UNTIL I FINISH MY SIPPIN' WHISKEY.
AND WHEN I AM FINISHED, I'M HEADIN' DOWN TO THE SHERIFF'S AND GETTING BILLY DUCAINE OUTTA THAT JAIL...
THEN THE TWO OF US IS LEAVIN'...

AND YOU AIN'T GONNA DO A DAMN THING ABOUT IT.
COMPRENDE?

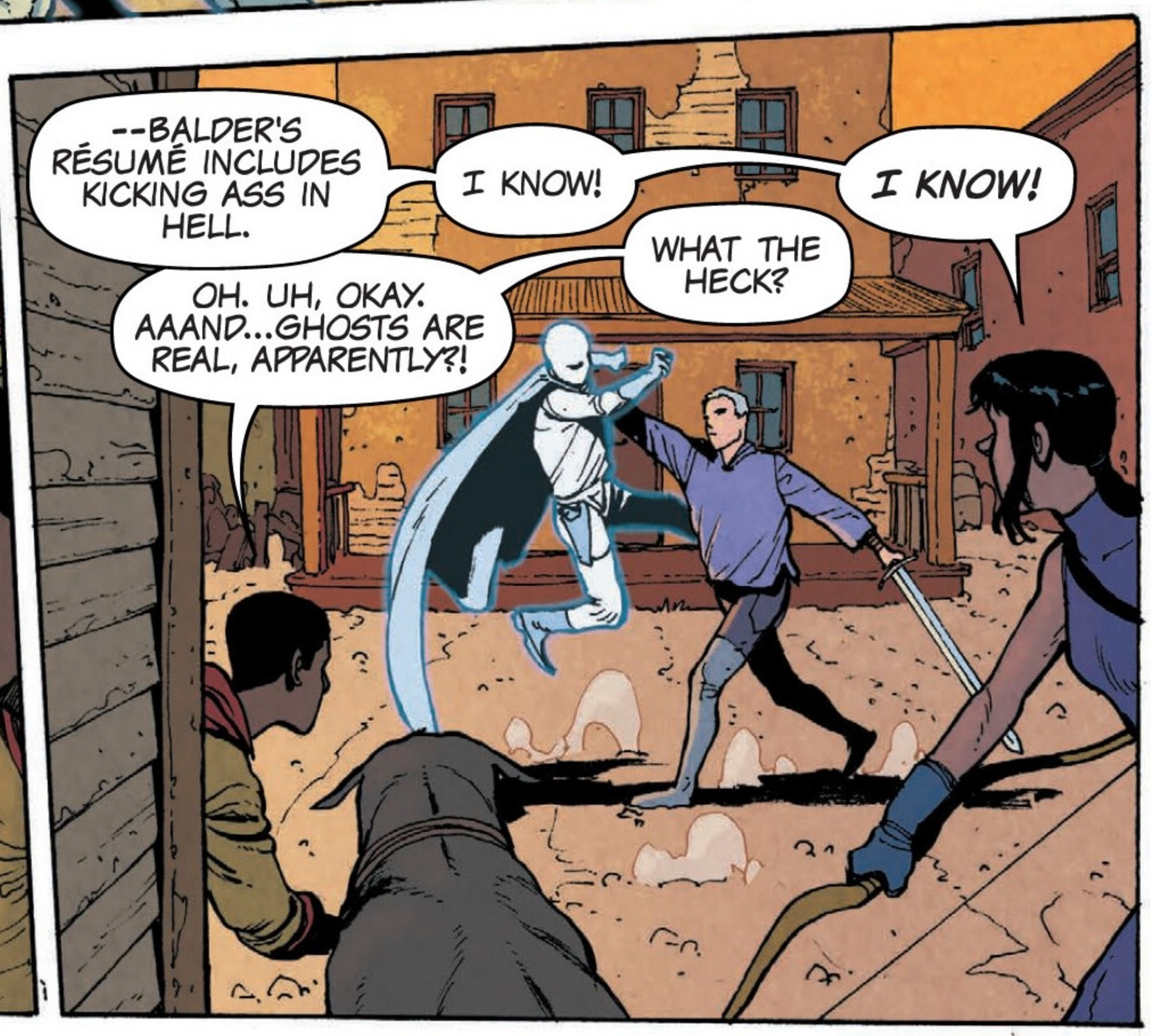
YEAH, WE COMPRENDE...

...NOW WHERE IS THE DEMON?!

I CAN'T BELIEVE I'M HAVING A WILD WEST STANDOFF WITH GHOST RIDER!
THORI DOES NOT BELIEVE OUR FOE TO BE THE EARTH ANTIHERO KNOWN AS GHOST RIDER.
HE'S A GHOST! RIDING A HORSE! HOW IS THAT NOT GHOST RIDER?
THWIP
SNAPPP
THORI DOES NOT LIKE THINGS HE CANNOT MAIM!
HEY, MY DOG SAYS YOU AREN'T GHOST RIDER! ARE YOU GONNA LET HIM--
WAAAAAYYYLL!
BLAM
BLAM
SKOSHT
THAT'S NOT A "NO"!
SKOSHT
SO I CAN'T WEB THEM, AND YOU CAN'T MAUL THEM.
THORI SUGGESTS MAKING A TACTICAL RETREAT.
SO WHAT, WE'RE JUST GONNA ROLL OVER?
...
REALLY? NOTHING FOR THAT?


WHA
AM

WHOA NELLIE! WE COULDN'T EVEN TOUCH THEM!
HE'S GOT EXPERIENCE.
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
WELL, THE GIST OF IT IS--


--BALDER'S RÉSUMÉ INCLUDES KICKING ASS IN HELL.
I KNOW!
I KNOW!
WHAT THE HECK?
OH. UH, OKAY. AAAND...GHOSTS ARE REAL, APPARENTLY?!

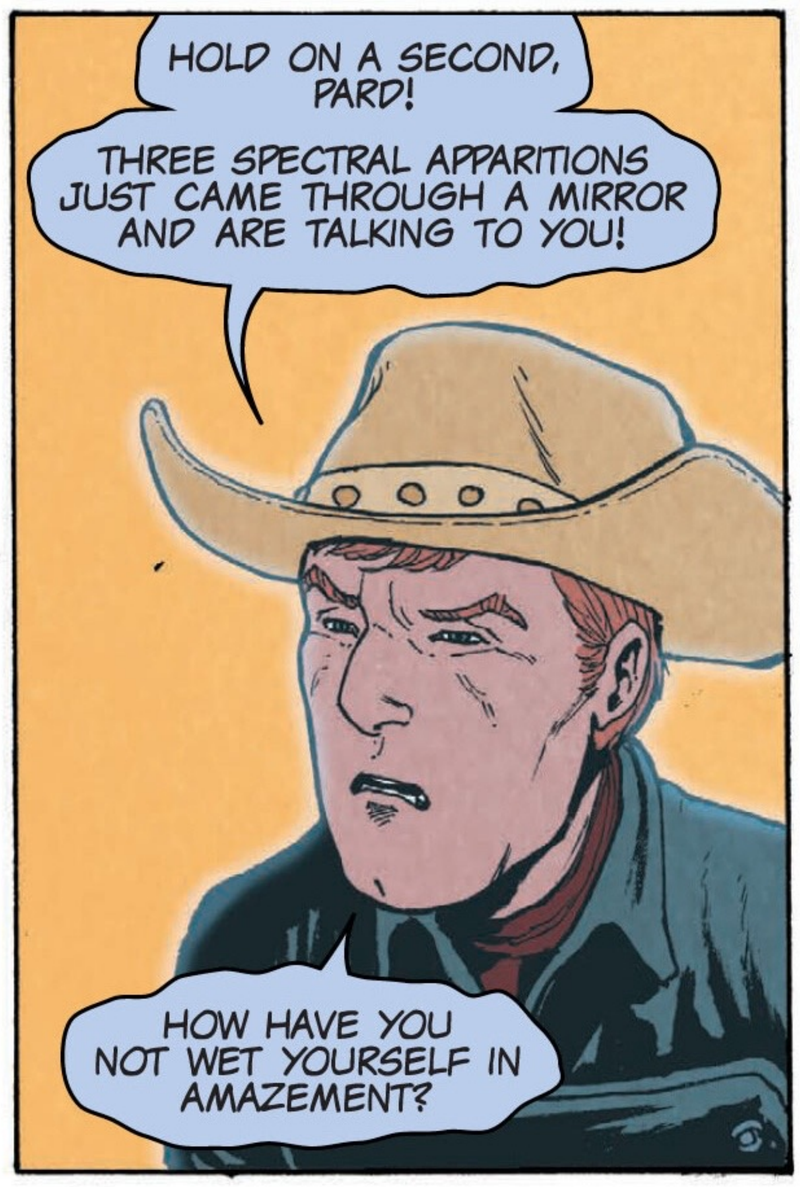
CHUNK
OH, GREAT--

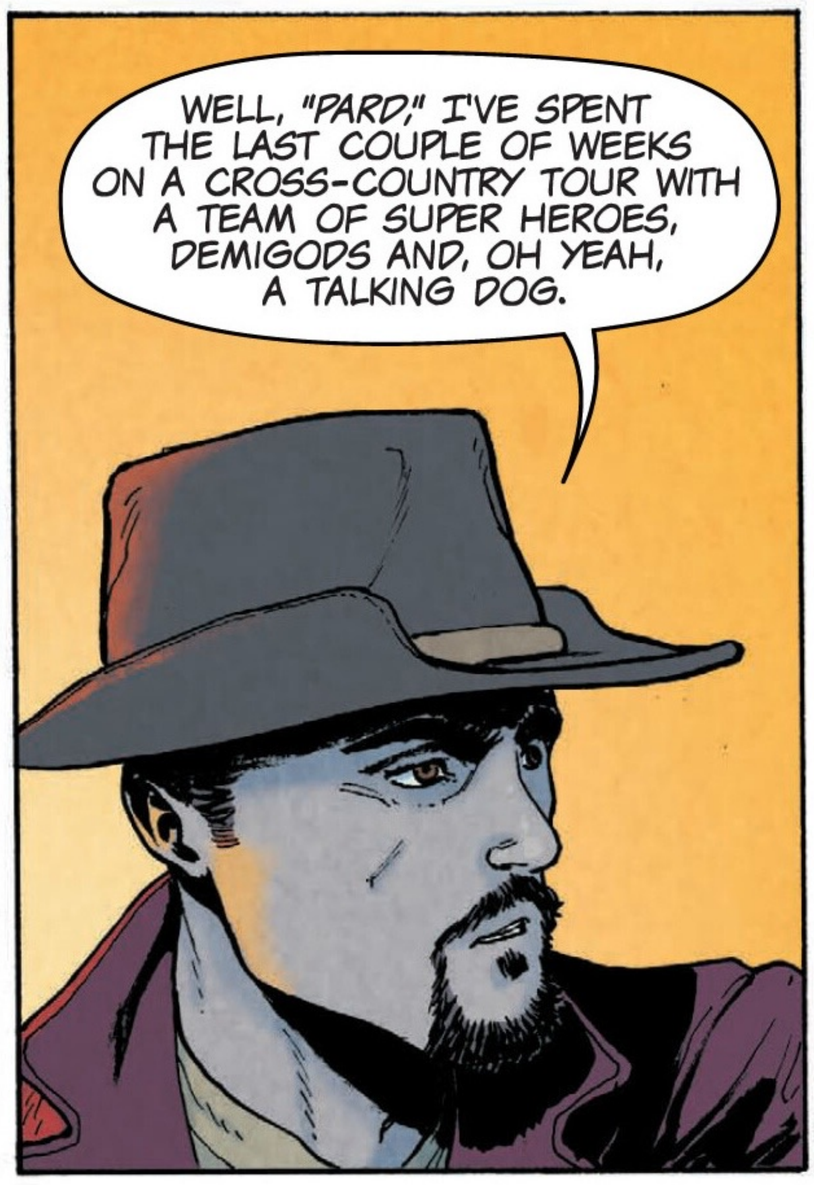
WAAAAAYYYLL!
--HE'S GOT A POSSE!

YOU GUYS NEED TO...TO...STOP RIGHT THERE! THIS IS THE SHOTGUN OF ***ULYSSES BLOODSTONE!***

IT'S BEEN THEORIZED THAT BLOODSTONE IMBUED IT WITH THE POWER TO SLAY BEINGS OF SUPERNATURAL ORIGIN!

ANYONE GAME FOR SOME EXPERIMENTATION?





WHISH
WAIT!

HOW DO YOU KEEP DOING THAT?
I'M AN ARCHER, KNUCKLEBRAIN! I KNOW WHERE HE'S AIMING BY HOW HE HOLDS THE BOW!
WHAT DOES MASTER ARCHER KNOW ABOUT--

--LITTLE AXES?

I GOT--
--IT. AW, MAN. HOW IS THAT FAIR?!
THUD

THORI WILL DISEMBOWEL... WHOEVER GHOST... IS...
THAT'S THE APACHE KID--

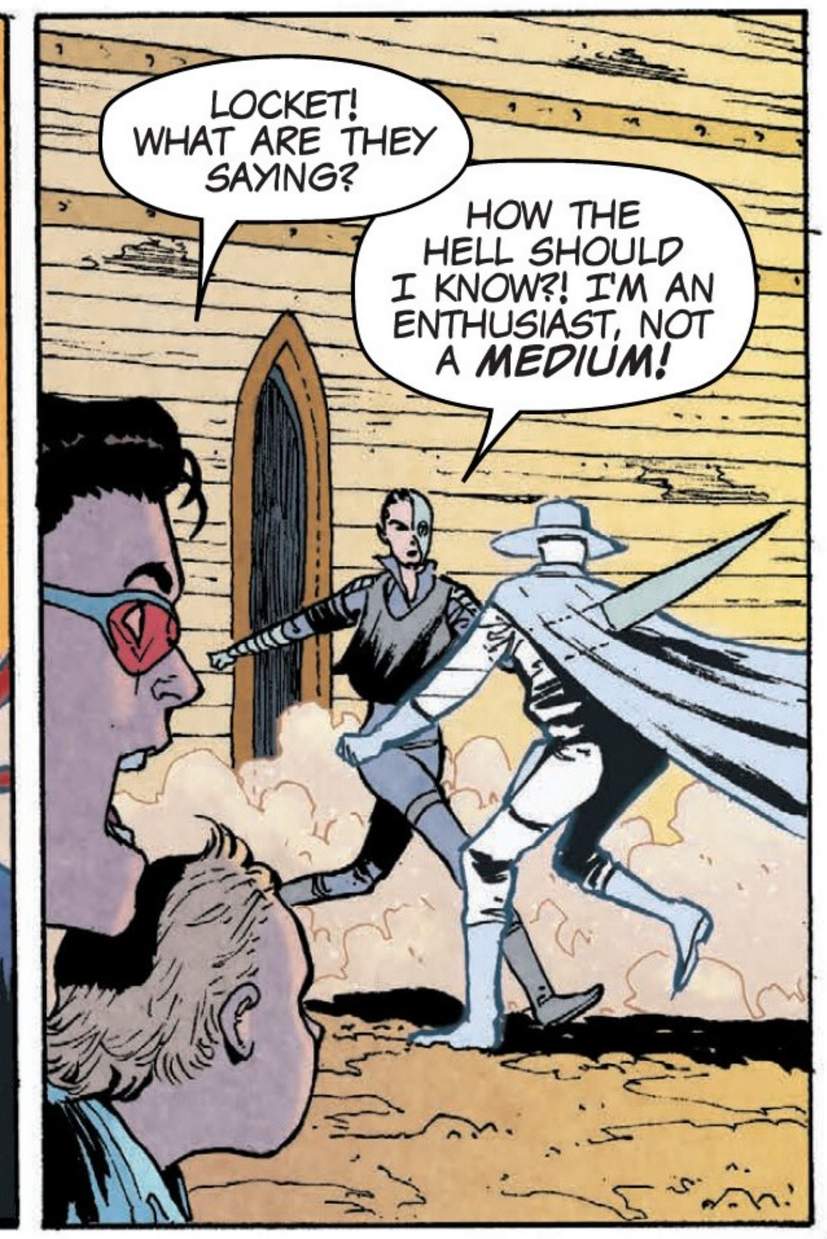
--AND THE ONE WRESTLING WITH BALDER IS THE PHANTOM RIDER...
PHANTOM RIDER! I WAS SO CLOSE!
THEY'RE SOME OF THE GREATEST HEROES OF THE WESTERN ERA!
"SOME"? WHY DID YOU SAY "SOME" AND NOT "TWO OF THE GREATEST HEROES OF THE WESTERN ERA"?

BECAUSE THERE ARE MORE...
GAH GAH!

COWBOY-GHOSTS! I TOTALLY CALLED IT!

NOTE TO SELF: THANK SEBASTIAN FOR THE ENCHANTED BOW!
WWAAAYYYLLL!

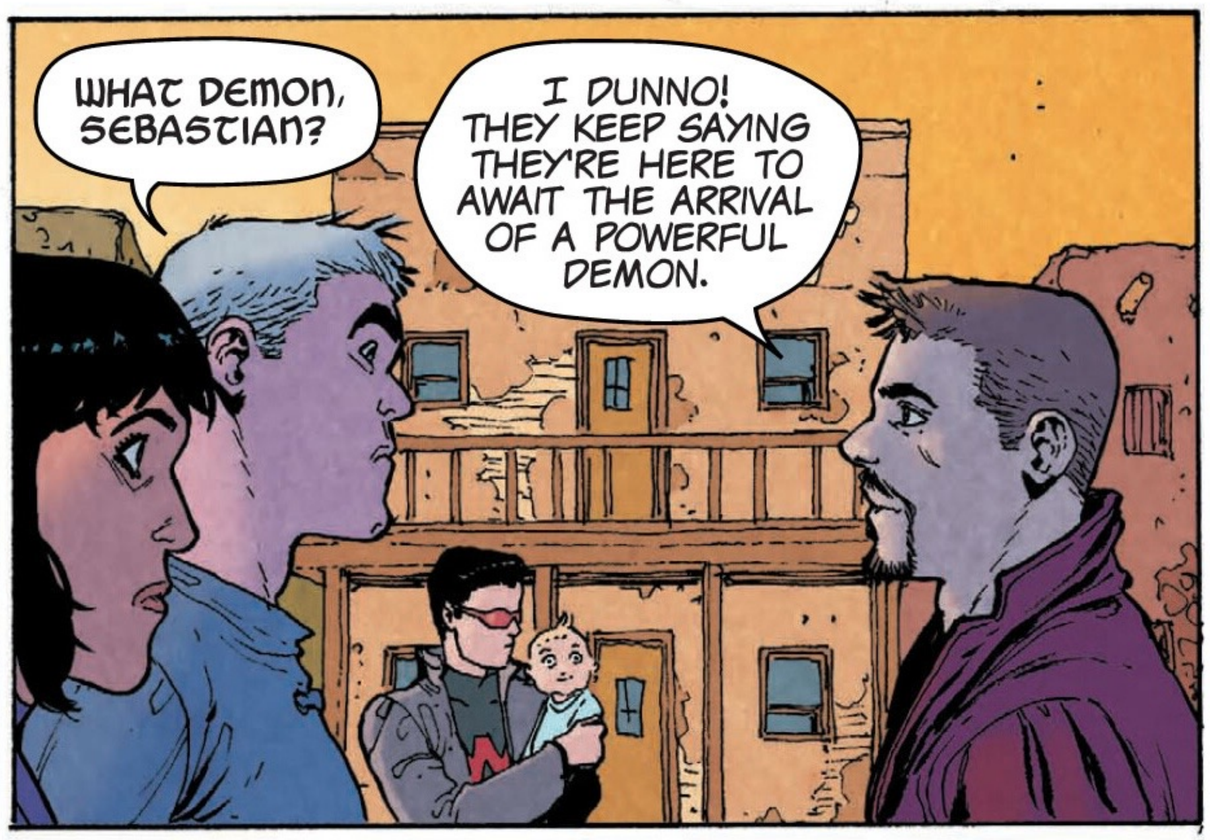
I HOPE HE'S GOT ENCHANTED WEB-SHOOTERS SQUIRRELED AWAY IN THAT MAGIC RAINCOAT, BECAUSE PUNCHING THESE THINGS IS A NONSTARTER!
WAYYYLLLL!
IT DOESN'T EVEN SHUT 'EM UP!

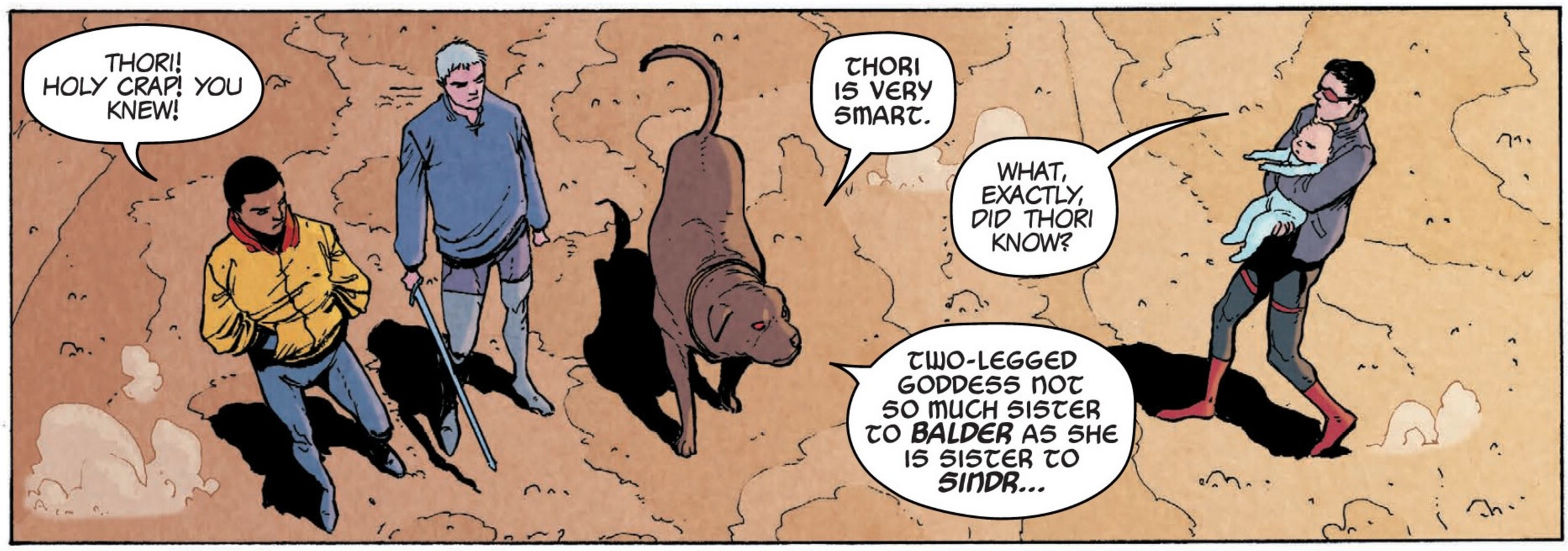

LOCKET! WHAT ARE THEY SAYING?
HOW THE HELL SHOULD I KNOW?! I'M AN ENTHUSIAST, NOT A MEDIUM!

BLAM
BLAM
BLAM
BLAM
HUH?

THEY'RE SAYING THEY WANT THE DEMON!

MAGIC USER. APPARENTLY I SPEAK FLUENT GHOST.





...WHAT WITH LAUSSA ODINSDOTTIR BEING A DEMON AND ALL!

WAR OF THE REALMS: JOURNEY INTO MYSTERY #4

Near the Mulberries

I NEVER SAW MYSELF GOING OUT LIKE THIS...
...SURROUNDED BY GHOSTS, DEMONS AND GODS!
YOU KNOW, SIMON, IT'S FUNNY--

--IT'S EXACTLY THE WAY I SAW MYSELF GOING OUT!

ALSO, TECHNICALLY SPEAKING, WE'RE DOWN TO ONE GOD.
SINCE, APPARENTLY, OUR BUNDLE OF JOY HERE IS ACTUALLY...A DEMON.

THORI HAS BEEN TELLING YOU THAT FOR DAYS. WHY DOES NO ONE EVER HEED THORI'S INFINITE WISDOM?

BUT HOW CAN SHE BE A DEMON, BUDDY? HER PARENTS WERE GODS, RIGHT?
HMPH. WELL, MAN OF SPIDERS...

"WHEN KING ODIN AND QUEEN FREYJA DID THE DISGUSTING THING GODS DO TO MAKE BABY GODS, THEY DID IT IN THE ***REALM BETWEEN REALMS...***

"THE SAME PLACE THEY HAD TAKEN THE LIFE FORCE OF THE FALLEN FIRE DEMON ***SURTUR*** IN ORDER TO REMOVE HIM FROM EXISTENCE.

"BUT TO KNOW LOVE IN ***THAT*** PLACE, WITH THAT ***PRESENCE*** LINGERING AROUND THEM..."

"SOUNDS LIKE ONE HELL OF A SECOND HONEYMOON."*

SO, IN THIS WAY, LAUSSA IS SISTER TO THOR, LOKI, ANGELA, BALDER... AND ***SINDR...***

...BECAUSE SHE HAS ***THREE*** PARENTS: ODIN, FREYJA AND ***SURTUR.***

OH GREAT! IT'S LIKE A MYTHOLOGICAL REBOOT OF *MODERN FAMILY.*

ALL-FATHER AND ALL-MOTHER THOUGHT THEY HAD PURGED ALL TRACE OF SURTUR FROM BABY ODINSDOTTIR.

BUT ALL-FATHER AND ALL-MOTHER MUST HAVE ***MISSED*** A BIT.

THORI DOESN'T KNOW FOR SURE, BUT MAYBE SINDR SEES BABY AS THREAT TO HER RULE OVER MUSPELHEIM...

*IT WAS! SEE THE ***MIGHTY THOR/ JOURNEY INTO MYSTERY: EVERYTHING BURNS*** AND ***ANGELA: ASGARD'S ASSASSIN*** COLLECTIONS! --WIL

BALDER! WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL US ANY OF THIS?

BECAUSE, KATE BISHOP... I...DIDN'T... KNOW!

WAIT A SECOND! THE DOG KNEW AND YOU DIDN'T?!
NOBODY PAYS ATTENTION TO THORI. THEY TALK. THORI HEARS EVERYTHING.

I REALIZED YOU MISSED A LOT OF FAMILY MEETINGS WHEN YOU WERE, WELL...DEAD.
BUT COULDN'T YOUR MOM HAVE, YOU KNOW, SLIPPED YOU A PRO TIP BEFORE THE MISSION?
WHATEVER THAT IS, SHE DID NOT!

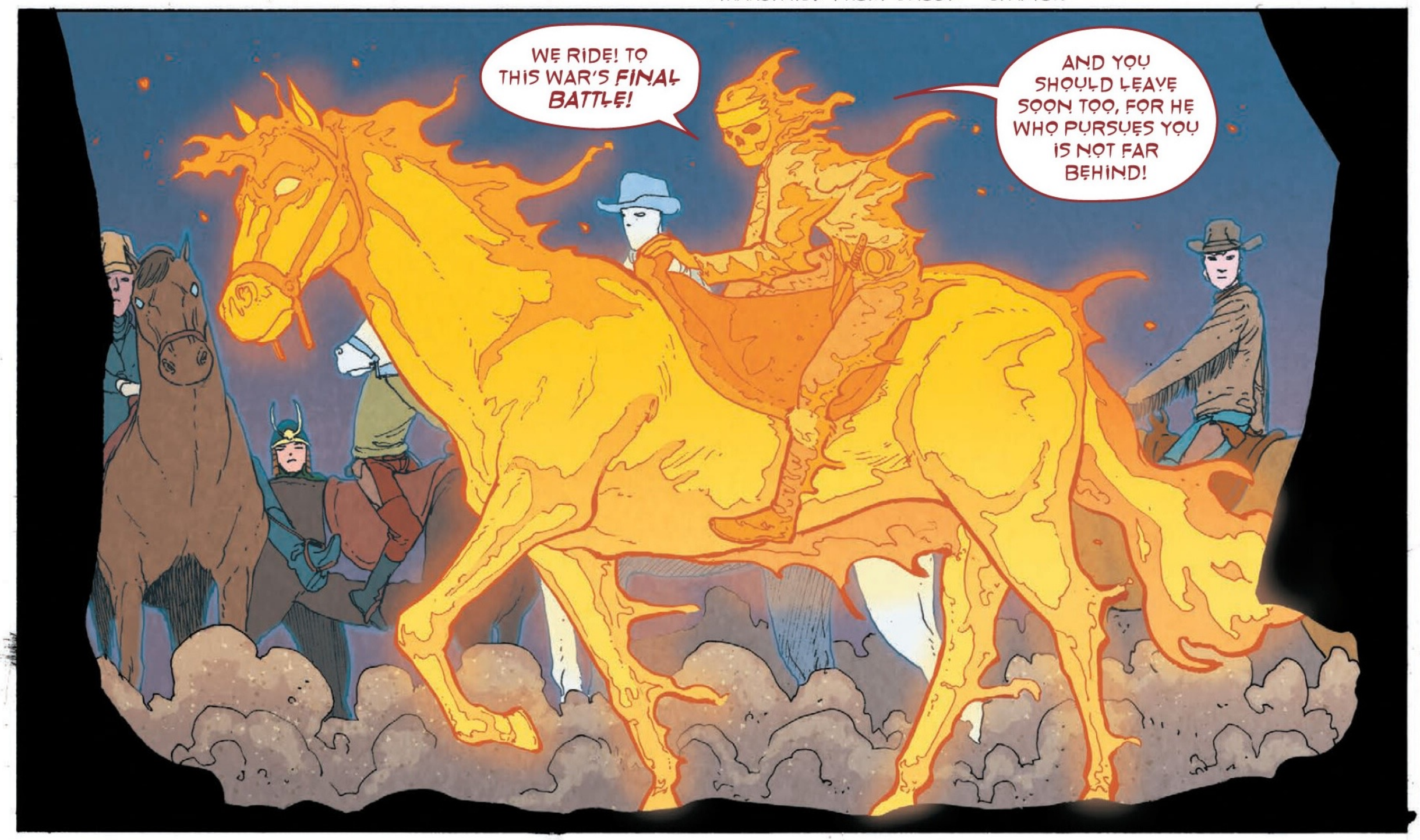
AND WHAT-- THESE GHOSTS ARE HERE TO KILL HER?
NO...

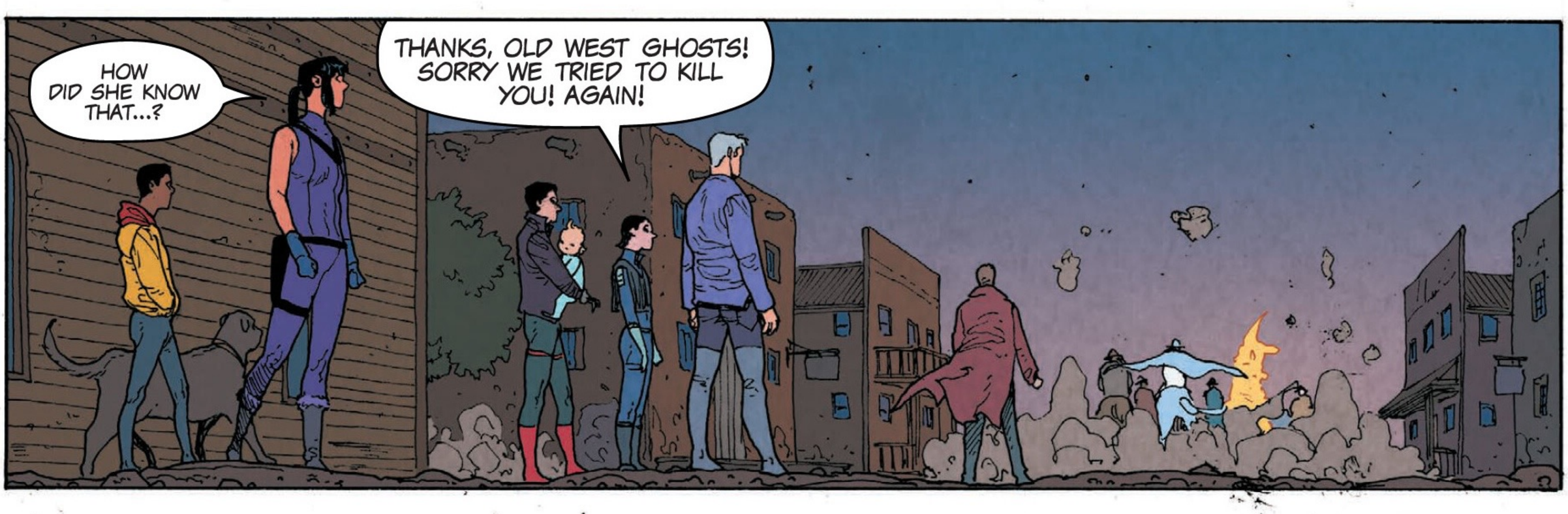
...TO SERVE HER.

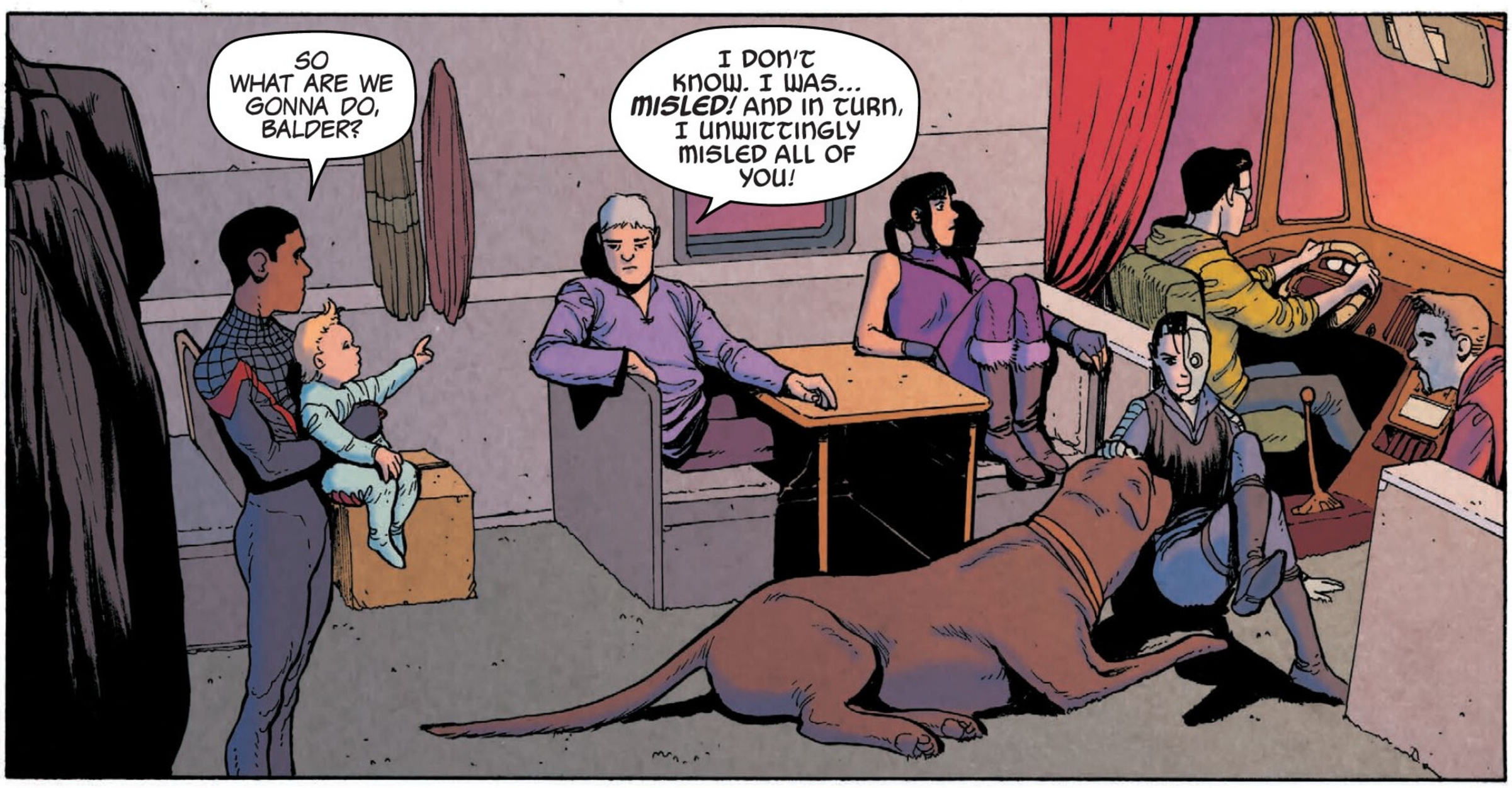
IS THAT SINDR?!
NOPE! BECCA, HOLD YOUR FIRE--

--HER NAME IS KUSHALA.
HELLO, SEBASTIAN DRUID. YOU LOOK GOOD.
COULD YOU ALL STEP OUTSIDE... I HAVE A SLIGHT... ISSUE WITH HOLY GROUND.

*TRANSLATED FROM GHOST. --CLAYTON





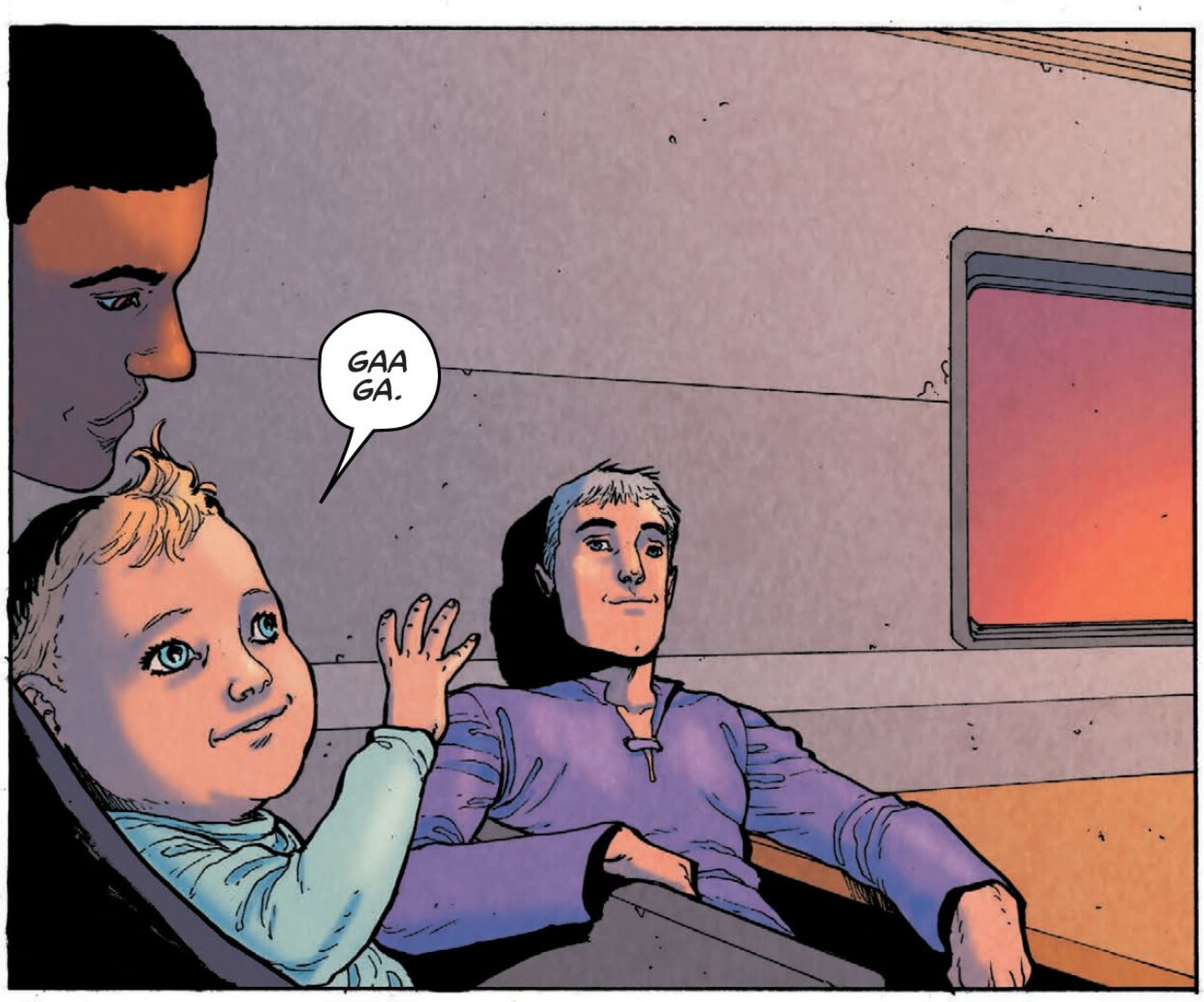

SO WHAT ARE WE GONNA DO, BALDER?
I DON'T KNOW. I WAS... MISLED! AND IN TURN, I UNWITTINGLY MISLED ALL OF YOU!

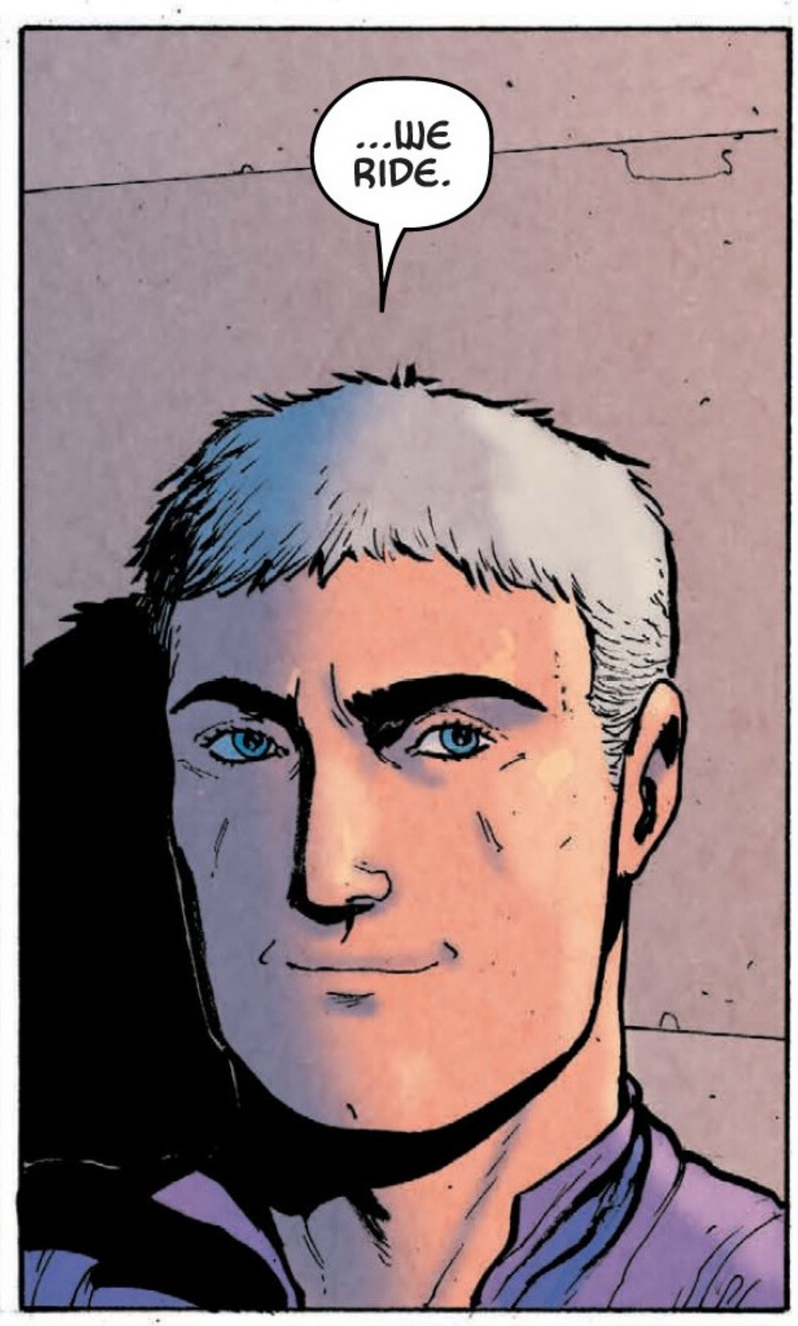
BIG DEAL! THE MISSION WAS TO PROTECT LAUSSA! KEEP HER AWAY FROM SINDR AND THE WAR!
JUST BECAUSE SHE HAS A LITTLE BRIMSTONE IN HER DIAPER DOESN'T CHANGE THAT!

BESIDES, YOU HEARD WHAT KUSHALA SAID--
YEAH! SHE SAID I LOOK GOOD!
--ABOUT HOW ARES IS HOT ON OUR TAILS.
YEAH... AND THE THING ABOUT ME LOOKING GOOD.

AND WE'RE REALLY CLOSE TO THE BEACHED HELICARRIER I TOLD YOU ABOUT. PROBABLY ONE MORE DAY.

SO... WHAT'S THE WORD, SKIPPER?


GAA GA.


...WE RIDE.

Hours later...

I KNOW IT'S IRONICAL, THE *WIZARD* BEING THE VOICE OF REASON...

THERE'S NO SUCH WORD AS "IRONICAL."

IRONIC, THANK YOU. BUT THAT DOESN'T CHANGE THE FACT THAT WE ARE ALMOST OUT OF *FOOD*, ALMOST OUT OF *GAS*, ALMOST OUT OF *DIAPERS*...

...STILL...NOT IRONIC...

NO PROBLEM, SEBASTIAN. WE CAN STOCK UP IN...*CARSON CITY!*

Welcome to Carson City Nevada's Capital

DO THEY ACCEPT *CONJURED MAGICAL TRINKET* AS CURRENCY HERE? BECAUSE WE ARE FLAT OUT OF ACTUAL MONEY...

I FEEL BAD. I WAS BETWEEN RESIDUAL CHECKS WHEN THE WAR BROKE OUT, AND BUYING THE WONDER WAGON TAPPED ME OUT.

BUT--

--I BET I CAN THINK OF SOMETHING!

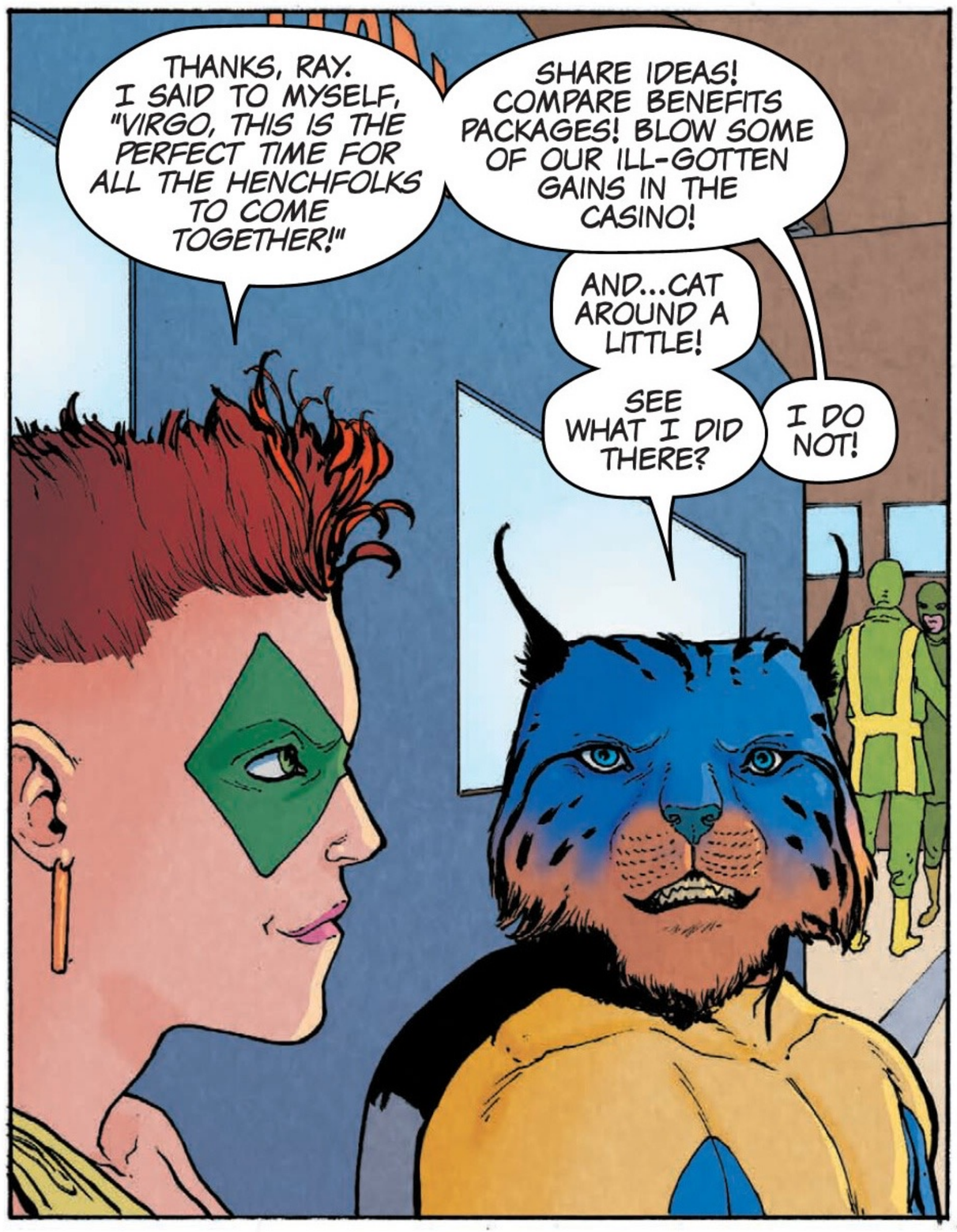
OH BOY.

Sterling Hotel

Casino

SO THE "SOMETHING" YOU THOUGHT OF WAS...THROW ON DISGUISES AND WIN A BUNCH OF MONEY?
YES! I'M GONNA HIT THE CRAPS TABLE. I HAVE A NEVER-FAIL SYSTEM!
SAID EVERY SOON-TO-BE-BROKE GAMBLER...
NO, LISTEN, I GOT THIS! I WAS IN THE TOP 30 FOR JAMES BOND!
WHICH MOVIE?
UM. THE VIDEO GAME. GOLDENEYE... RELOADED.
-SIGH- HERE. JUST PLAY SMART, OKAY? WE DON'T HAVE MUCH TO BET!
WAIT A SEC! THIS IS BAD! LOOK AT... EVERYBODY!
The Sterling Hotel & Casino SHC
proudly welcomes you to:
HENCHFEST
THIS PLACE IS LOUSY WITH SUPER VILLAINS!
IT'S LOUSY ALL RIGHT, BUT...NOT EXACTLY WITH SUPER VILLAINS...
The Sterling Hotel & Casino SHC
proudly welcomes you to:
HENCHFEST
"While the villains are away, the henches do play."

REGISTRATION
...SO WITH ALL THE HEAVY-HITTERS TIED UP WITH THIS WAR OF THE REALMS THING, WE SAID TO OURSELVES--
YOU SAID TO YOURSELF! THIS WAS YOUR GREAT IDEA, GIRL.
YOU'RE GREAT! Just Because We're Evil Doesn't Mean We Aren't Doing a Good Job!


THANKS, RAY. I SAID TO MYSELF, "VIRGO, THIS IS THE PERFECT TIME FOR ALL THE HENCHFOLKS TO COME TOGETHER!"
SHARE IDEAS! COMPARE BENEFITS PACKAGES! BLOW SOME OF OUR ILL-GOTTEN GAINS IN THE CASINO!
AND...CAT AROUND A LITTLE!
SEE WHAT I DID THERE?
I DO NOT!

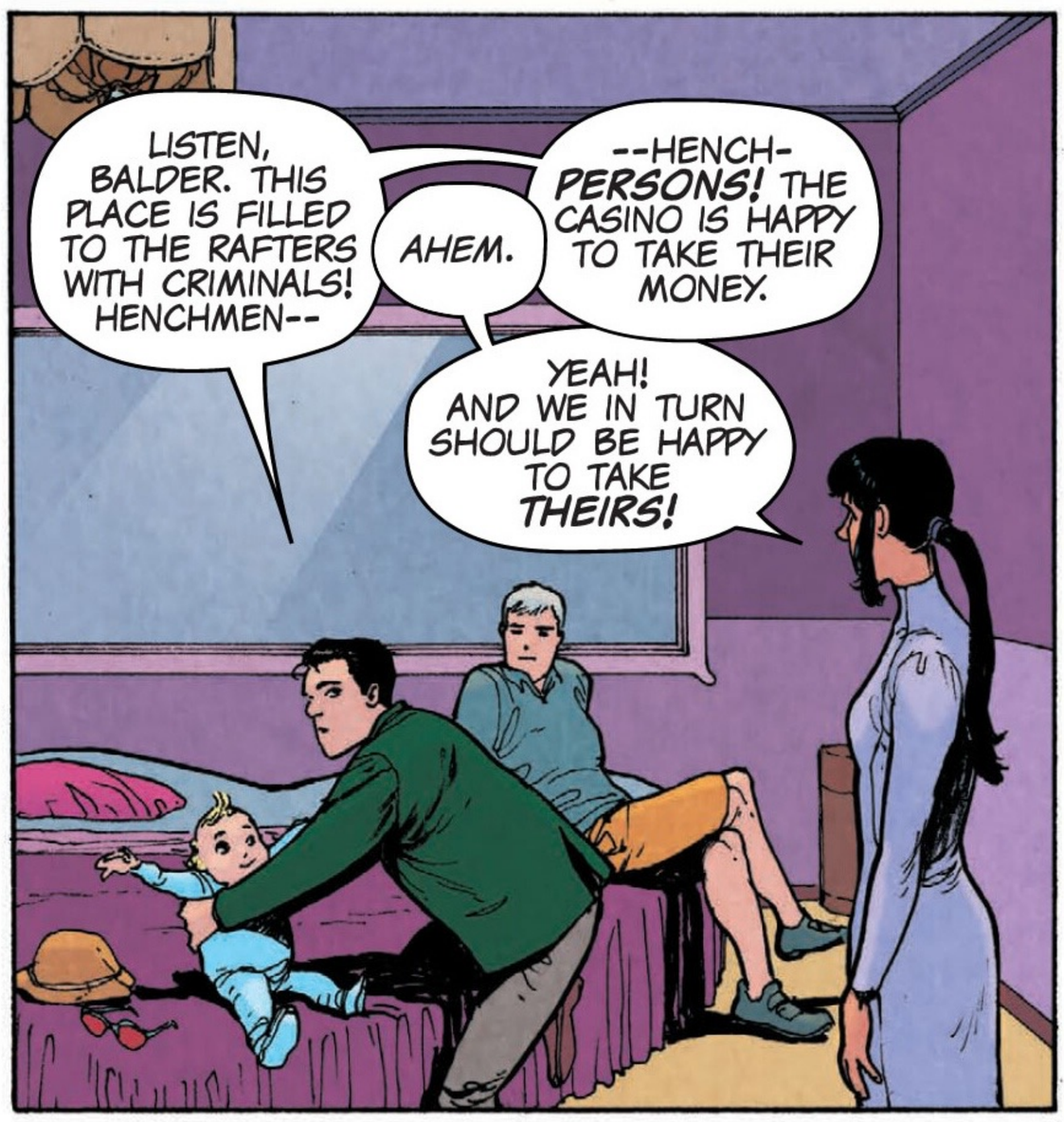
RIGHT NOW IT'S JUST MINGLE TIME. AT 7:30, CHARLIE OLSEN FROM HYDRA IS GOING TO BE TALKING ABOUT HOW TO FILE WORKERS' COMP FOR BLASTER BURNS...
AND AT EIGHT, YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS THE PRESENTATION FROM THE CFO OF CLAN AKKABA ON HOW TEMPORAL PARADOXES CAN AFFECT CALCULATING OVERTIME.

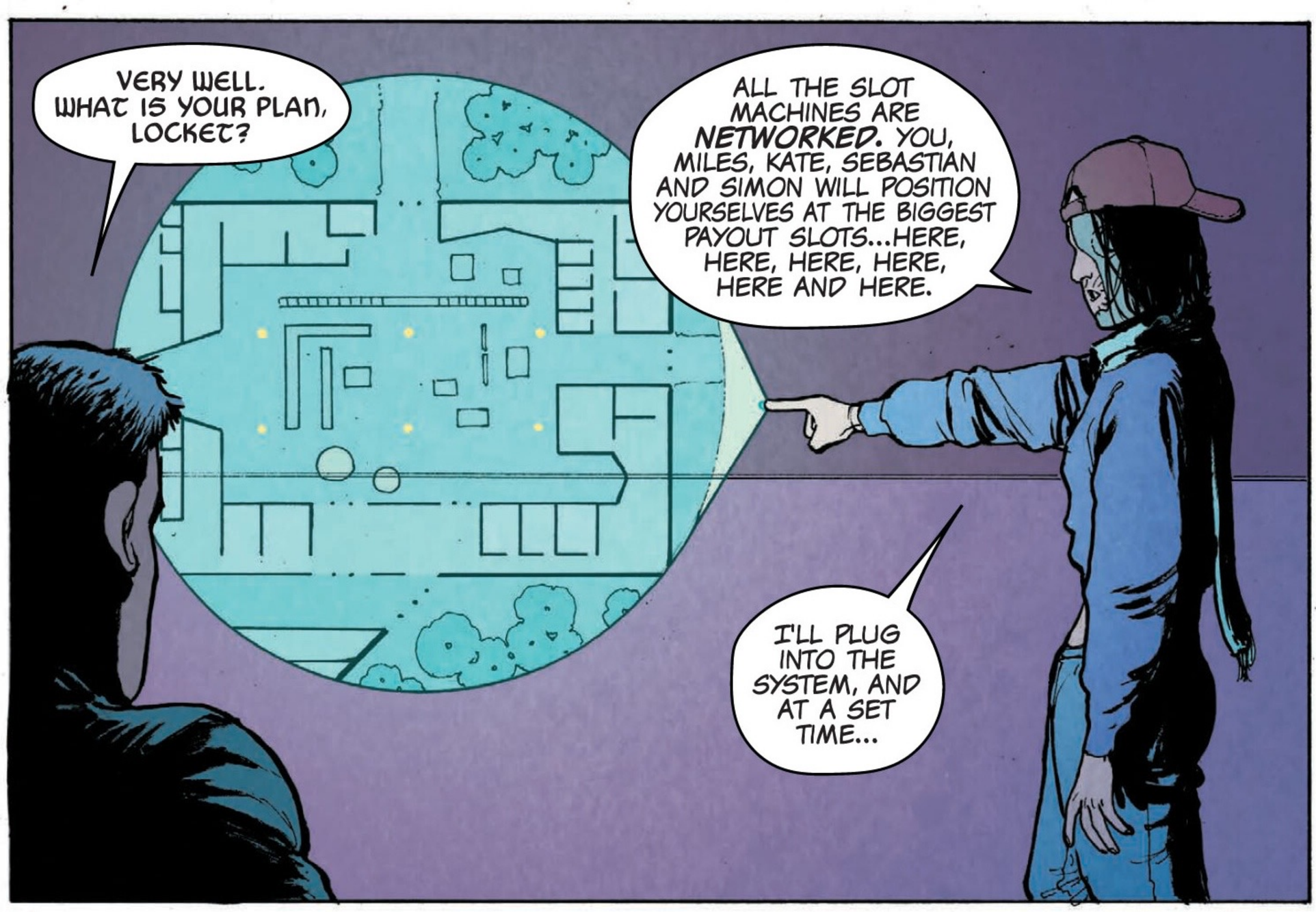
AND OF COURSE, THE CASINO IS OPEN 24-7!
UM. THANKS.

NEW PLAN...

SO, WHAT ARE WE TALKING HERE? A GOOD OLD-FASHIONED *HEIST?*

YEP, AND PRETTY QUICKLY, BECAUSE THAT CREDIT CARD KATE GAVE THE HOTEL ISN'T GOING TO HOLD UP TO MUCH SCRUTINY...





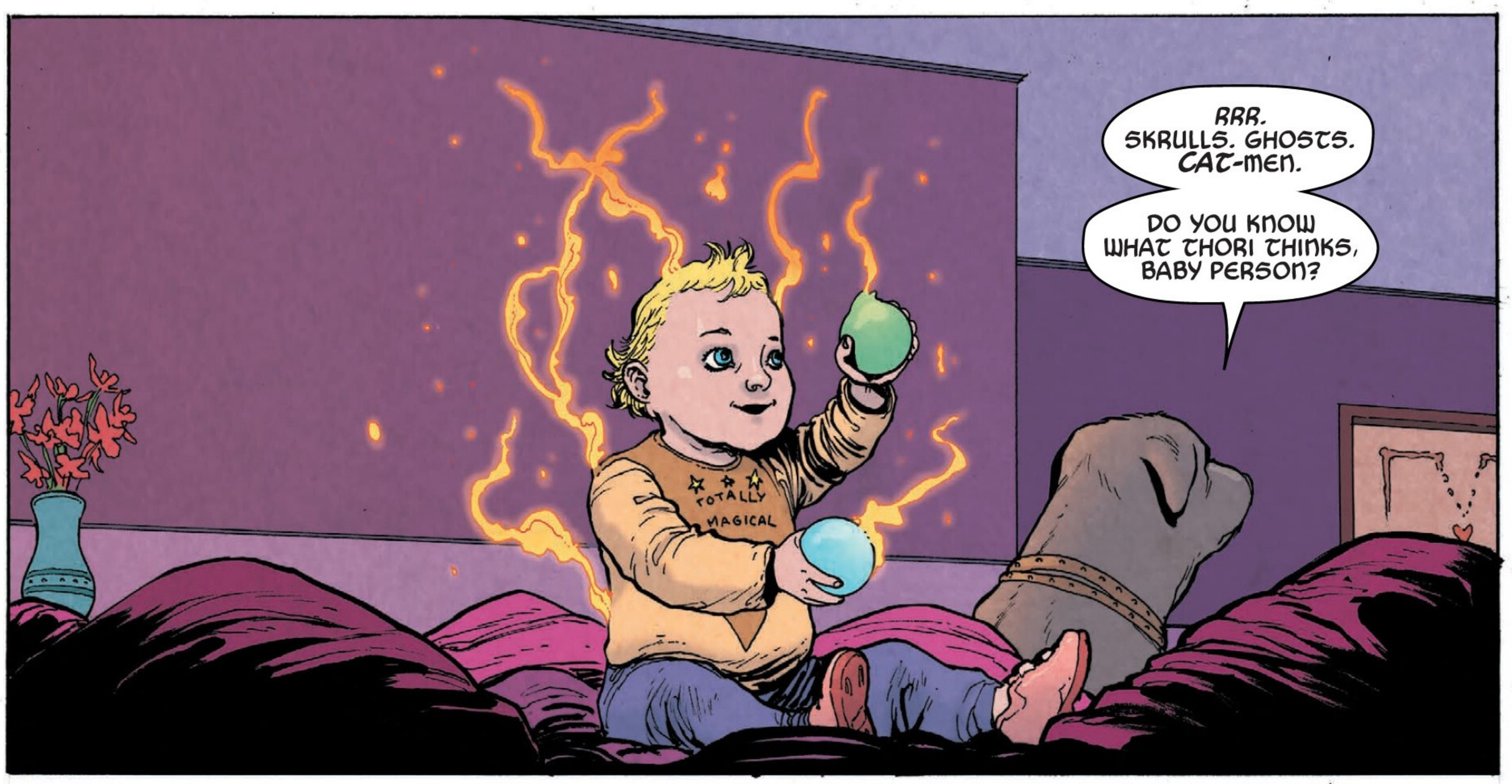
RARGH!

RAAAAAARG
HHHHHHH
SILENCE, YOU MONSTROSITIES! I CAN'T HEAR WHAT SHE'S SAYING!
BLAM BLAM

WHERE ARE THEY AGAIN...?
THEY ARE AT THE STERLING HOTEL AND CASINO, JUST DOWN THE ROAD FROM YOUR CURRENT LOCATION.
THEY ARE STAYING...IN THE HONEYMOON SUITE.

PERHAPS YOU COULD USE A BIT OF SUBTLETY THIS TIME, ARES. I KNOW BURN-TO-THE-GROUND HAS BEEN YOUR GO-TO MOVE UP 'TIL NOW, BUT--
ARE YOU SURE THEY ARE THERE?

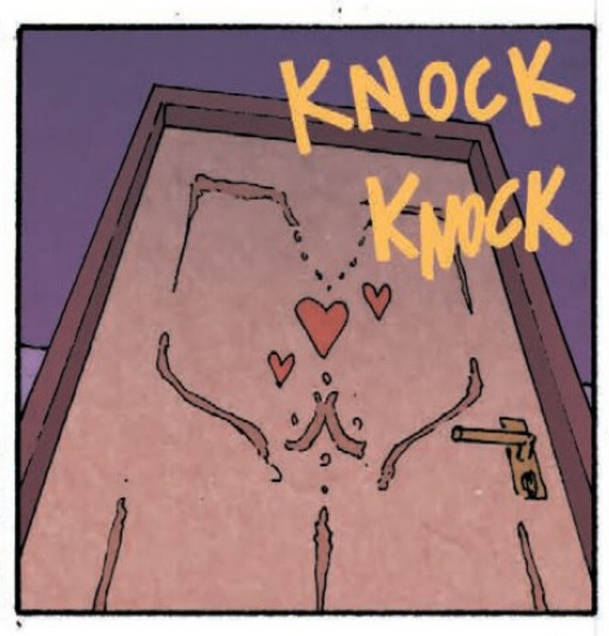
WOULD I LIE TO YOU?


RRR. SKRULLS. GHOSTS. CAT-MEN.
DO YOU KNOW WHAT THORI THINKS, BABY PERSON?
TOTALLY MAGICAL

THORI THINKS LITTLE ODINSDOTTIR HAS BEEN UP TO SOMETHING.

BUT THORI DOESN'T MUCH CARE...

...BECAUSE THORI IS A GOOD DOG OF GODS.
GAH!


KNOCK KNOCK

HOUSEKEEPING. I HAVE YOUR... CRIB!
AND KIBBLE?! THERE IS KIBBLE?!
S-S-SURE!
THORI GRANTS YOU PERMISSION TO ENTER!

THORI PREFERS THE KIND WI--
CLICK

THORI SHALL MAKE YOU PAY FOR YOUR FALSE KIBBLE PROMISES!

I TOLD YOU WE'D NEED MORE NAME TAGS THAN YOU BROUGHT.
YOU CALLED THEM "HI-I'MS"! WHO CALLS THEM THAT? I JUST FIGURED YOU WERE HAVING A STROKE.
AND WE NEED MORE CHEERWINE FOR THE GREEN ROOM!

SO YOU WANT WINE...BUT YOU WANT THE BOTTLE IN A SACK? LIKE A BROWN PAPER BAG?
NO, LADY SERVER, THE SACK IS IN THE BOTTLE.
SLOT

OKAY, THIS SHOULD BE CLOSE ENOUGH. KEEP AN EYE OUT.
ARE YOU SWEATY? IS EVERYONE SWEATY? IS IT POSSIBLE TO SWEAT TO DEATH?
EASY, MAGIC BOY. BE COOL, BE COOL.
PRETEND YOU'RE MAVERICK.
TOM CRUISE?
SURE. OR JAMES GARNER. JUST NOT MEL GIBSON. -SHUDDER-
WHRR
SHC SLOT
SHC SLOT

BOY, YOU ARE REALLY BLENDING IN PERFECTLY, SIMON! I BARELY SAW YOU THERE!
I'M A BIG STAR! I COULD GET RECOGNIZED!
WELLLLLL, I--
AND YOU WOULD JUST HATE THAT, WOULDN'T YOU?

HEY, I KNOW YOU!

THAT'S HAWKEYE!

AWWW...
SHE'S AN AVENGER!

SCHWACK
THIS IS GONNA SOUND CRAZY, BUT I WOULD SWEAR I'VE PUNCHED THAT GUY BEFORE.
WHUMPF

DAMN! I ALMOST HAD IT!

PINAKA BOW, PLEASE!
YEAH, WHY DON'T YOU JUST KEEP IT?
YOU HAVE BIGGER POCKETS!
SNAP

Meanwhile...
HEEL, MONGREL!
EEEEEE!

THORI APPRECIATES THE OFFER, BUT THORI PREFERS ARM!

KA CHOM

KUU DOMP

THIS IS MY FIRST CON! ARE THEY ALWAYS LIKE THIS?
KINDA. THERE'S USUALLY LESS VIOLENCE AND WAY, WAY MORE DEADPOOLS.
CHOOM WHOOM
SERIOUSLY, MAN, WHY'D YOU NEED TO WEAR A HAZMAT SUIT IN THE CASINO?
WAIT, LET ME GUESS: DICE ALLERGY? TRAGIC!
KLOMP
SPIDER-MAN SEEMS TO BE ENJOYING HIMSELF!
OH, TO BE YOUNG AND HAVE THE POWERS OF A SPIDER!
WHAT CAN I SAY? I'M FROM BROOKLYN! I'VE NEVER BEEN IN A CASINO BEFORE!
THWIP
THWIP
BLASZ
WHASH
YOU MADE IT RAIN!
TINKLE
TINK
TIN
I MADE IT RAIN!

BLAST
BLAST
YOU KNOW, FOR A BUNCH OF NOBODIES, THESE HENCHIES ARE TOUGH!
THUM
THUM
THEY ARE SUPER MOTIVATED. I MEAN, WE DID CRASH THEIR CONVENTION.
EXCELLENT POINT, BECCA.
FIRE
THIS IS A WASTE OF TIME! HEISTS ARE SUPPOSED TO BE STEALTHY!
...FOR A CEASE-FIRE!
PULL
MAYBE IF KATE HAD WORN A MASK...
OKAY, I THINK IT'S TIME...

SO, YOU PLANNING ON GOING TO THE HENCH-PROM TONIGHT?
CAT-MAN, MY MAN, THERE IS NOTHING THAT COULD STOP ME FROM--

KHA-WHOOM

WHOOM

DO--DO YOU NEED A NAME TAG...?

OKAY, LISTEN, EVERYBODY! TIME--

SHC LIFT

BLAM

ZAPP

SPANG

WHUMP

...THAT WAS A FIVE-HUNDRED-DOLLAR TOMMY BAHAMA SHIRT!

Y'KNOW, MAYBE WE SHOULD HEAR THE MAN OUT.

WE'RE HENCHIES! ANY FIGHT WE SURVIVE IS A GOOD ONE!

SHC LIFT

PING

THERE'S SOME 'ROIDED-UP WRESTLER FIGHTING A GIANT DOG IN THE HONEYMOON SUITE!

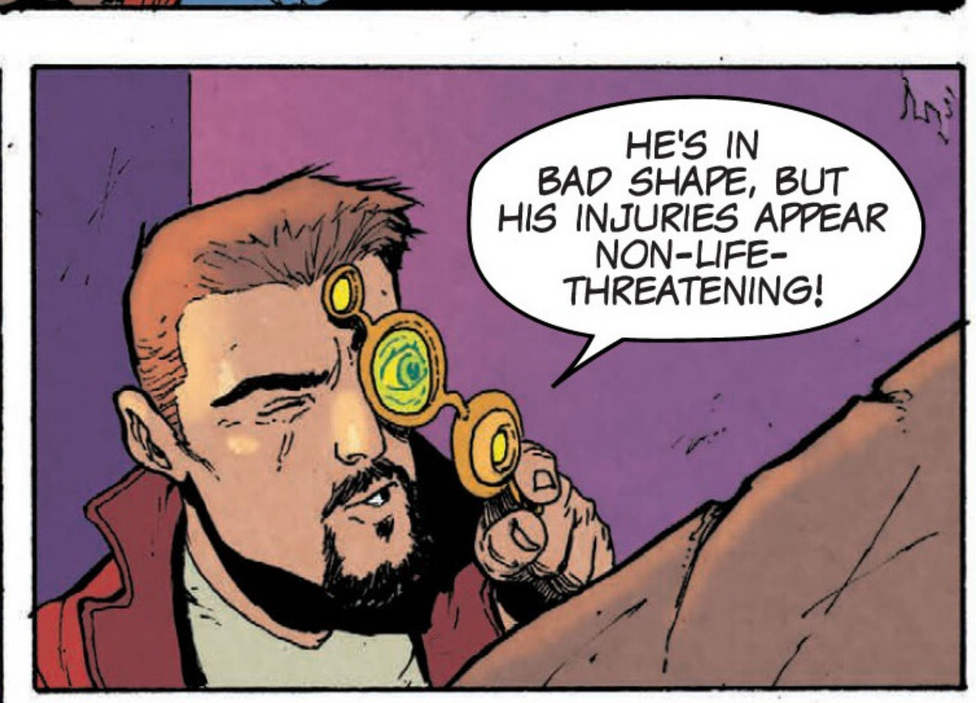
...AGAIN!

LAUSSA...

THORI!

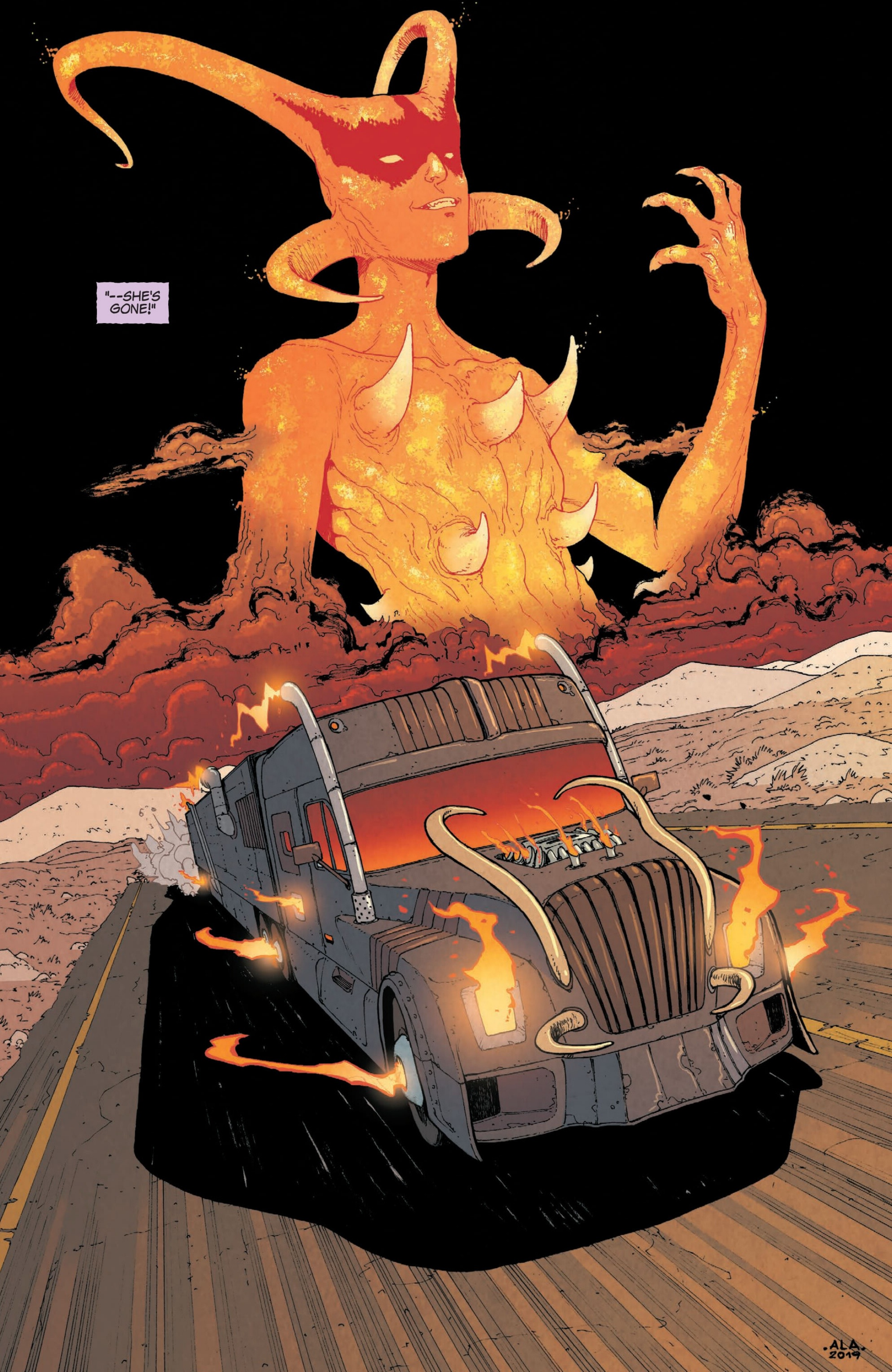
THORI, BUDDY?! ARE YOU--

NO, SPIDER-MORTAL...THORI IS NOT DEAD...
THANK GOD!
...GOD... DOG...


HE'S IN BAD SHAPE, BUT HIS INJURIES APPEAR NON-LIFE-THREATENING!

IS LAUSSA ALL RIGHT??

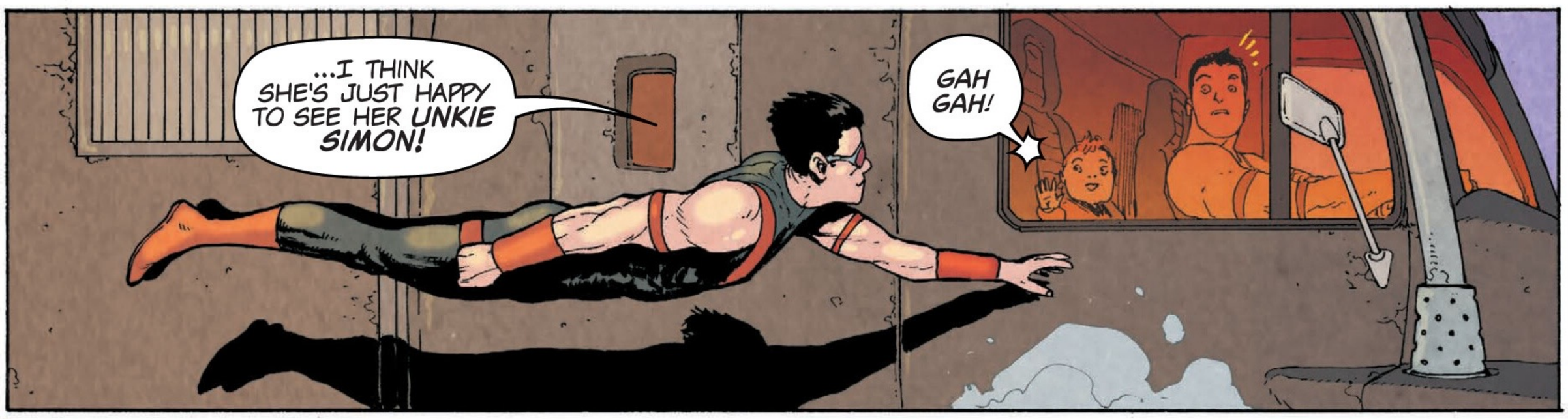
NO, BECCA, SHE'S NOT.
SHE'S--


"--SHE'S GONE!"
·ALA·
2019

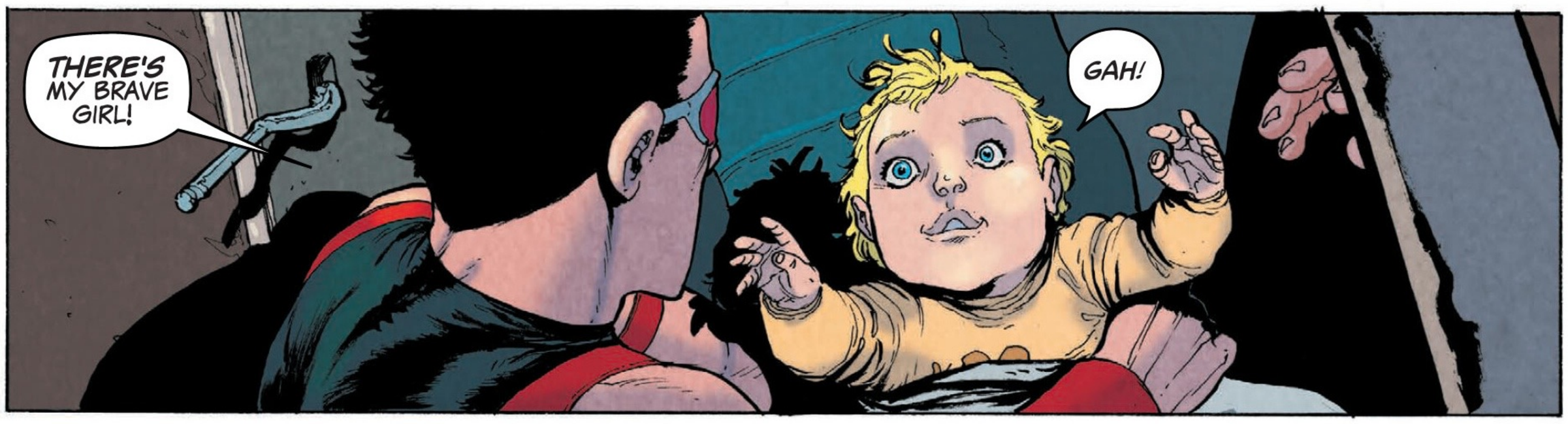
WAR OF THE REALMS: JOURNEY INTO MYSTERY #5

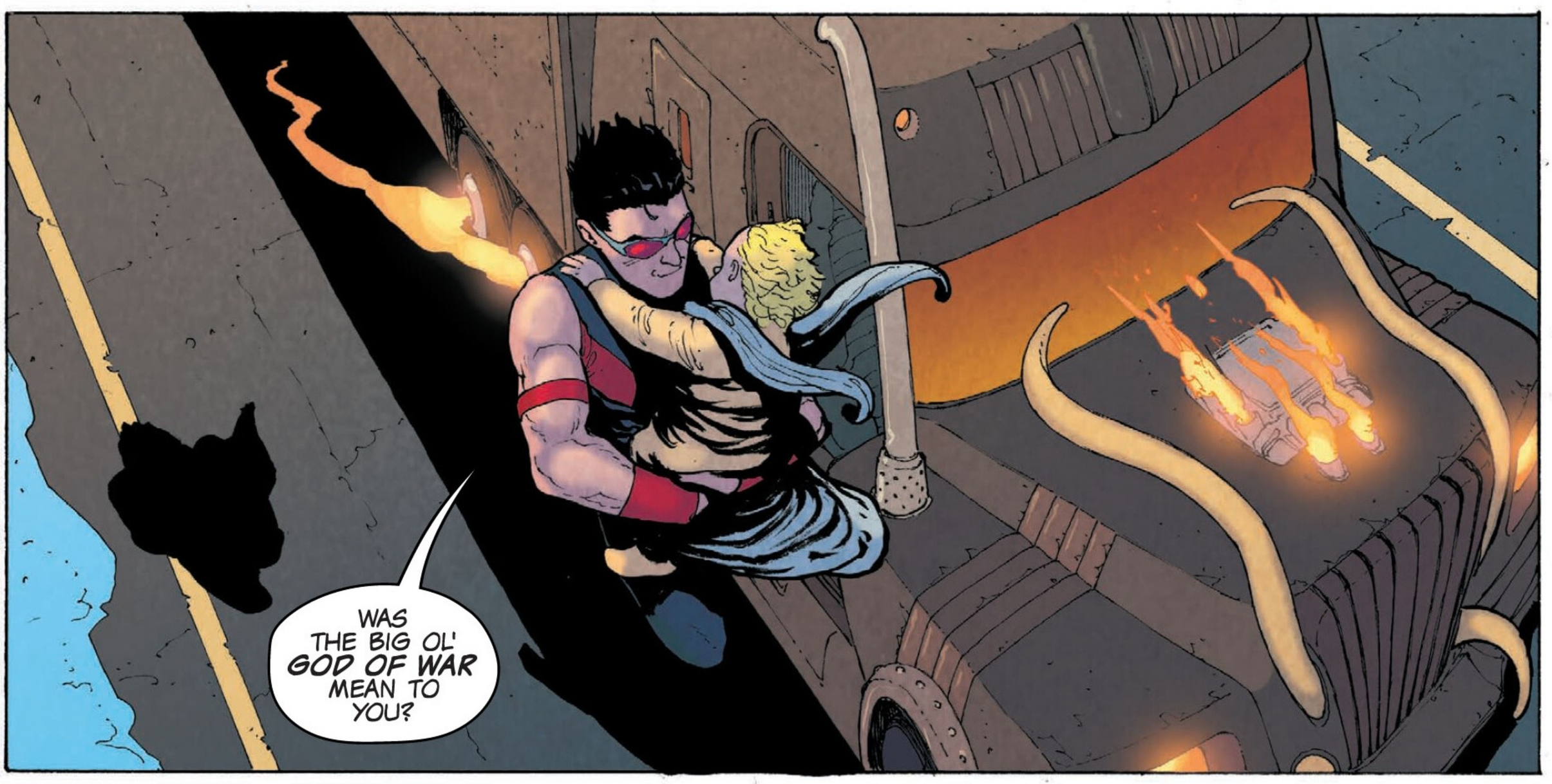
The Daughter of Odin

RARGH!
SILENCE!
WASHOE FLEA MARKET
FIGHT THE FROST GIANTS

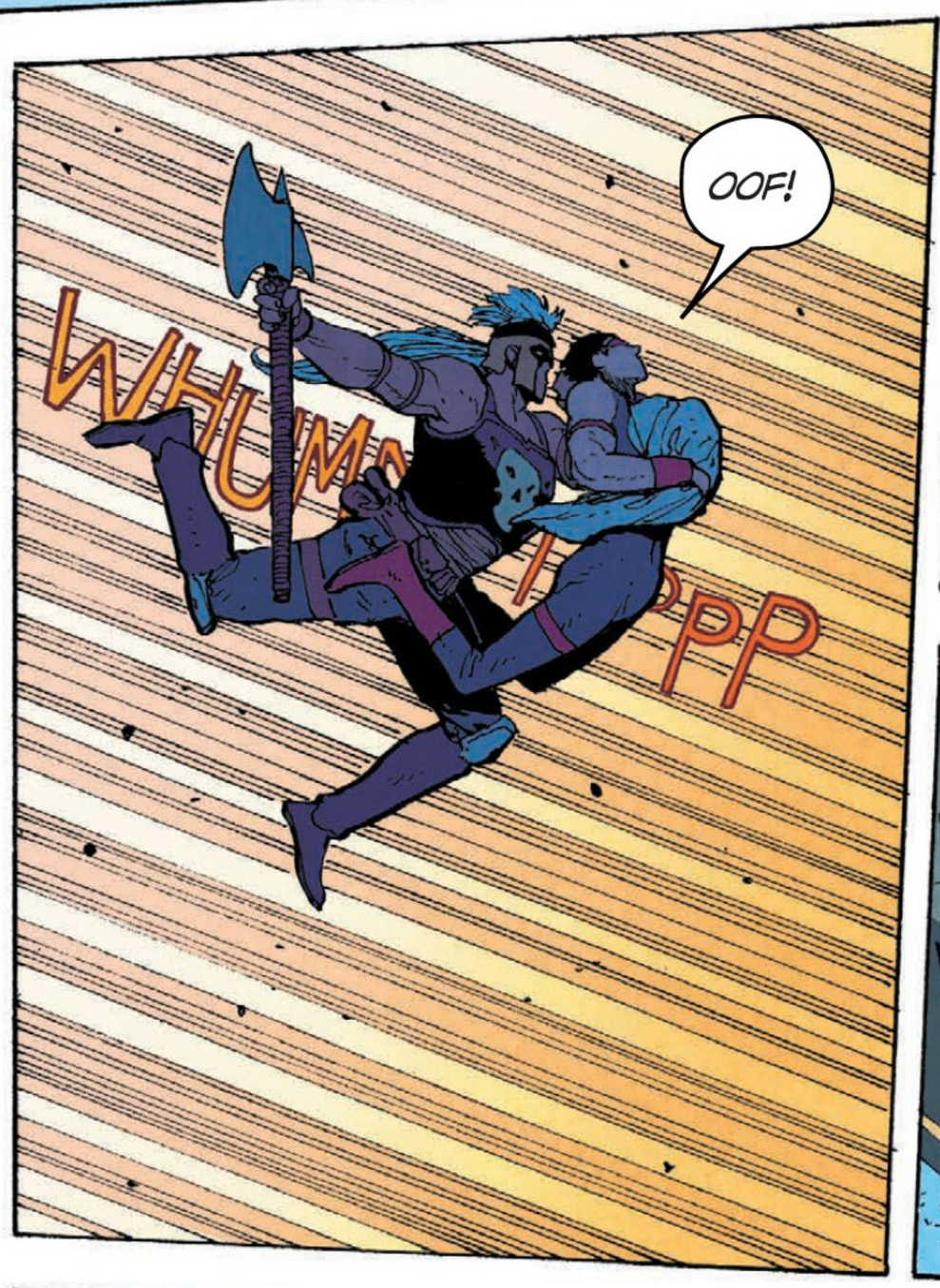

...I THINK SHE'S JUST HAPPY TO SEE HER UNKIE SIMON!
GAH GAH!

WHANK


THERE'S MY BRAVE GIRL!
GAH!


WAS THE BIG OL' GOD OF WAR MEAN TO YOU?

WHOOO
RARGH!
BOOMPP



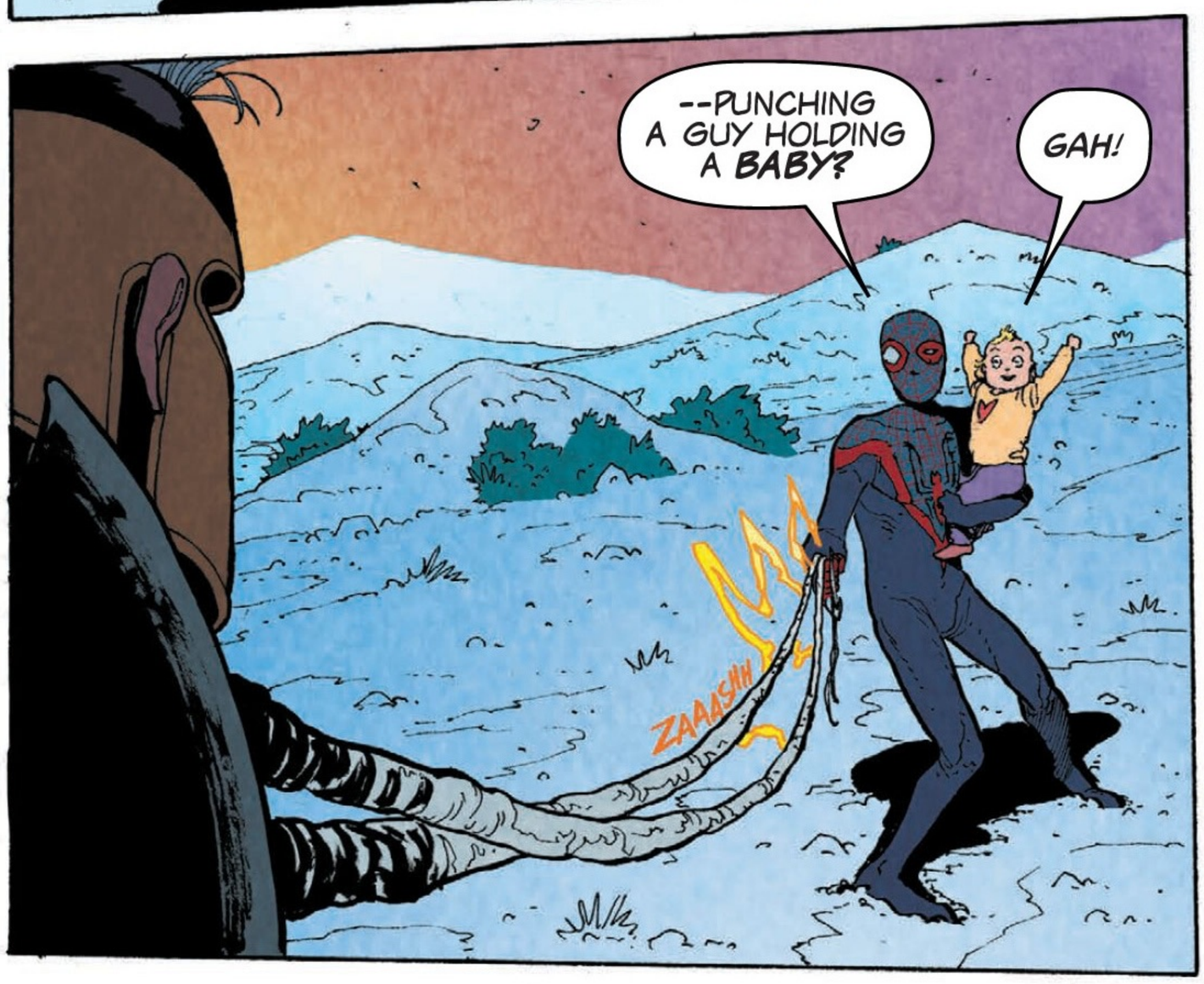
A *PACIFIST* AGAINST THE GOD OF *WAR?*

IT SOUNDS LIKE THE BEGINNING OF A JOKE.

SSSSLLLLLLAAAAAAMMMMMMMMM

THAT MAGIC WILL COST YOU YOUR LIFE, YOU...YOU... ACTOR!

HONESTLY, ARES--
THWIP


--PUNCHING A GUY HOLDING A BABY?
GAH!
ZAAASHH

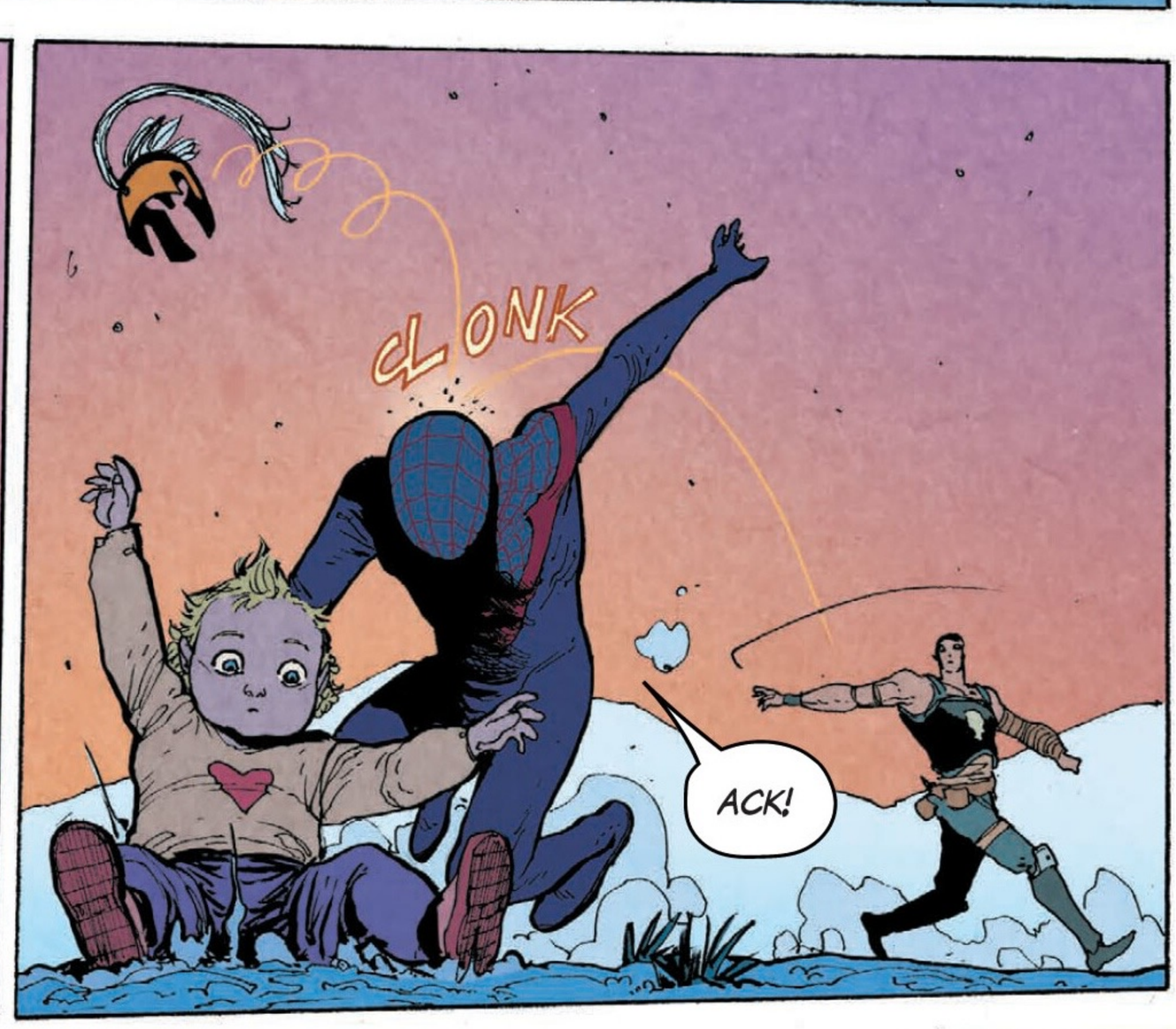
ZAAAASHH
I MEAN, WHO DOES THAT?

SO, KID... YOU'RE NO DOUBT ASKING YOURSELF: "HOW DID SPIDER-MAN HEROICALLY APPEAR LIKE THAT TO SAVE ME?"
"IS IT AT ALL POSSIBLE THAT HE WAS CLOAKED, RIDING ON WONDER MAN'S BACK THE WHOLE TIME?"

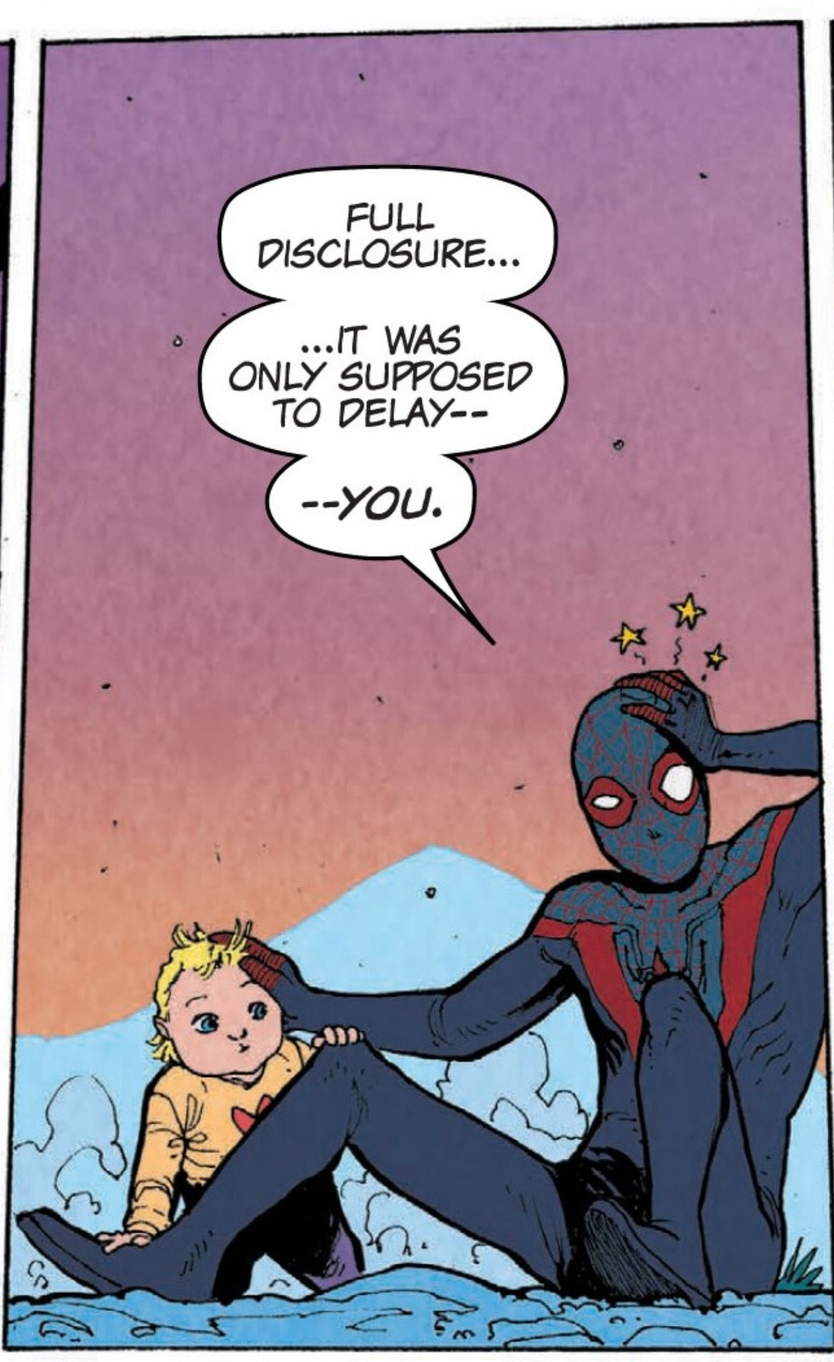
YES, LAUSSA, THERE IS A SPIDER-MAN...
FLIP

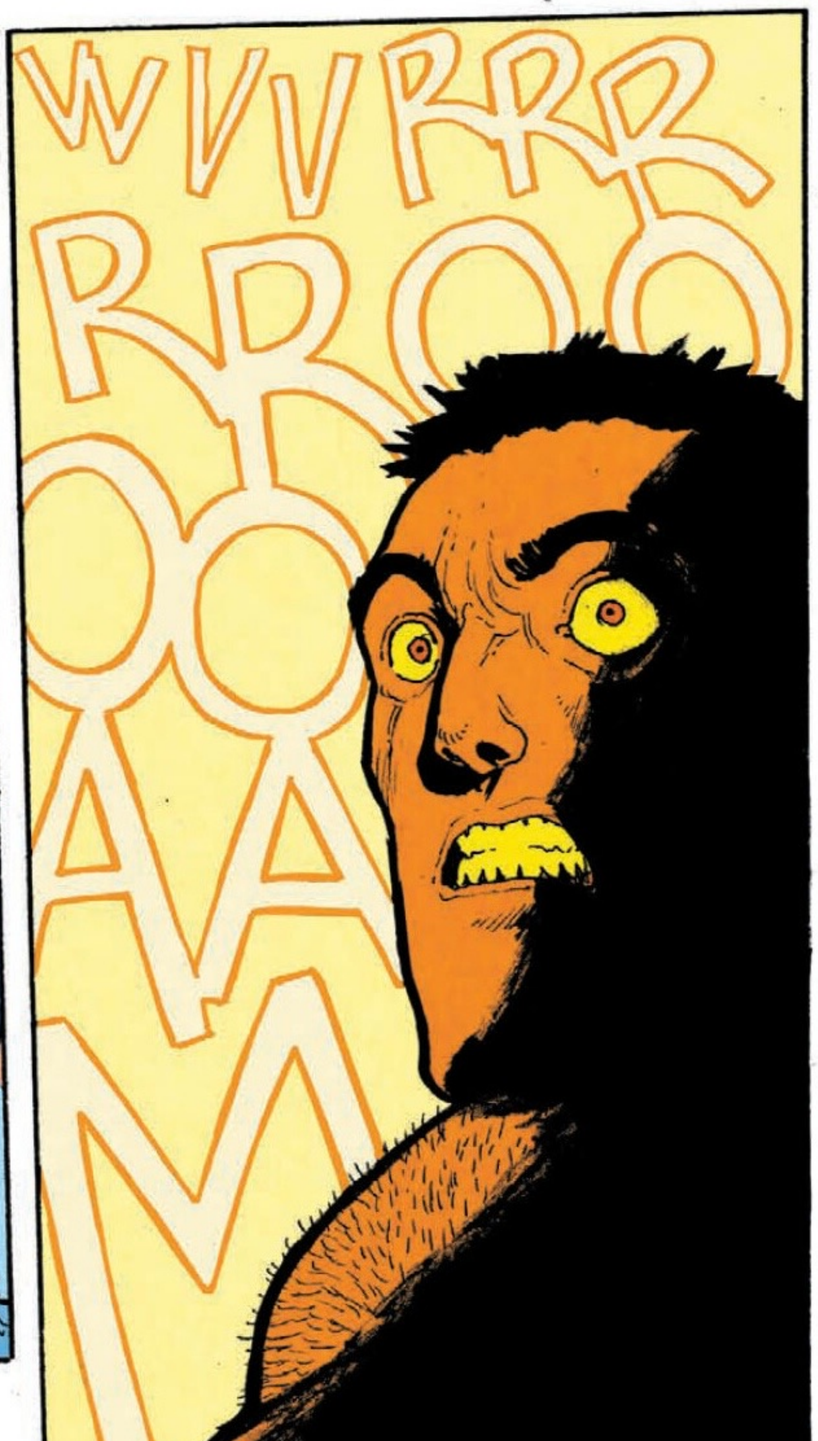
...AND HE'S AMAZ--OH MAN... YOU POOPED, DIDN'T YOU?
RRRR

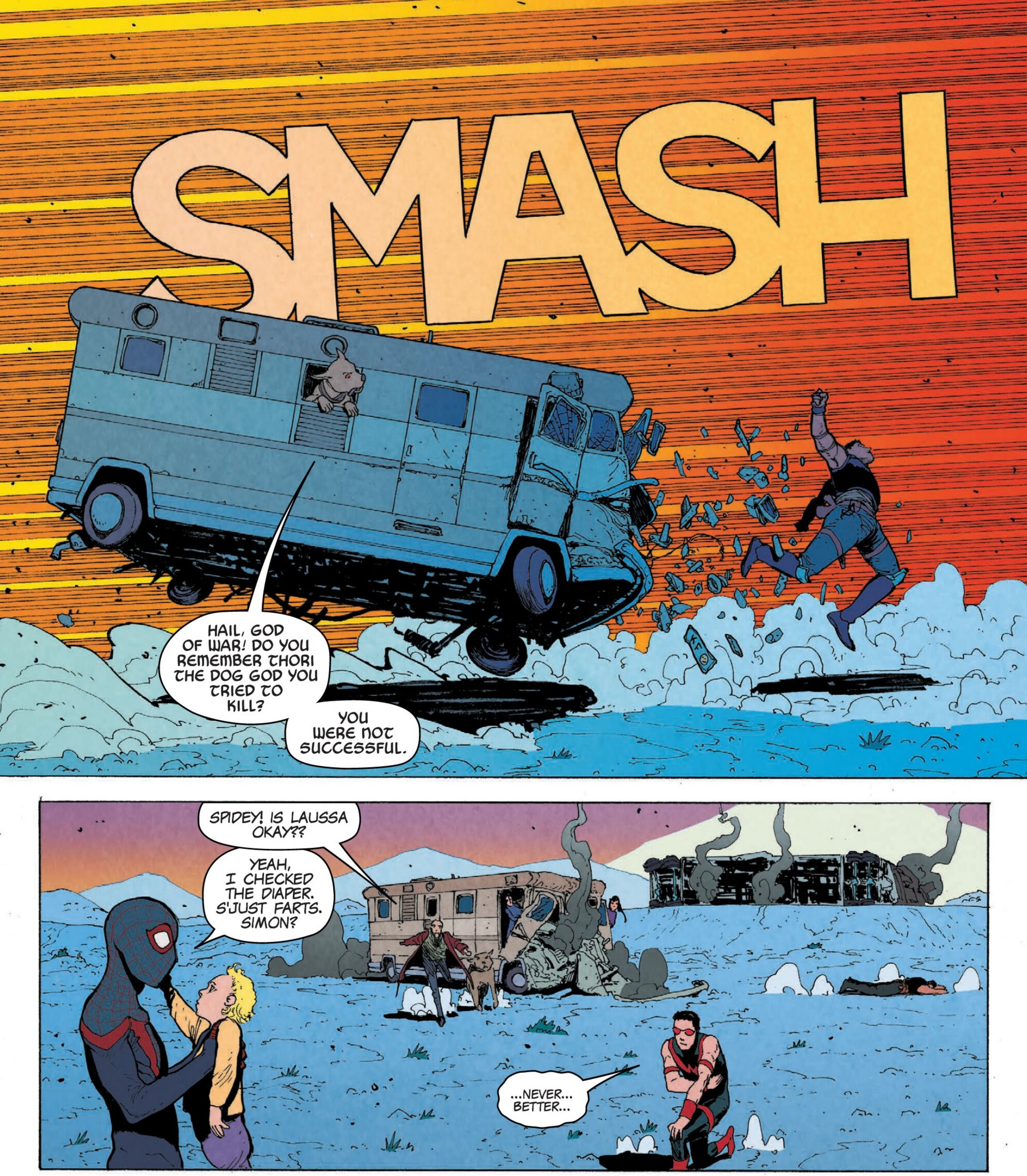
STUPID, STUPID CHILD...


CLONK
ACK!

ALL YOUR GIBES! ALL YOUR CAVORTING ABOUT!
IT ONLY DELAYED THE INEVITABLE.


FULL DISCLOSURE...
...IT WAS ONLY SUPPOSED TO DELAY--
--YOU.


WVVRRR BROOOAAM


SMASH
HAIL, GOD OF WAR! DO YOU REMEMBER THORI THE DOG GOD YOU TRIED TO KILL?
YOU WERE NOT SUCCESSFUL.
SPIDEY! IS LAUSSA OKAY??
YEAH, I CHECKED THE DIAPER. S'JUST FARTS. SIMON?
...NEVER... BETTER...
GRRRRRR
GRRRRR
GRRRRR
UH, KATE, BALDER...IS THAT TRUCK SUPPOSED TO BE... GROWLING?

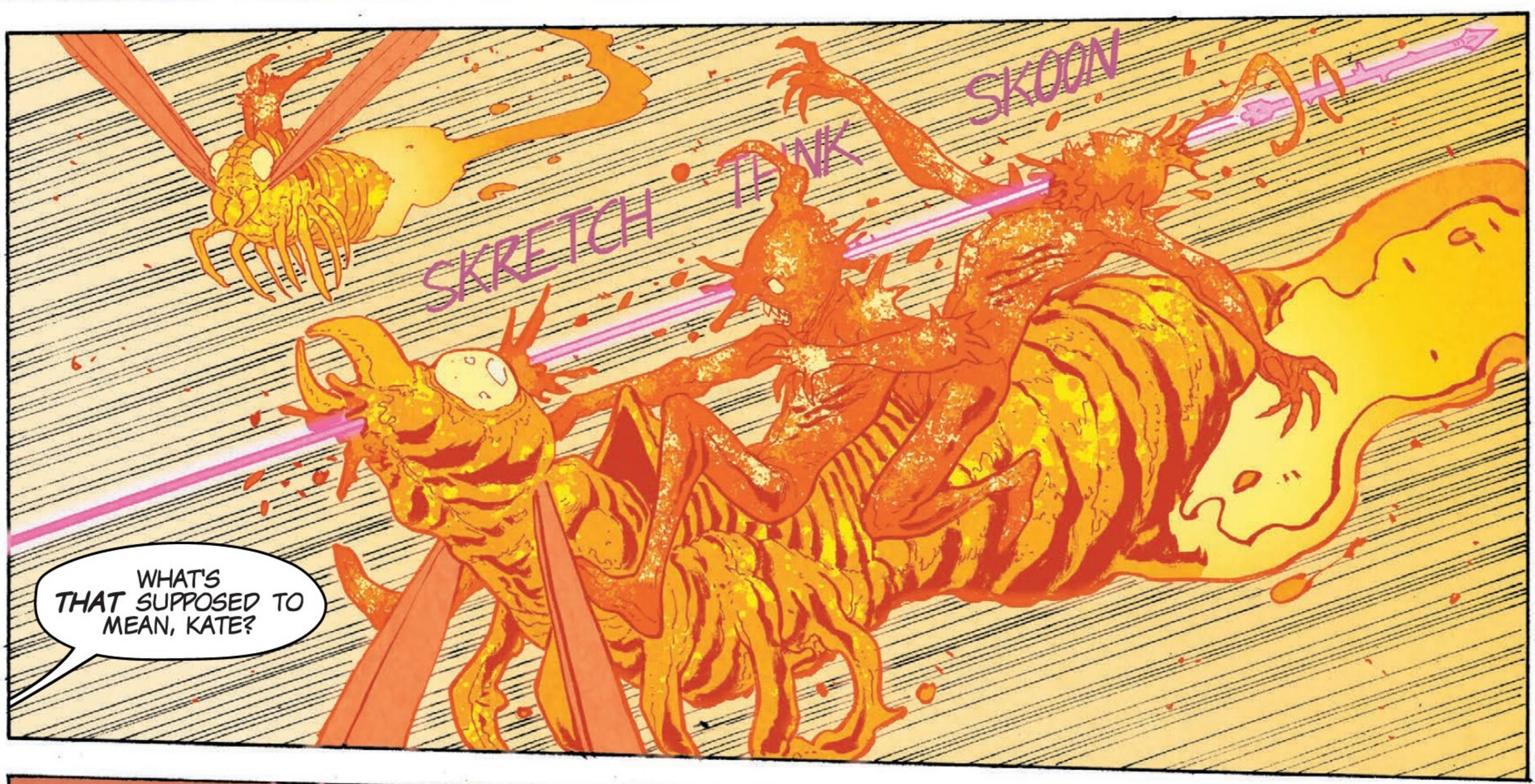
KA-THA-DOOM

ALL HAIL THE QUEEN OF CINDERS!

THORI IS HAPPY! SO VERY, VERY HAPPY!

SO ARES HAS BEEN DRIVING AROUND ALL THIS TIME WITH A SEMITRAILER FULL OF FIRE GOBLINS?!
SOME PEOPLE WILL DO ANYTHING TO USE THE CARPOOL LANE!

THEY'RE NOT THE ONLY ONES WHO HAVE BEEN TAKEN FOR A RIDE, BECCA!


SKRETCH
TINK
SKOON
WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN, KATE?

YOU KNOW WHAT, BECCA?
CHOMP

IT CAN WAIT!

I'M GOOD WITH THAT!
THORI, ALSO, IS GOOD WITH THAT!

SO THAT "MOVIE MAGIC" LINE--YOU HAD TO HAVE BEEN SITTING ON THAT FOR A WHILE.
YEAH, BUT I ADDED "JAGWEED" IN THE MOMENT. IT JUST FELT RIGHT, YOU KNOW?
UHHH, GANG...?

LITTLE HELP HERE?
SURRENDER THE CHILD!

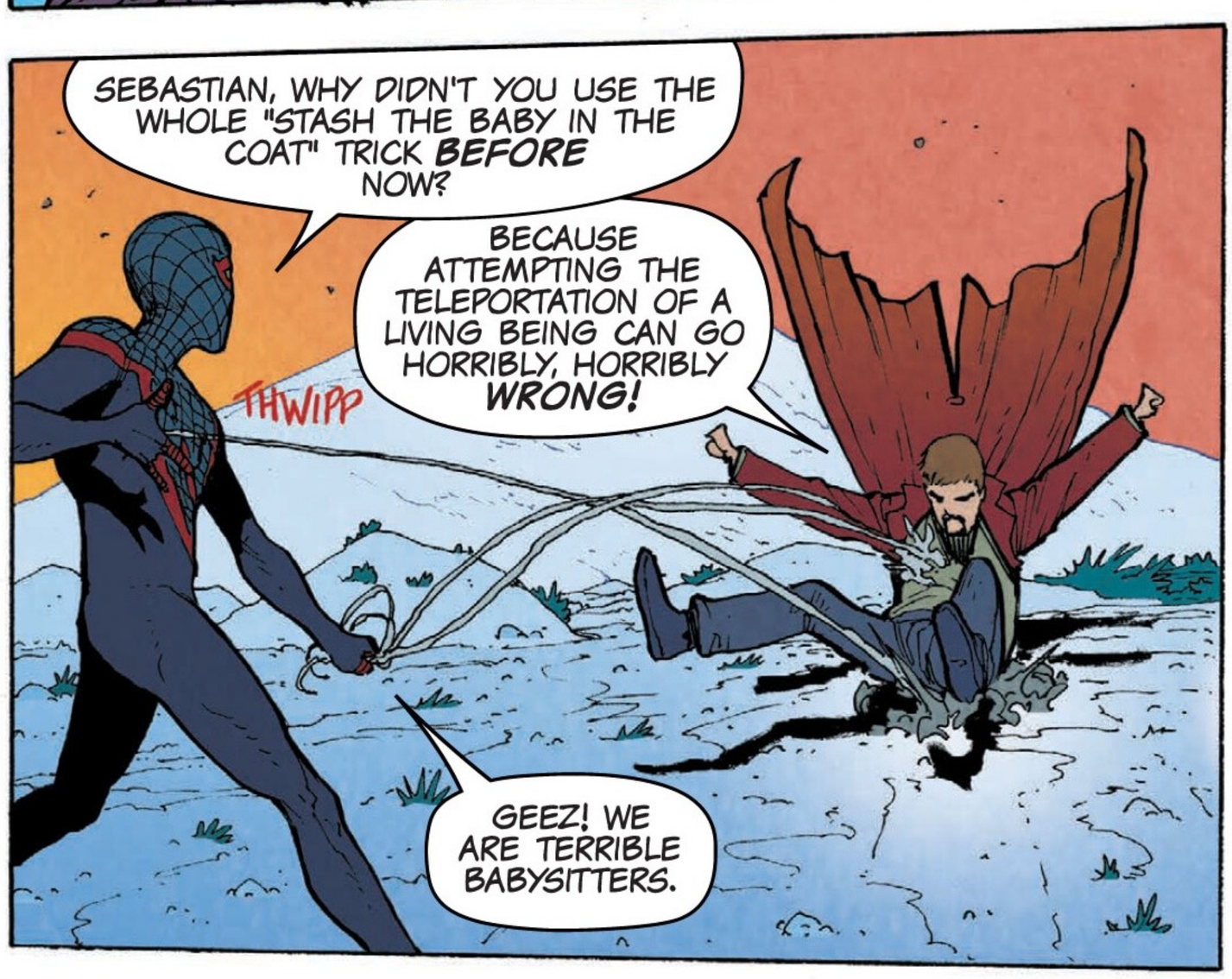
NOPE.
JUST A QUICK BYE-BYE, SWEET GIRL.
SHWOOP

WHERE. IS. SHE?!
I DON'T KNOW FOR SURE...

"...BUT I HOPE SHE'S IN A REALLY SMALL, BUT TIDY APARTMENT IN FLAGSTAFF, ARIZONA."

BAHH!
AAAHH--

THWIP
--HH? OH. THANKS, SPIDEY!


SEBASTIAN, WHY DIDN'T YOU USE THE WHOLE "STASH THE BABY IN THE COAT" TRICK BEFORE NOW?
BECAUSE ATTEMPTING THE TELEPORTATION OF A LIVING BEING CAN GO HORRIBLY, HORRIBLY WRONG!
THWIPP
GEEZ! WE ARE TERRIBLE BABYSITTERS.

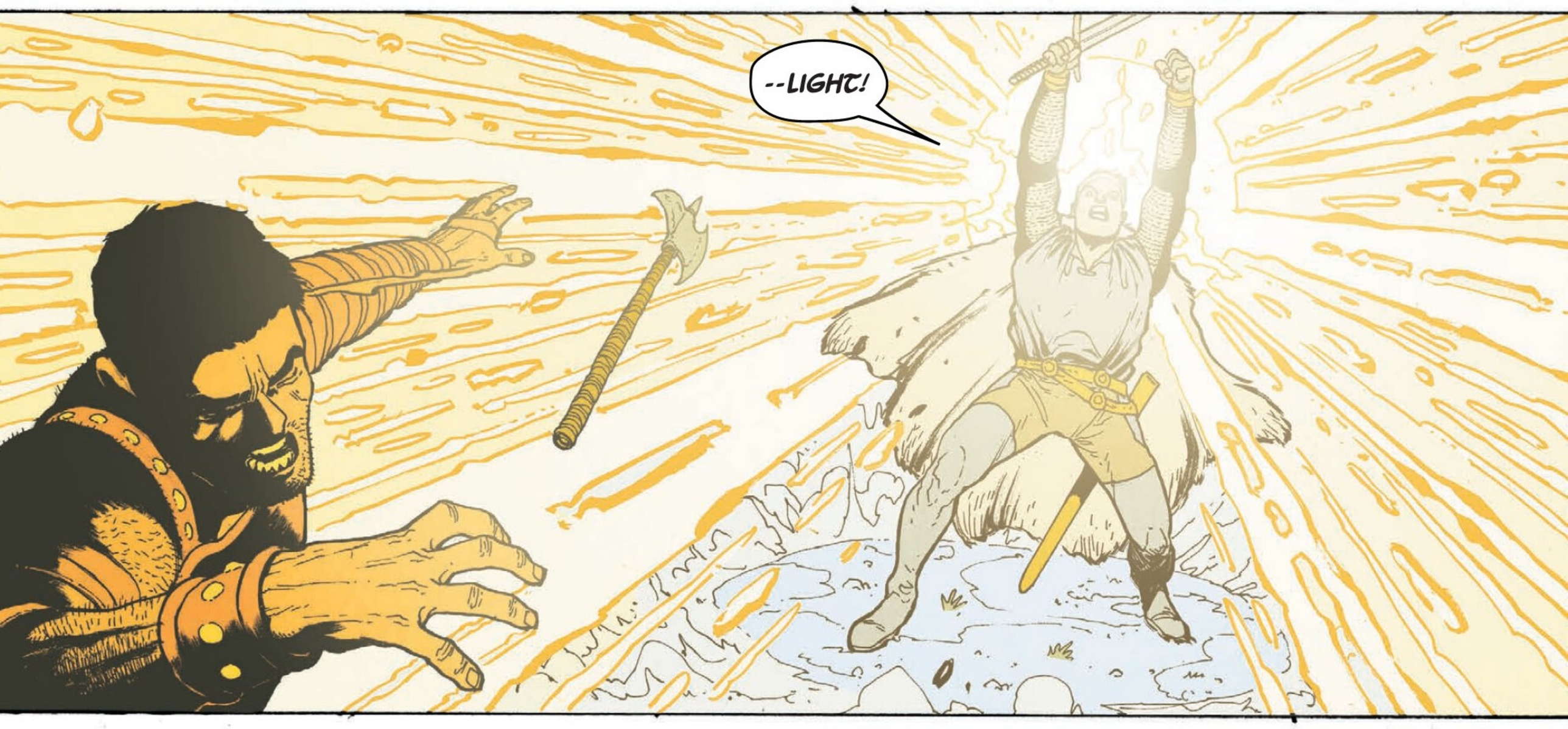
WHY ARE YOU DOING THIS, ARES?!
FOR GOD'S SAKE, MAN! YOU WERE AN AVENGER!

THE DEALINGS OF THIS REALM NO LONGER CONCERN ME.
I SEEK ONLY PASSAGE INTO THE ELYSIAN FIELDS!
AND TO GET THERE...I MUST DIE ON THE BATTLEFIELD!
IF THAT IS THE CASE--

--THEN BALDER THE BRAVE SHALL OBLIGE THEE!

WHY RUSH TOWARD DEATH, WAR GOD?
I WAS JUST THERE. YOU WILL NOT ENJOY IT!
IT IS THE ONLY WAY I CAN BE REUNITED WITH MY SON, ALEXANDER!
SHAWK

OH $#&%--THAT'S RIGHT!
HIS SON! ALEXANDER! I KNEW HIM! HE WAS A GOD TOO!
AND WHAT ARE YOU THE GOD OF?
FAILURE?
WHAM
no--


--LIGHT!

HELLUVA LIGHT SHOW, BALDER! POSITIVELY SIMONSONIAN!
WELL, NOW I CAN CHECK GOBLIN SLAYING OFF THE HONEY-DO LIST.
SEBBY! WHERE'S LAUSSA?
EXCUSE ME?
OH SURE! HANG ON! SHE'S ON MY BEANBAG.

WHO... ARE...YOU PEOPLE?

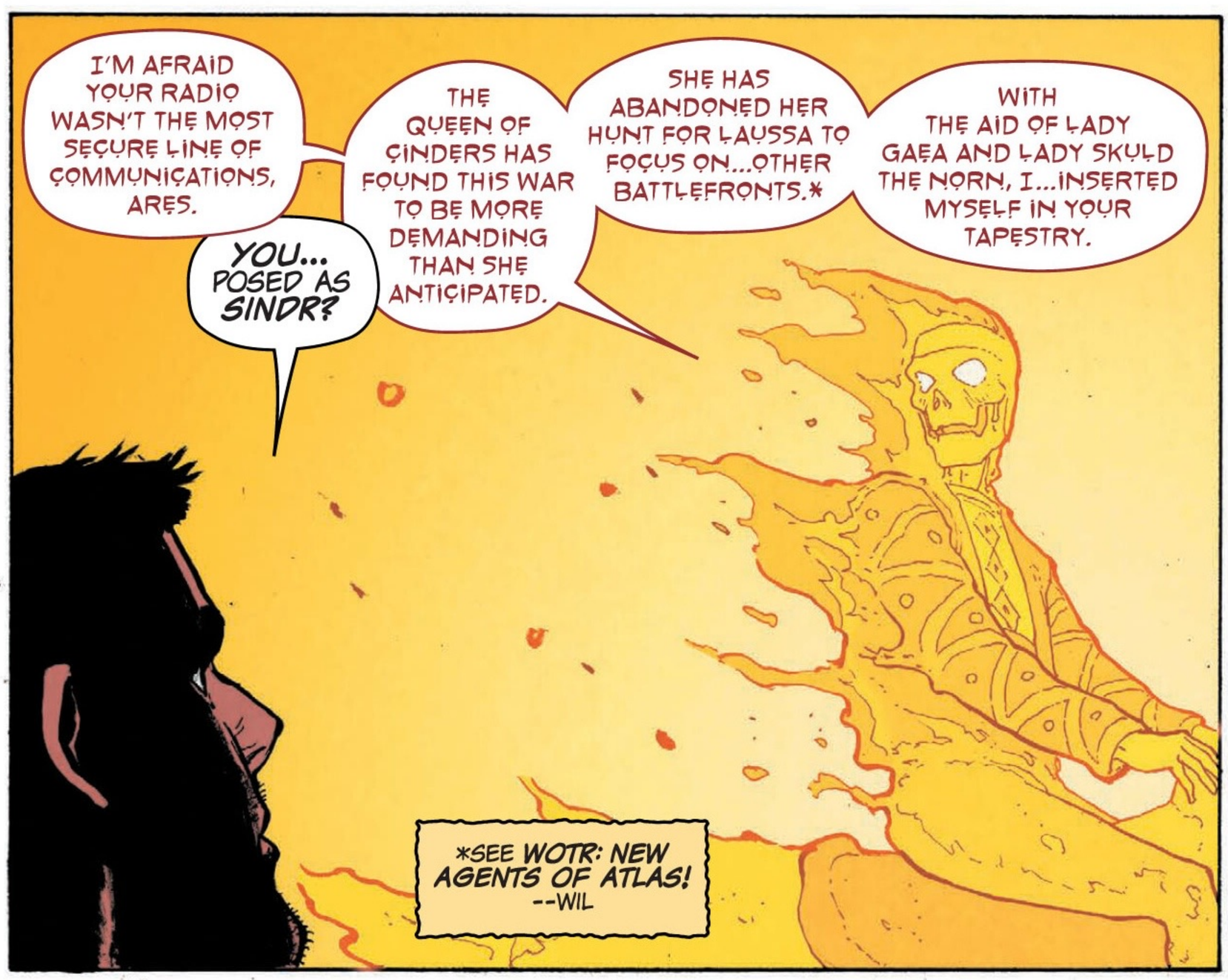
US? WE'RE JUST THE BABYSITTERS.
GAH!
THIS IS OUR POSTER MOMENT, RIGHT? DIBS ON THE COOL SQUAT!

MORE DEMONS! THORI IS SO VERY TIRED OF DEMONS.

DEMON RIDER, THORI. WE MET THIS ONE, REMEMBER?

HELLO AGAIN, SEBASTIAN DRUID.

HI-HO, KUSHALA.



...I'M PRETTY SURE IT WAS HER.
LAUSSA?!
I THINK OUR LITTLE GODDESS HERE HAS ORCHESTRATED THIS WHOLE WACKY ROAD TRIP.
YOU'VE BEEN DIVINE BACKSEAT DRIVING, HAVEN'T YOU, PUNKIN? TOLD ME WHERE TO DRIVE, WHEN TO STOP.

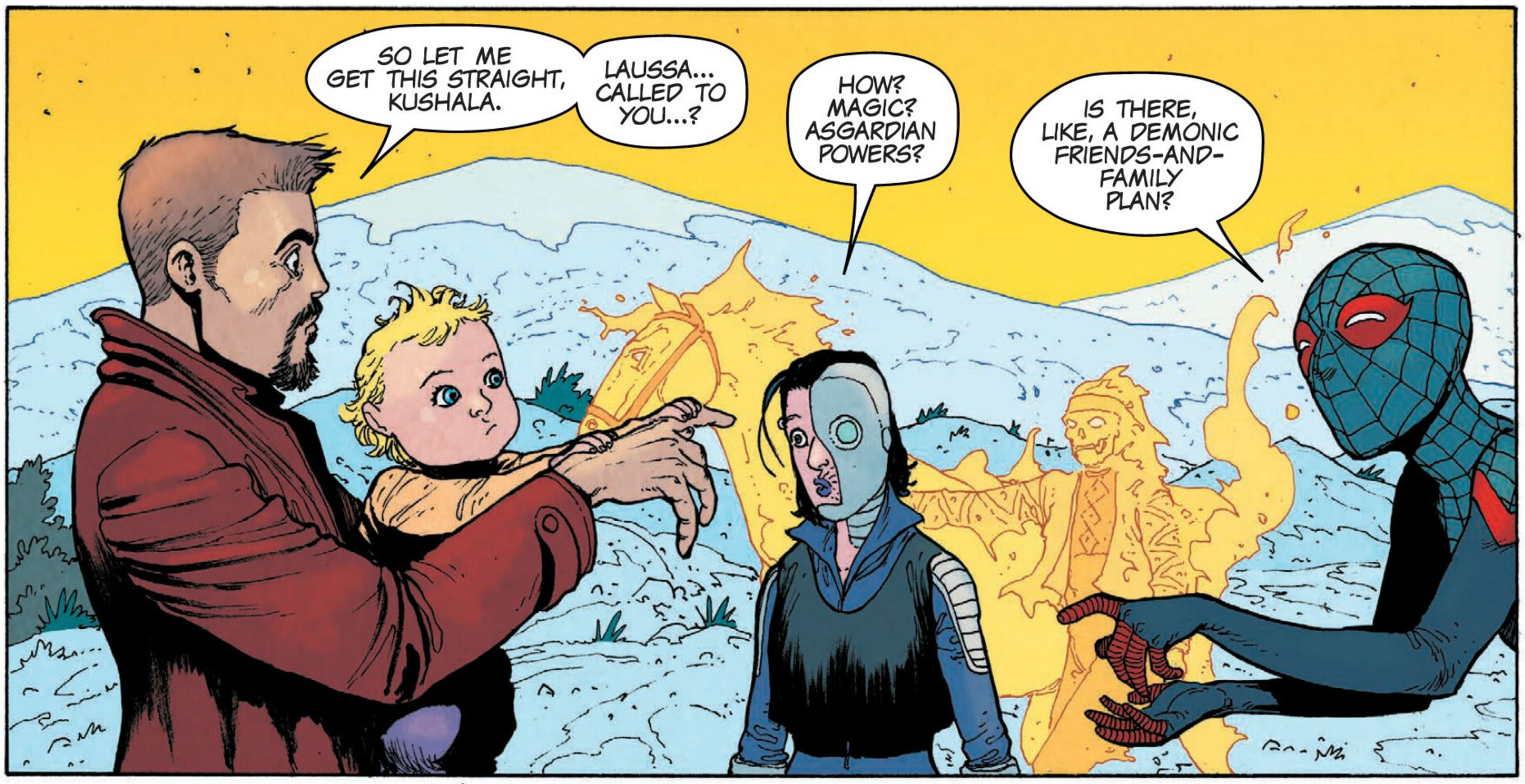
YOU MEAN SHE WANTED US TO FIND THE SKRULLS...AND THE WILD WEST GHOSTS...AND THE HENCHFEST?
I THINK SHE GAVE EVERYBODY NUDGES...
BUT SHE'S JUST A BABY!
THORI TRIED TO TELL YOU...

BABY SHE IS. BUT SHE IS ALSO A GODDESS...
AND OF ROYAL BIRTH...

I THINK I UNDERSTAND...
LAUSSA HAS BEEN OPERATING ON INSTINCT.

THIS WAR HAS RAVAGED ALL THE REALMS AND SHE TOOK ACTION TO HELP END IT.
SHE DID WHAT EVERY ROYAL FAMILY DOES IN TIMES OF WAR...

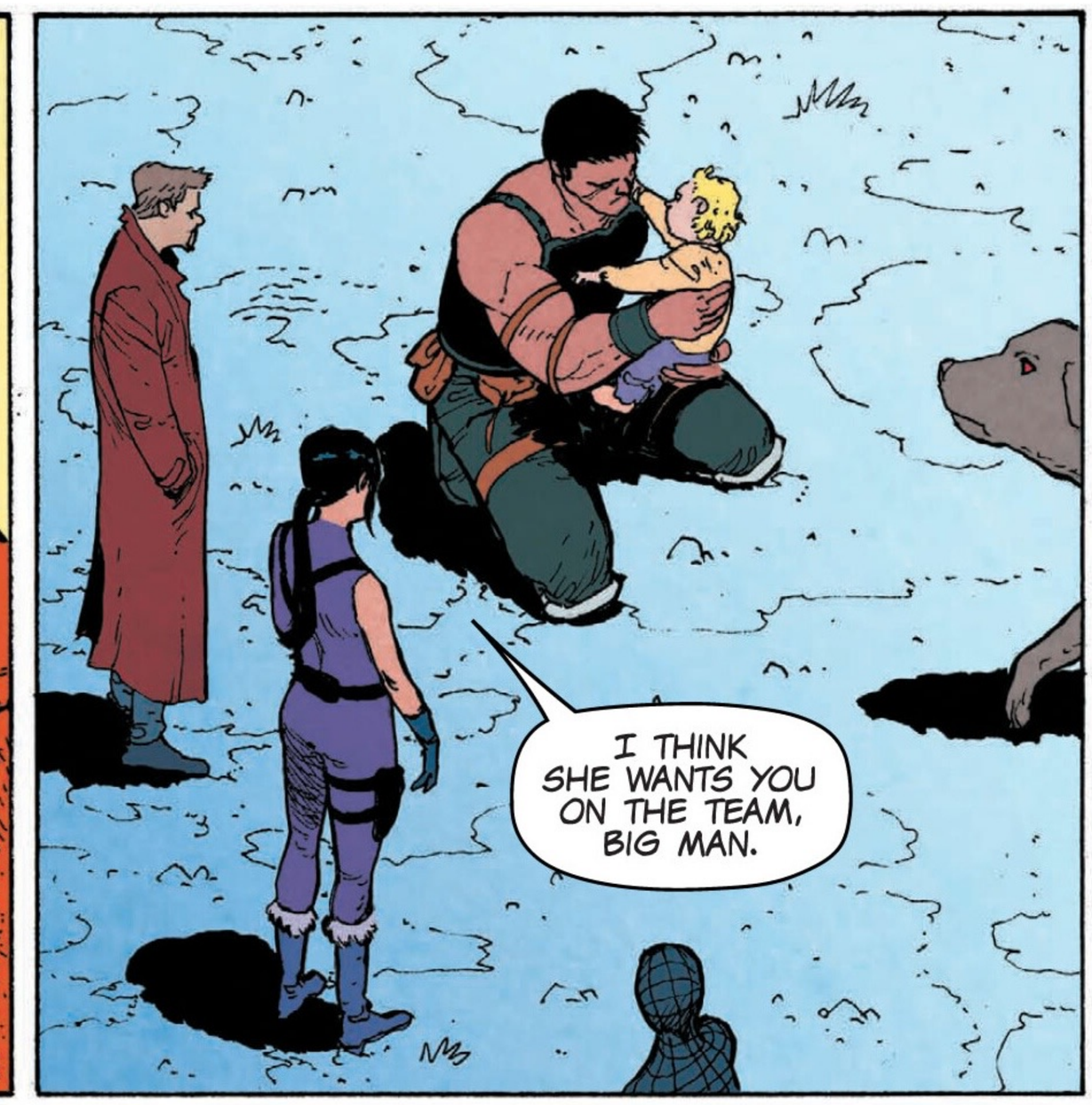
...SHE WAS GATHERING AN ARMY.

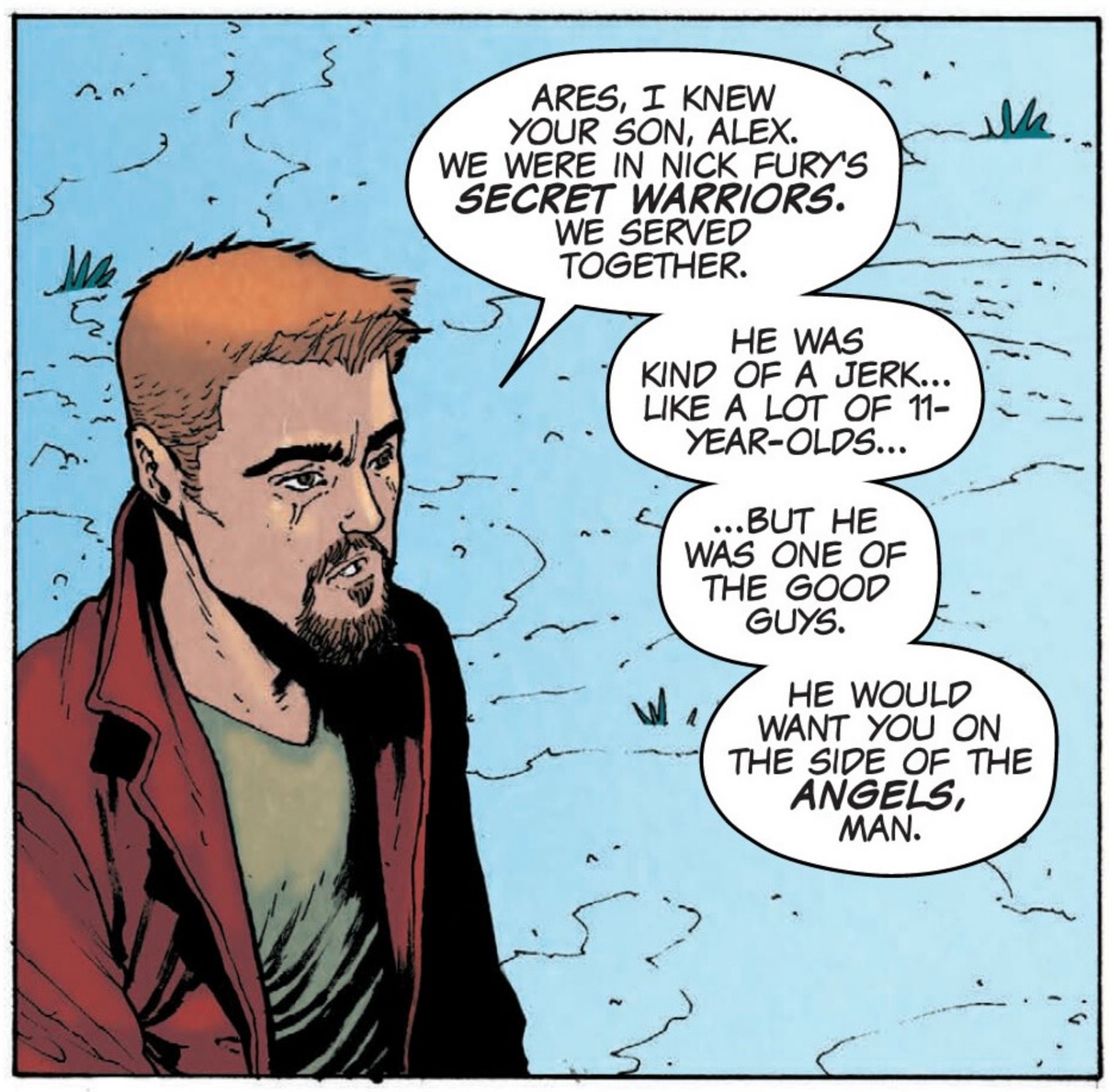

SO LET ME GET THIS STRAIGHT, KUSHALA.
LAUSSA... CALLED TO YOU...?
HOW? MAGIC? ASGARDIAN POWERS?
IS THERE, LIKE, A DEMONIC FRIENDS-AND-FAMILY PLAN?

IN A WAY.
LAUSSA IS A UNIQUE COMBINATION OF THE DEMONIC AND THE DIVINE. SHE CAN INFLUENCE THE HEARTS OF MORTAL, IMMORTAL, SPIRIT...
NO, NOT REALLY.
SO YOU DON'T REALLY KNOW HOW SHE DID IT.
DO YOU...KNOW... WHY...

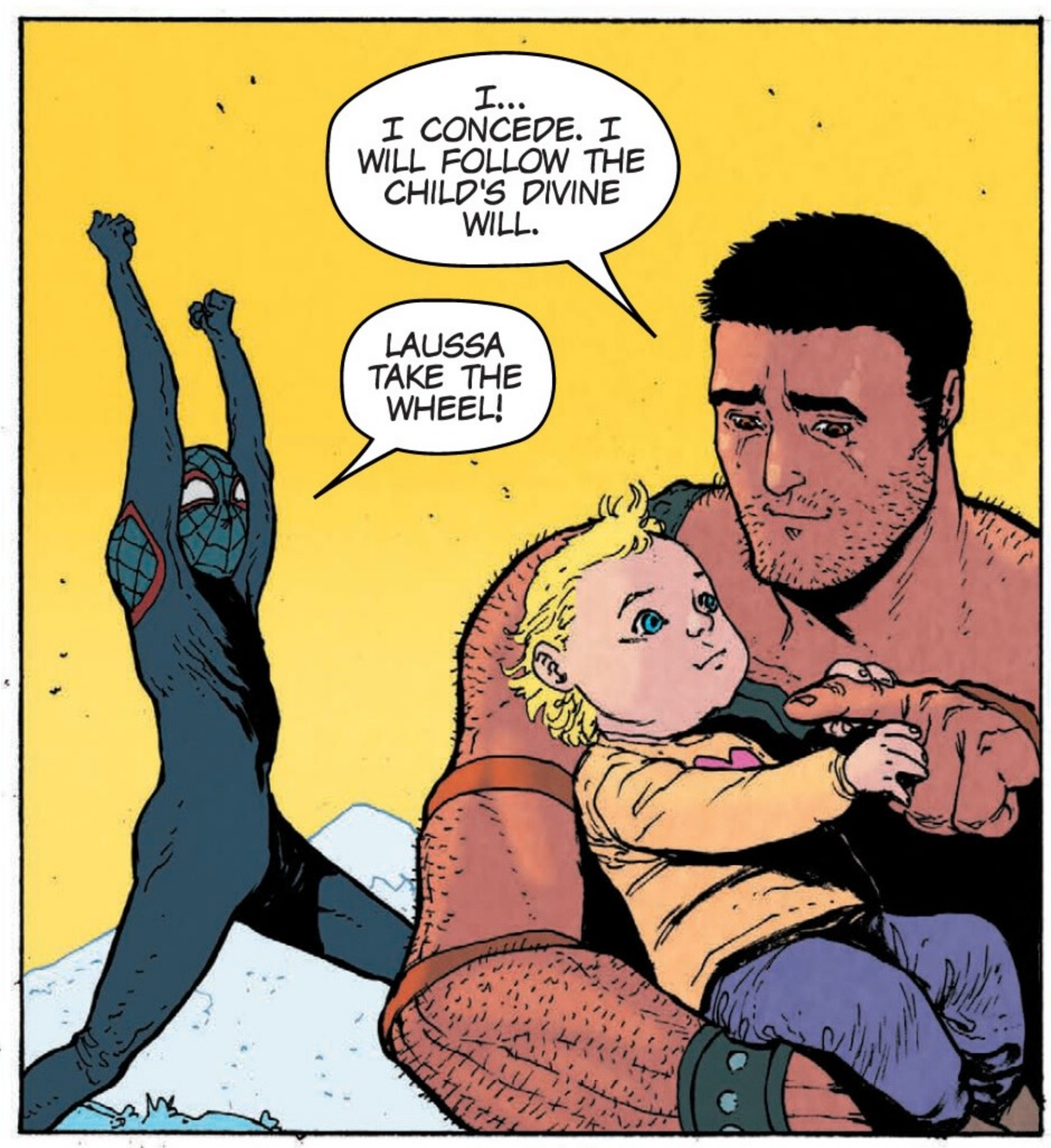
...WHY... SHE HAD YOU...BRING ME HERE?

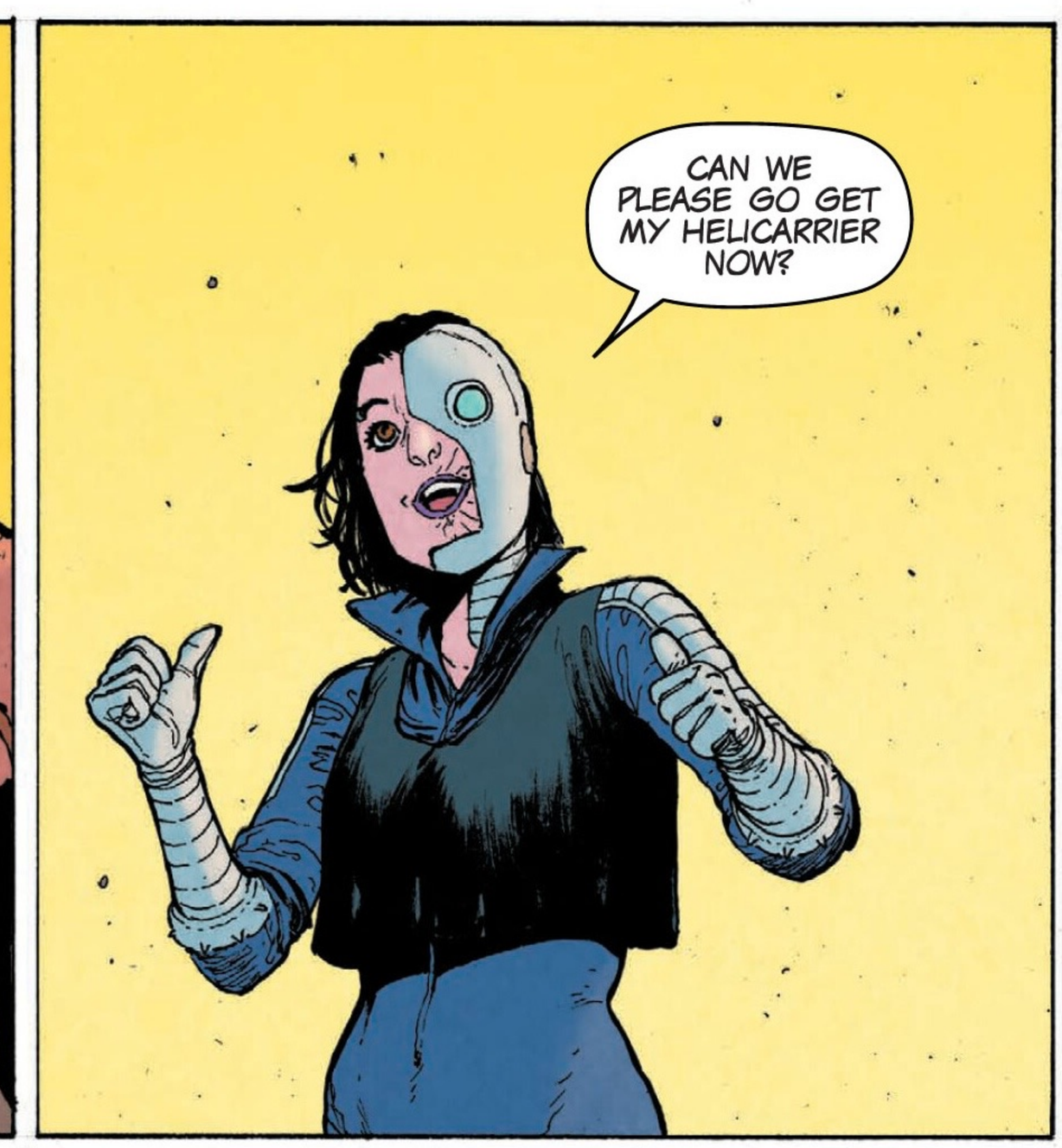
!

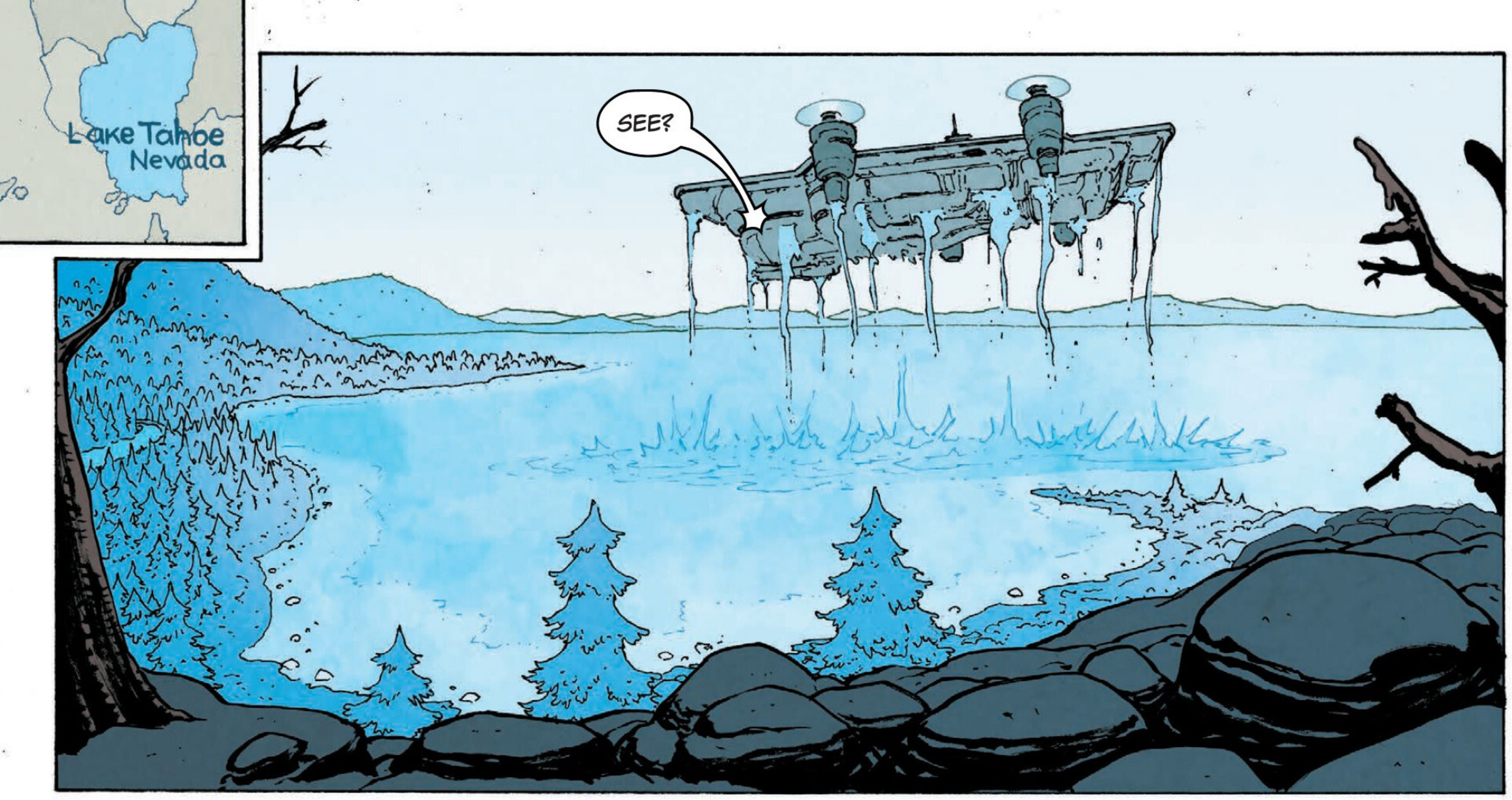

I THINK SHE WANTS YOU ON THE TEAM, BIG MAN.

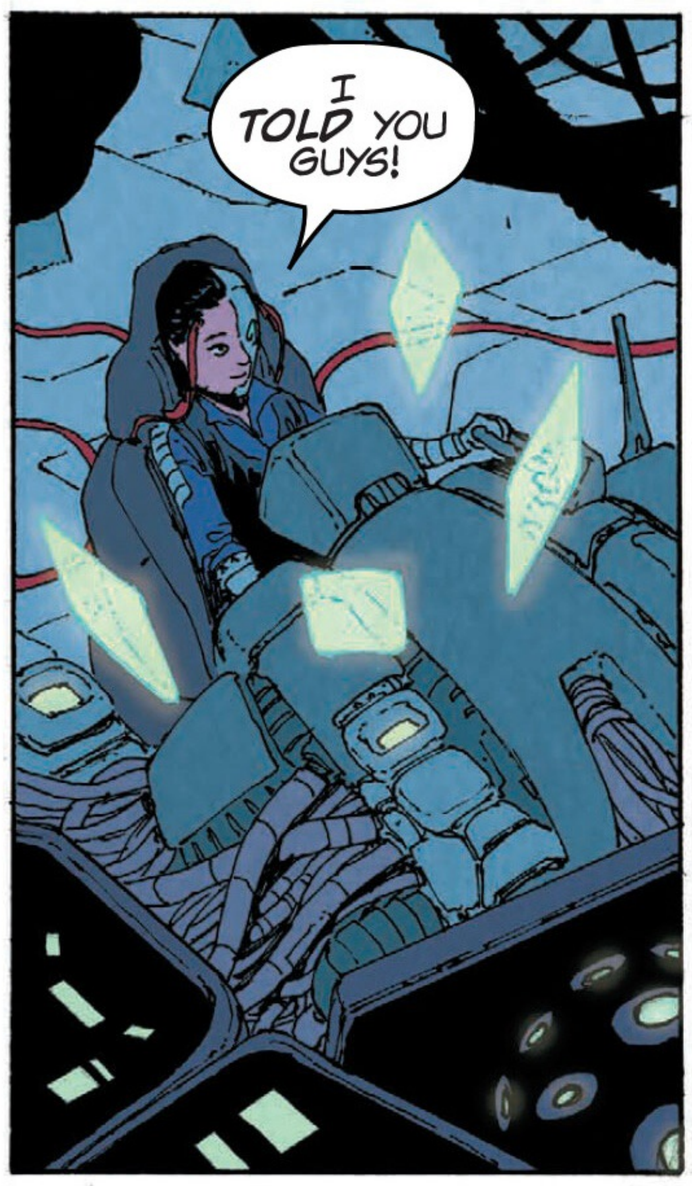

ARES, I KNEW YOUR SON, ALEX. WE WERE IN NICK FURY'S SECRET WARRIORS. WE SERVED TOGETHER.
HE WAS KIND OF A JERK... LIKE A LOT OF 11-YEAR-OLDS...
...BUT HE WAS ONE OF THE GOOD GUYS.
HE WOULD WANT YOU ON THE SIDE OF THE ANGELS, MAN.

THORI AGREES.
AS A WARRIOR YOU ARE NOT... WITHOUT USE.
YOU WOULD MAKE A GOOD HUMAN SHIELD FOR THORI.


I... I CONCEDE. I WILL FOLLOW THE CHILD'S DIVINE WILL.
LAUSSA TAKE THE WHEEL!


CAN WE PLEASE GO GET MY HELICARRIER NOW?


Lake Tahoe
Nevada
SEE?

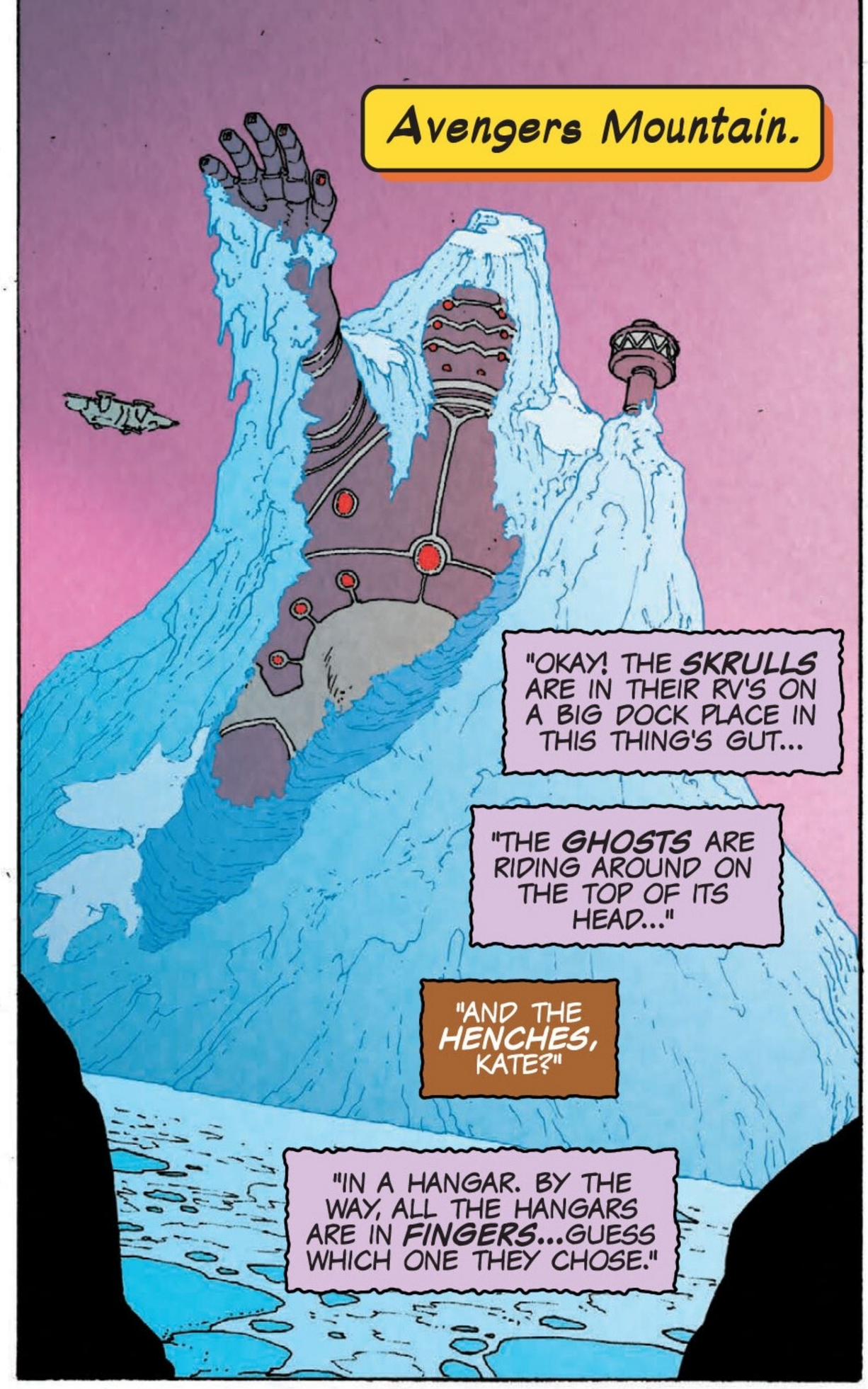

I TOLD YOU GUYS!

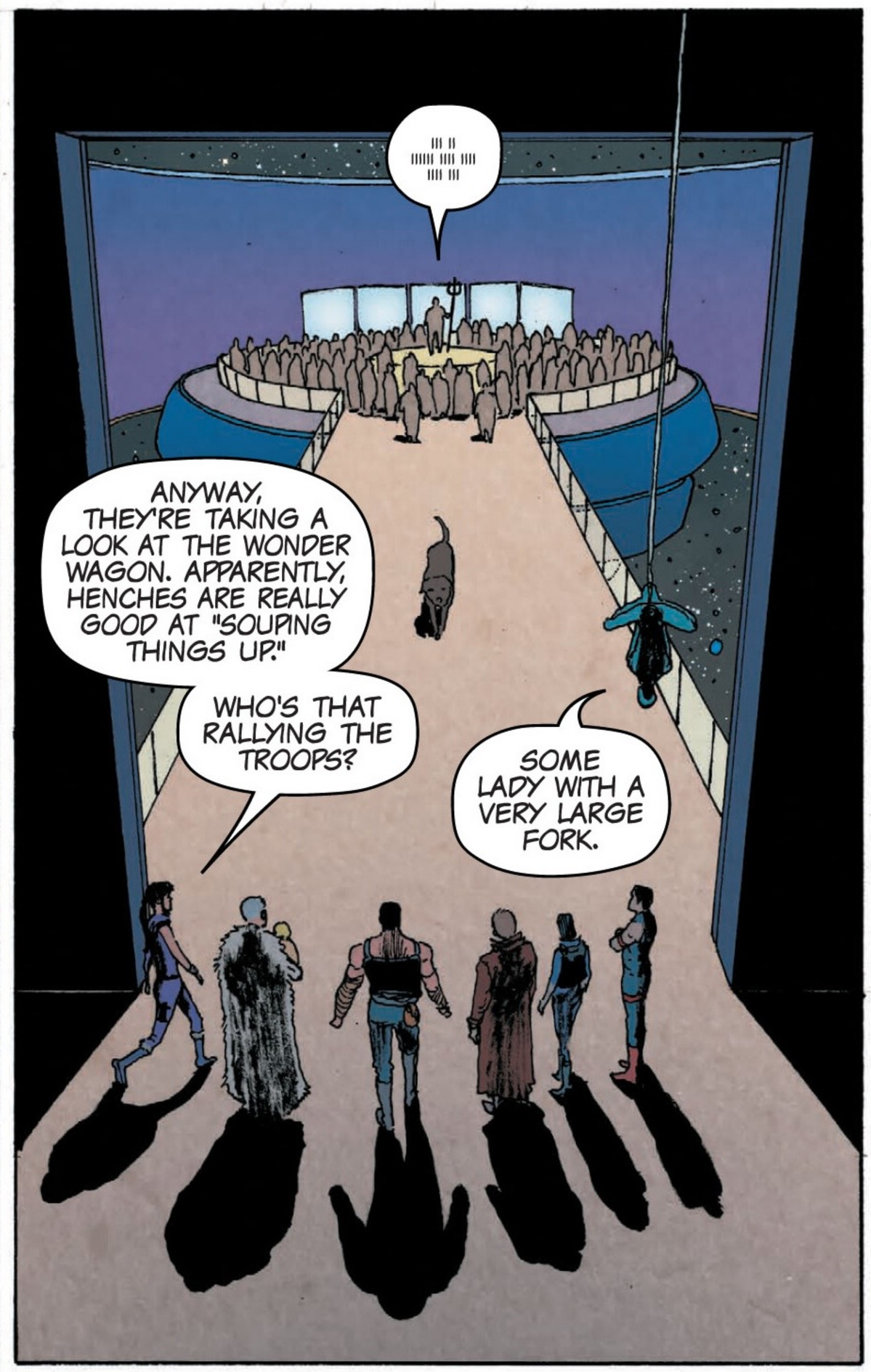
OMIGOD! HIDING IT IN A LAKE IS SO MUCH BETTER THAN JUST THROWING A BIG OL' TARP OVER IT!
LESS BLASPHEMY, SPIDER-FRIEND! MORE SCRATCHING!

I AM GLAD YOU ARE WITH US, ARES.
YOU... ALL OF YOU FOUGHT BRAVELY. YOU ARE WORTHY ALLIES.
WHEN WE ARE VANQUISHED BY THE INSURMOUNTABLE MIGHT OF OUR FOES, I WILL WALK INTO THE ELYSIAN FIELDS ALONGSIDE YOU PROUDLY.
RIGHT BACK AT YA, MAN.

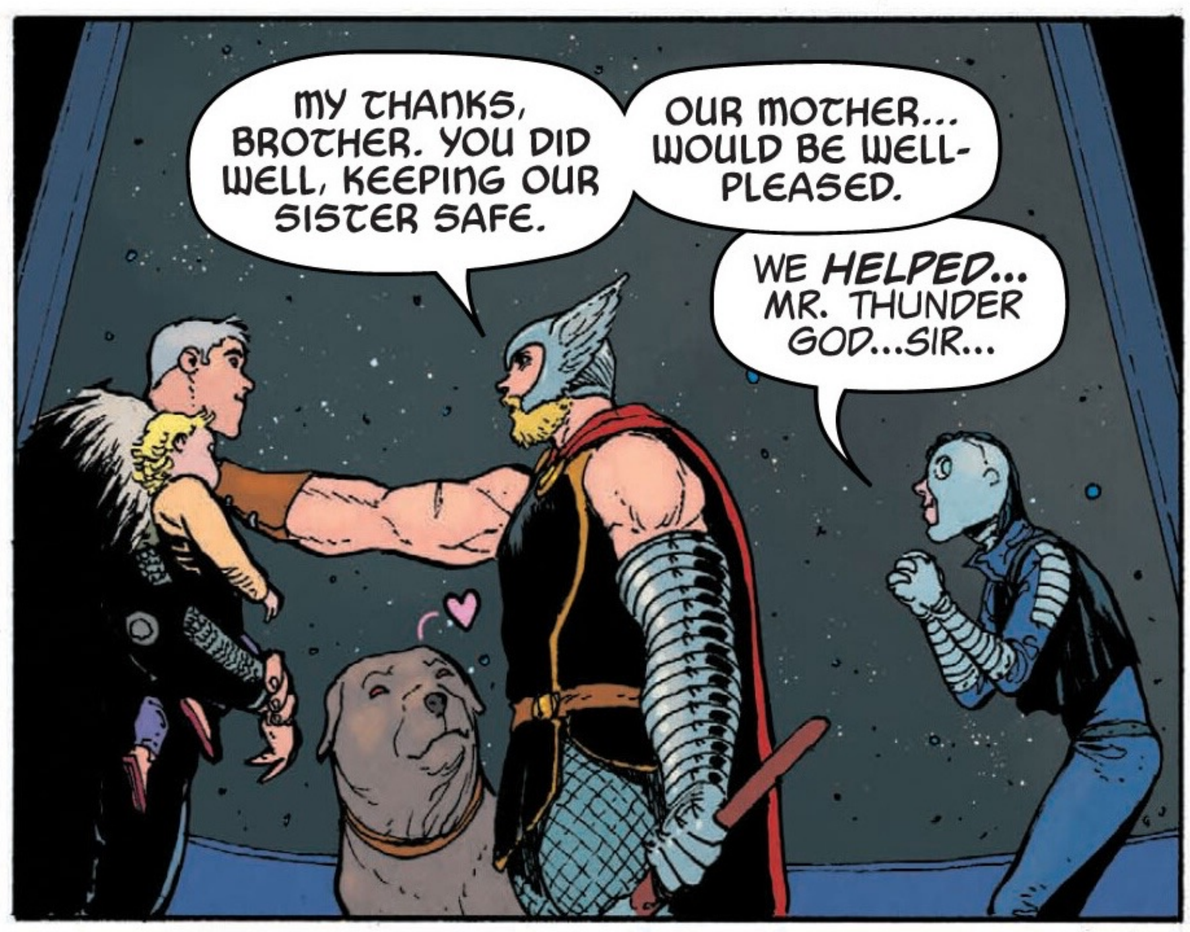
YEAH!

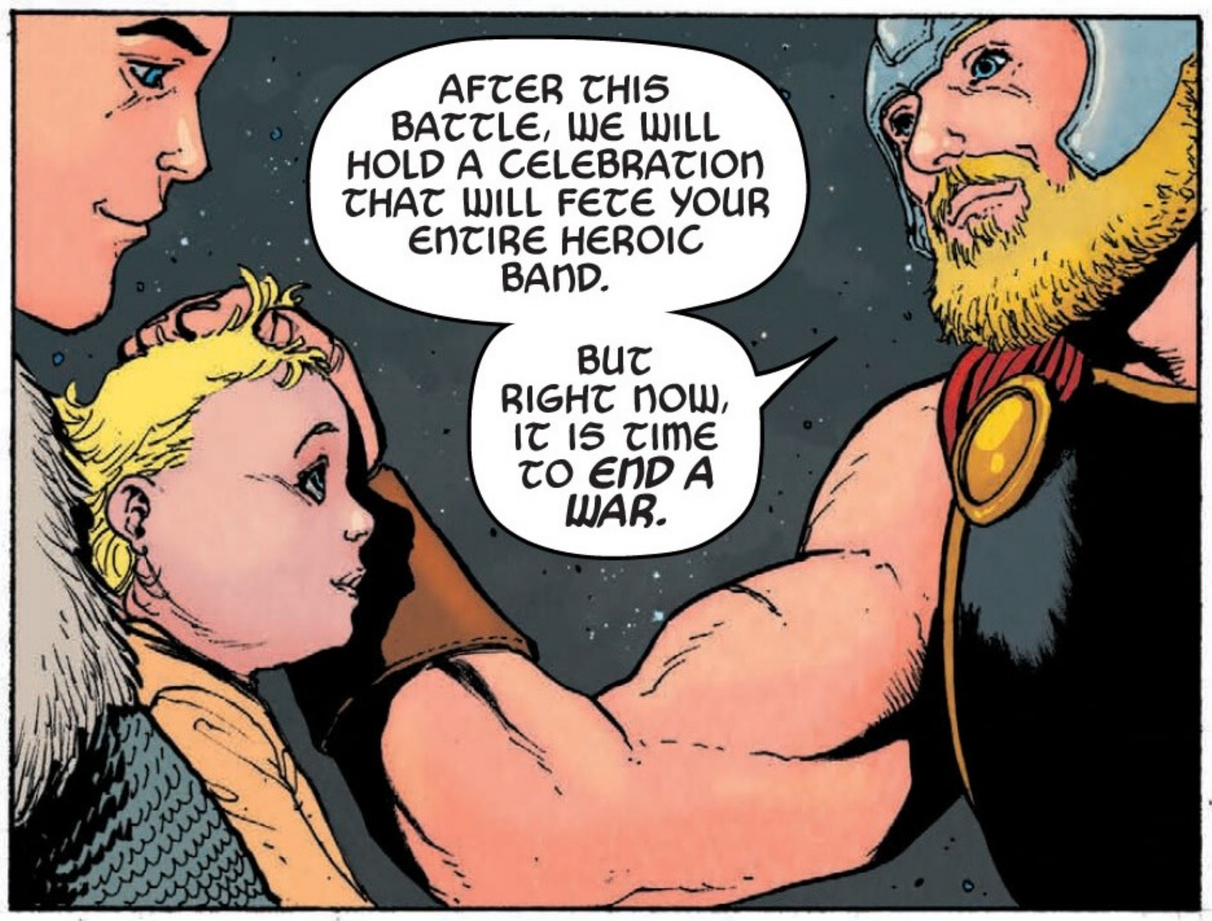
WAIT, WHAT?

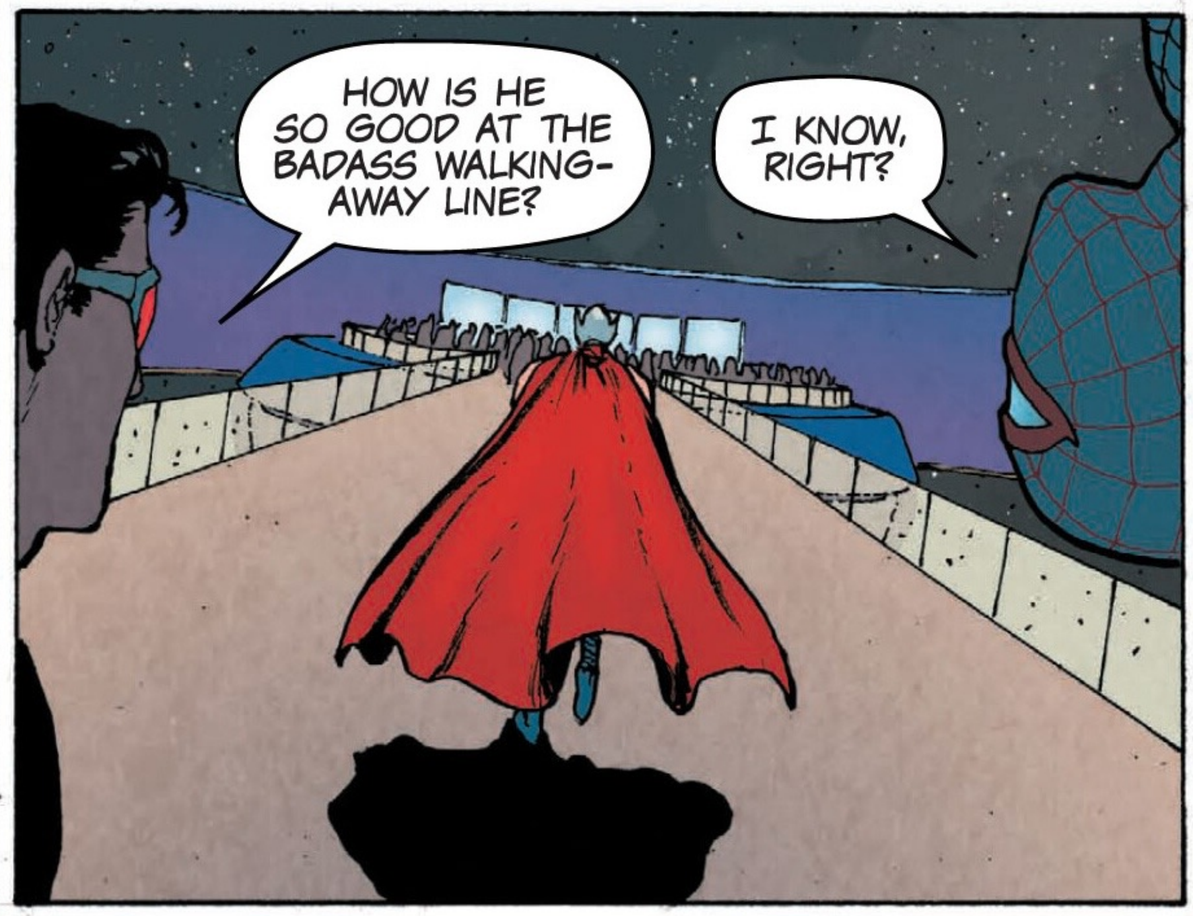

Avengers Mountain.
"OKAY! THE SKRULLS ARE IN THEIR RV'S ON A BIG DOCK PLACE IN THIS THING'S GUT...
"THE GHOSTS ARE RIDING AROUND ON THE TOP OF ITS HEAD..."
"AND THE HENCHES, KATE?"
"IN A HANGAR. BY THE WAY, ALL THE HANGARS ARE IN FINGERS...GUESS WHICH ONE THEY CHOSE."

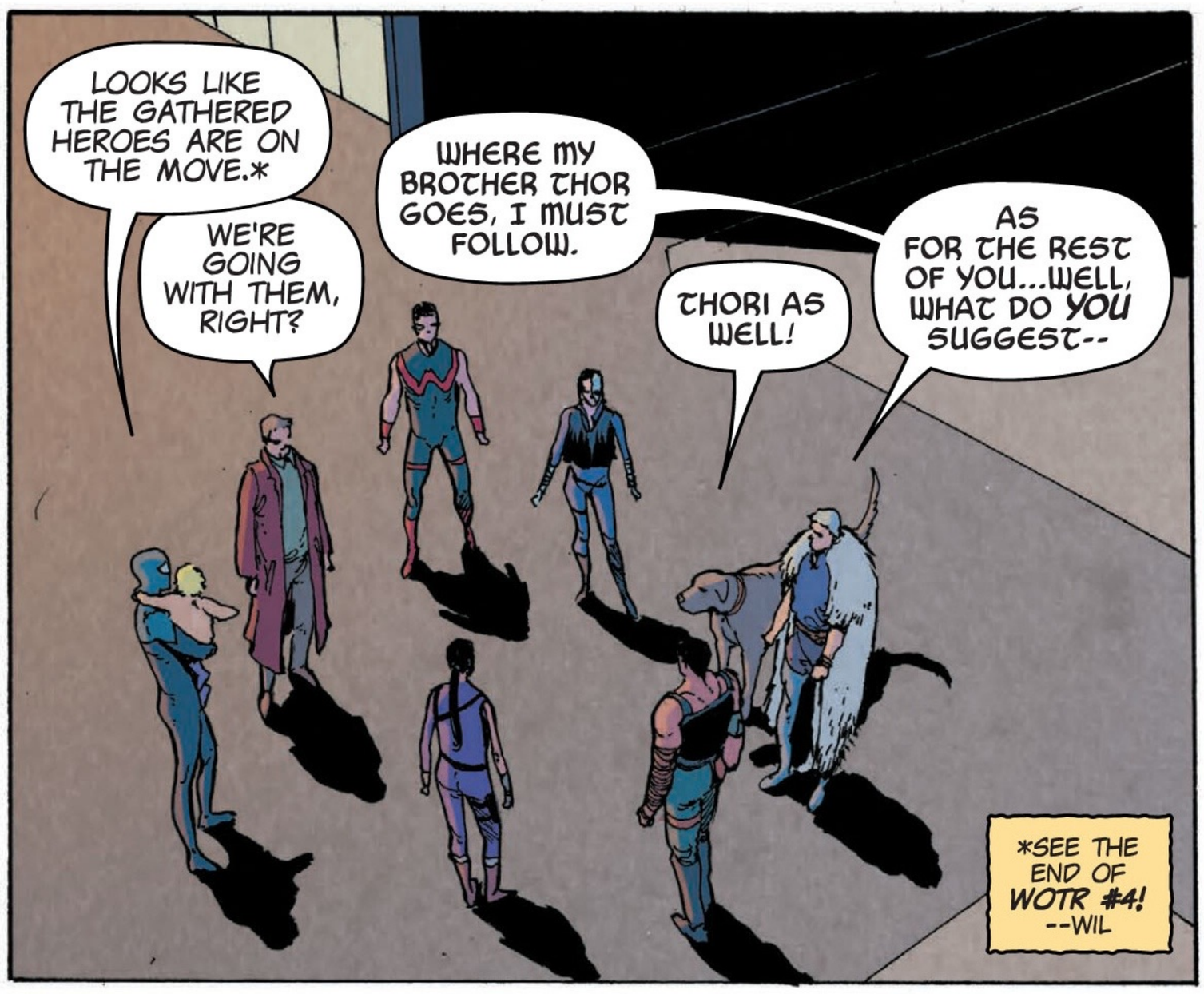

ANYWAY, THEY'RE TAKING A LOOK AT THE WONDER WAGON. APPARENTLY, HENCHES ARE REALLY GOOD AT "SOUPING THINGS UP."
WHO'S THAT RALLYING THE TROOPS?
SOME LADY WITH A VERY LARGE FORK.

THAT IS JANE FOSTER.
MASTER!!!


MY THANKS, BROTHER. YOU DID WELL, KEEPING OUR SISTER SAFE.
OUR MOTHER... WOULD BE WELL-PLEASED.
WE HELPED... MR. THUNDER GOD...SIR...


AFTER THIS BATTLE, WE WILL HOLD A CELEBRATION THAT WILL FETE YOUR ENTIRE HEROIC BAND.
BUT RIGHT NOW, IT IS TIME TO END A WAR.

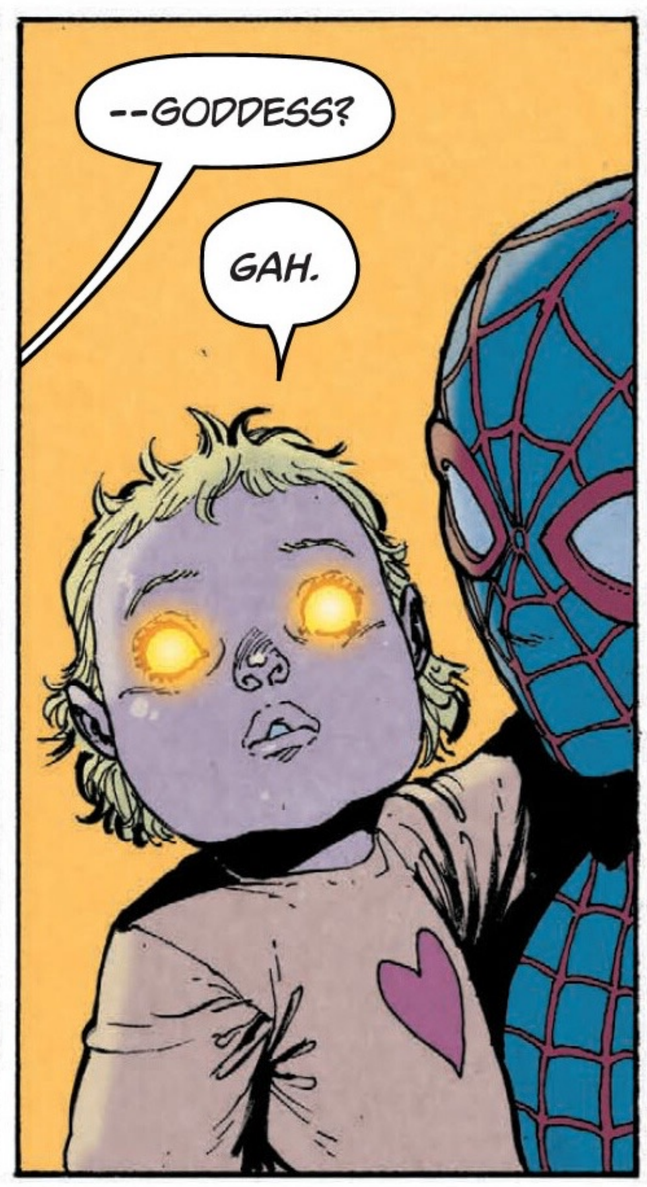

HOW IS HE SO GOOD AT THE BADASS WALKING-AWAY LINE?
I KNOW, RIGHT?


LOOKS LIKE THE GATHERED HEROES ARE ON THE MOVE.*
WE'RE GOING WITH THEM, RIGHT?
WHERE MY BROTHER THOR GOES, I MUST FOLLOW.
THORI AS WELL!
AS FOR THE REST OF YOU...WELL, WHAT DO YOU SUGGEST--
*SEE THE END OF WOTR #4! --WIL

--LADY HAWKEYE?
ME?!

BACK IN THE BARN, I SAID NOT EVERYONE IS CUT OUT TO BE A LEADER...
...BUT YOU ARE, KATE BISHOP.
I APPRECIATE THE VOTE OF CONFIDENCE, BALDER, I REALLY DO...

...BUT I THINK WE ALL KNOW WHO REALLY RUNS THIS TEAM.
SO WHAT DO YOU SAY? DO WE GO TO WAR--

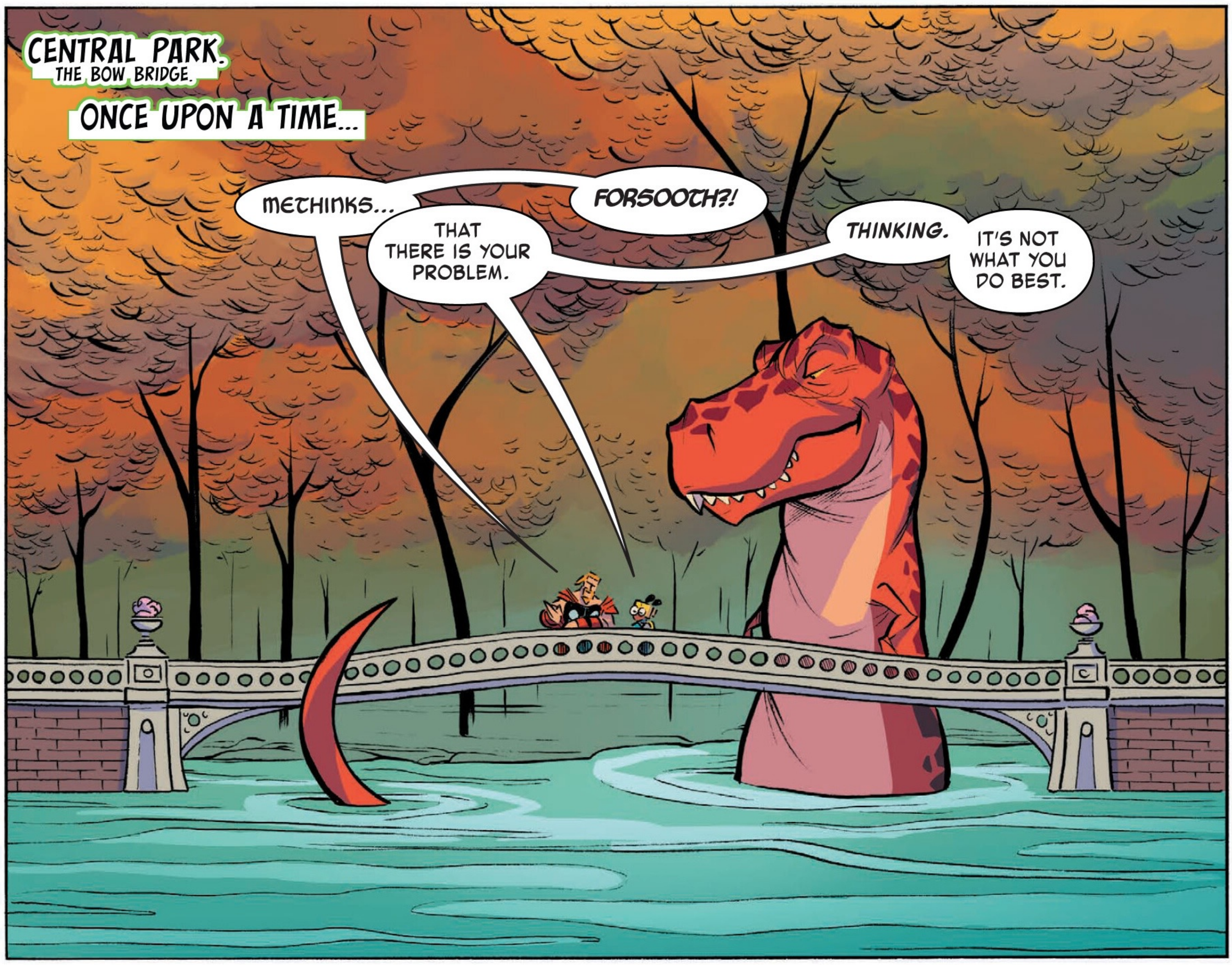

--GODDESS?
GAH.

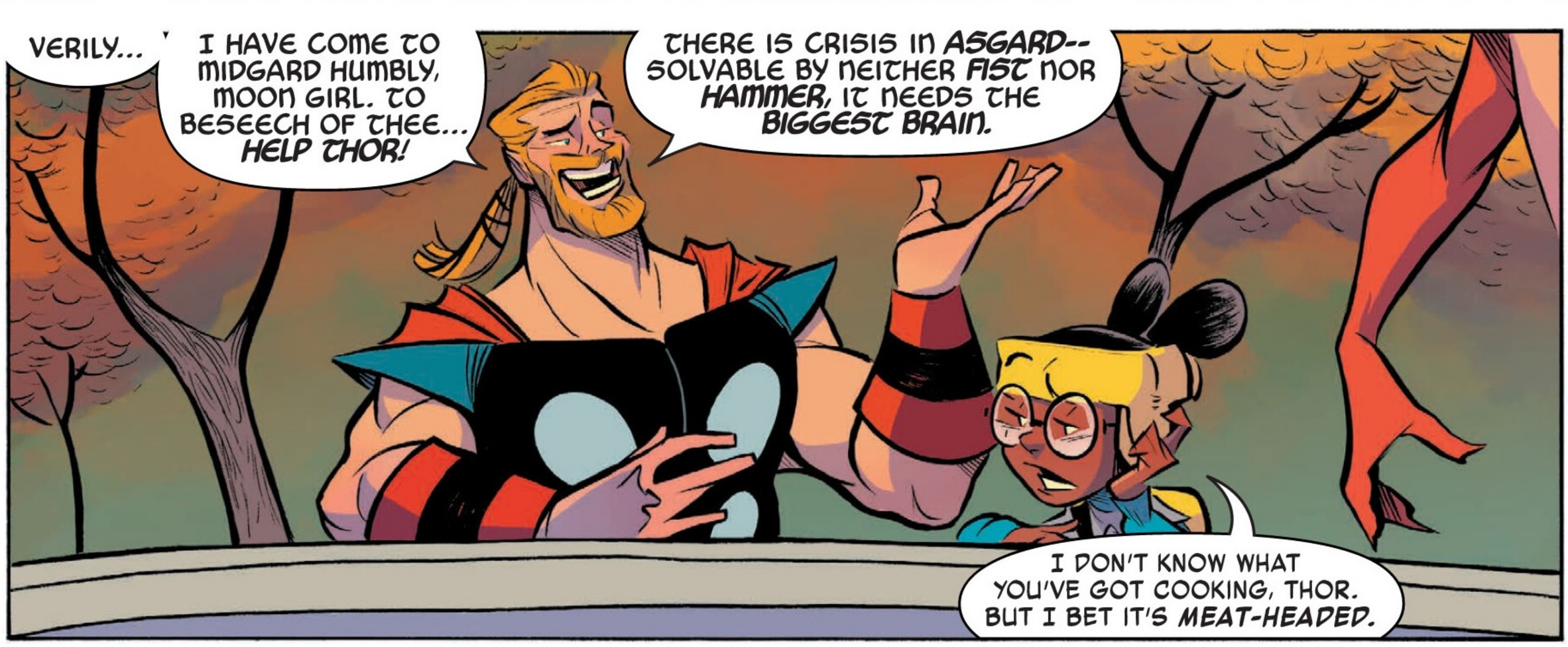
THAT'S A YES, RIGHT?
ANDRÉ LIMA ARAÚJO + THE McELROYS

MOON GIRL AND DEVIL DINOSAUR #43

Me Thinks

THE LOWER EAST SIDE. TODAY.
It's a crazy world out there.
METHINKS
"Intelligence is the ability to adapt to change." --Stephen Hawking
HFFF...
I'm the smartest person on Earth, and I don't get it half the time.
Apparently this blizzard is part of some Asgard mumbo jumbo myths causing trouble in our real world.
RAARGH!
WHAT ARE YOU COMPLAINING ABOUT?
COLD-BLOODED SLITHERING LIZARDS DON'T FEEL THE COLD, AND THAT'S A FACT.
Asgardians!
Can you believe it?
RNNF!
CHILL OUT. WE'RE STUCK HERE FOR A WHILE...
I'll tell you a crazy story.
...WAITING FOR SOMETHING THAT'S WORTH WAITING FOR.
About an even crazier world...

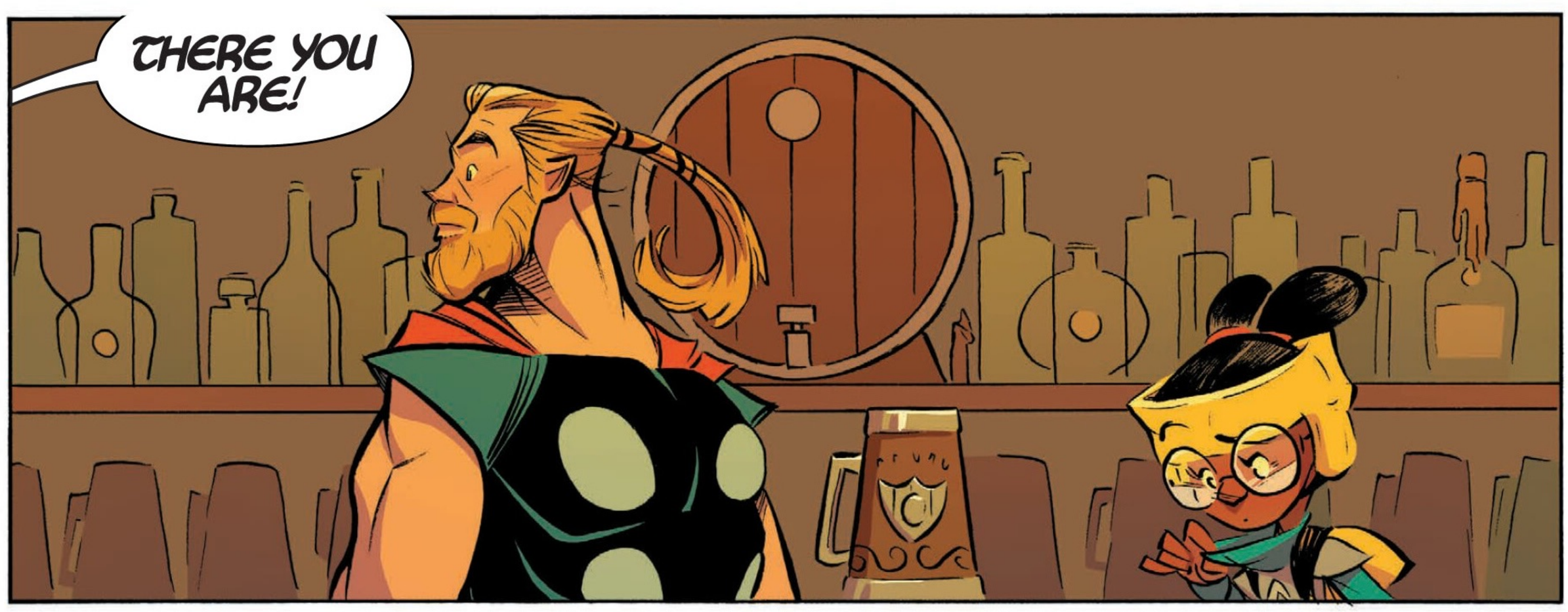

CENTRAL PARK.
THE BOW BRIDGE.
ONCE UPON A TIME...
METHINKS...
THAT THERE IS YOUR PROBLEM.
FORSOOTH?!
THINKING.
IT'S NOT WHAT YOU DO BEST.


VERILY...
I HAVE COME TO MIDGARD HUMBLY, MOON GIRL. TO BESEECH OF THEE... HELP THOR!
THERE IS CRISIS IN ASGARD-- SOLVABLE BY NEITHER FIST NOR HAMMER, IT NEEDS THE BIGGEST BRAIN.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'VE GOT COOKING, THOR. BUT I BET IT'S MEAT-HEADED.

THERE IS A CHALLENGE IN MY REALM. AN UNSOLVABLE RIDDLE...
MY FRIENDS IN ASGARD COMMANDED I SEARCH FOR THE WISEST IN THE TEN REALMS. THE FAIR LADY SIF SAID FIND THE SMARTEST THERE IS.
I DON'T KNOW...

THEN WE SHALL FIND OUT!
WHAT THE--?!
THAT WASN'T A YES!
MROO?
ASGARD.
I HAVE NO CHOICE, MOON GIRL. UNLIKE THOU, THOR DOES NOT HAVE TIME TO THINK.
SO IN THE MEANWHILE...

WHAT IS THAT?
NONE FOR THEE, LITTLE ONE, IT WILL PUT HAIR ON A MIDGARDIAN'S CHEST.

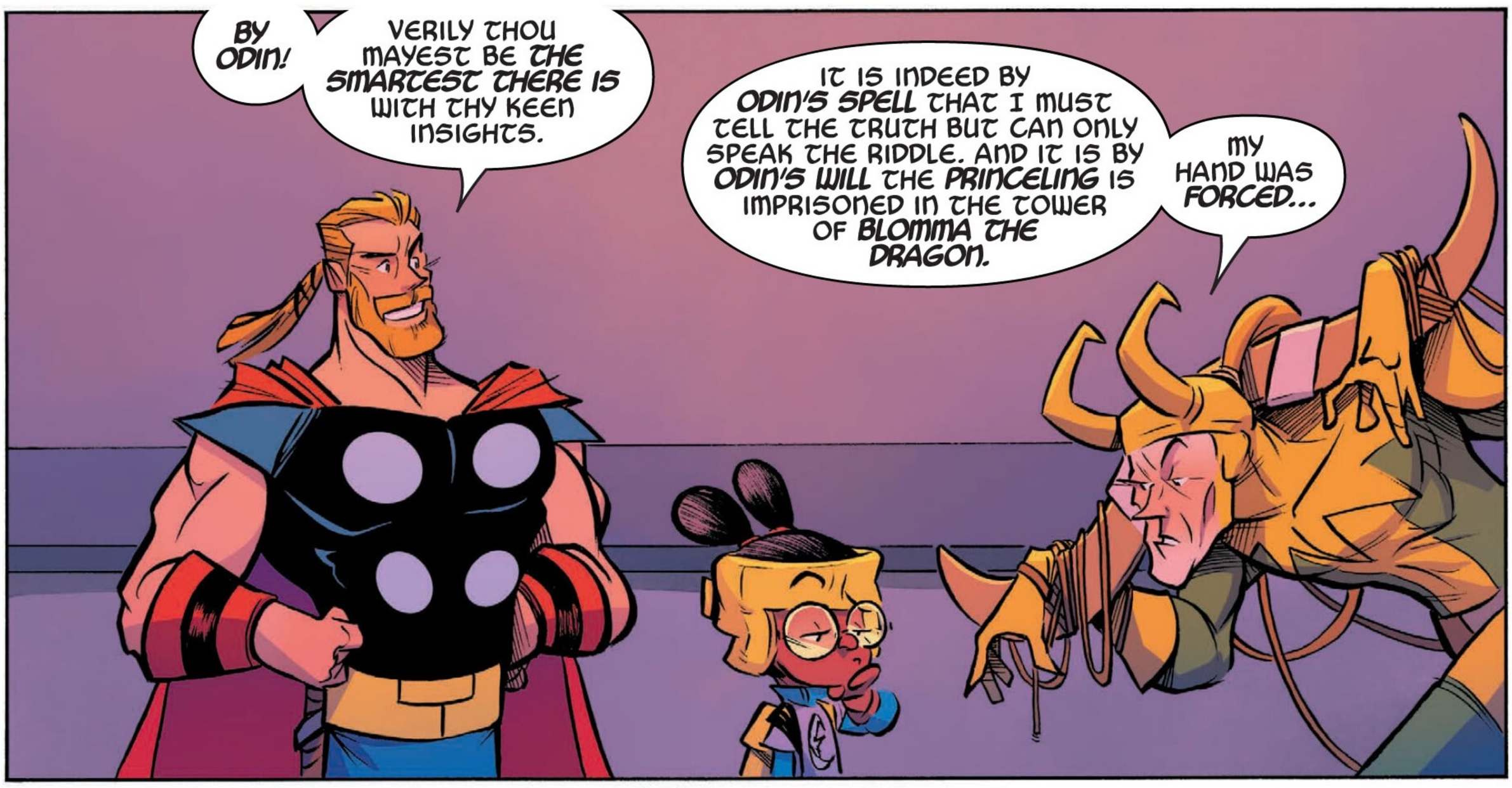

THERE YOU ARE!

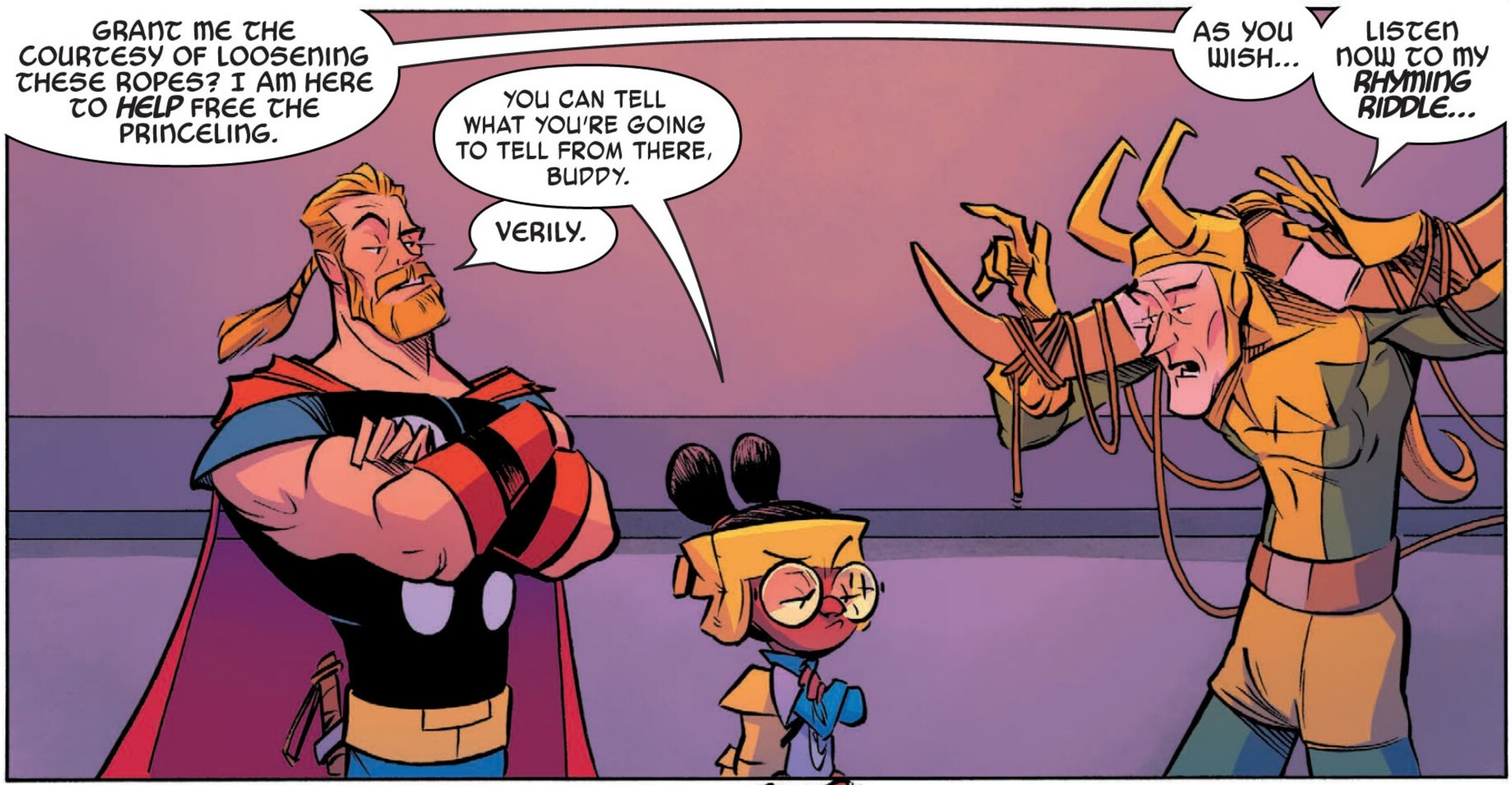
LOOK HERE, SIF!
I HAVE BROUGHT AID FROM MIDGARD--*THE MOON GIRL* IS WISER THAN A WIZARD.
SHE CAN SOLVE LOKI'S PUZZLE.

I FOUND YOUR BROTHER.
CAN SOMEONE PLEASE TELL ME WHAT IN THE WORLD IS GOING ON?!

HERE'S THE ONE WHO CAN TELL ALL.

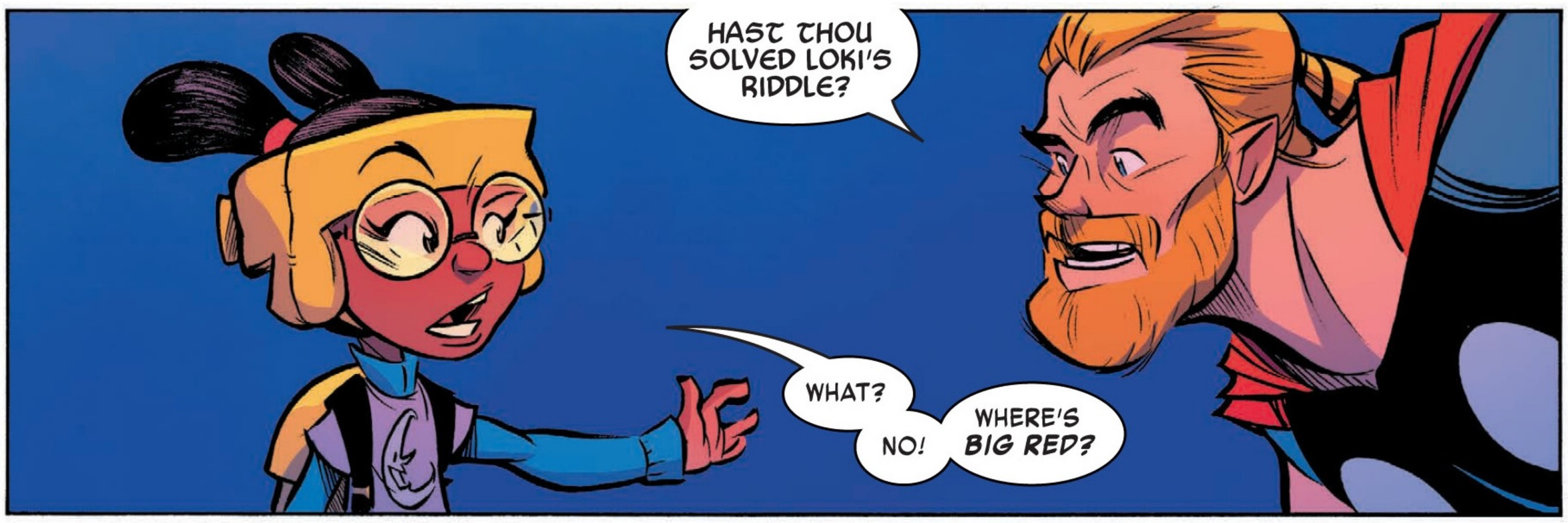
SPEAK, BROTHER.
IS THIS REALLY NECESSARY? I COME FREELY. I WANT TO HELP.
BEWARE, YOUNG MOON GIRL, LOKI IS THE GOD OF LIES.
I ALREADY TOLD YOU-- IN THIS RIDDLE I AM BOUND BY MAGIC TO ONLY SPEAK THE TRUTH.
HOW DO WE KNOW YOU'RE NOT LYING ABOUT THAT?

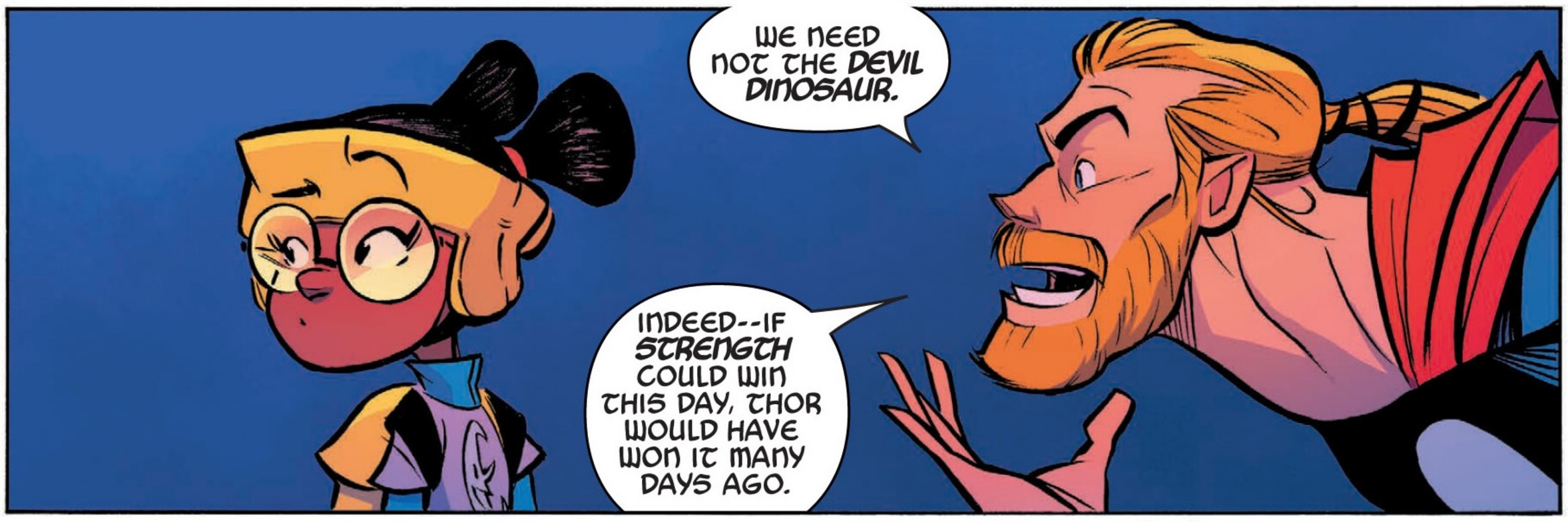

BY ODIN!
VERILY THOU MAYEST BE THE SMARTEST THERE IS WITH THY KEEN INSIGHTS.
IT IS INDEED BY ODIN'S SPELL THAT I MUST TELL THE TRUTH BUT CAN ONLY SPEAK THE RIDDLE. AND IT IS BY ODIN'S WILL THE PRINCELING IS IMPRISONED IN THE TOWER OF BLOMMA THE DRAGON.
MY HAND WAS FORCED...

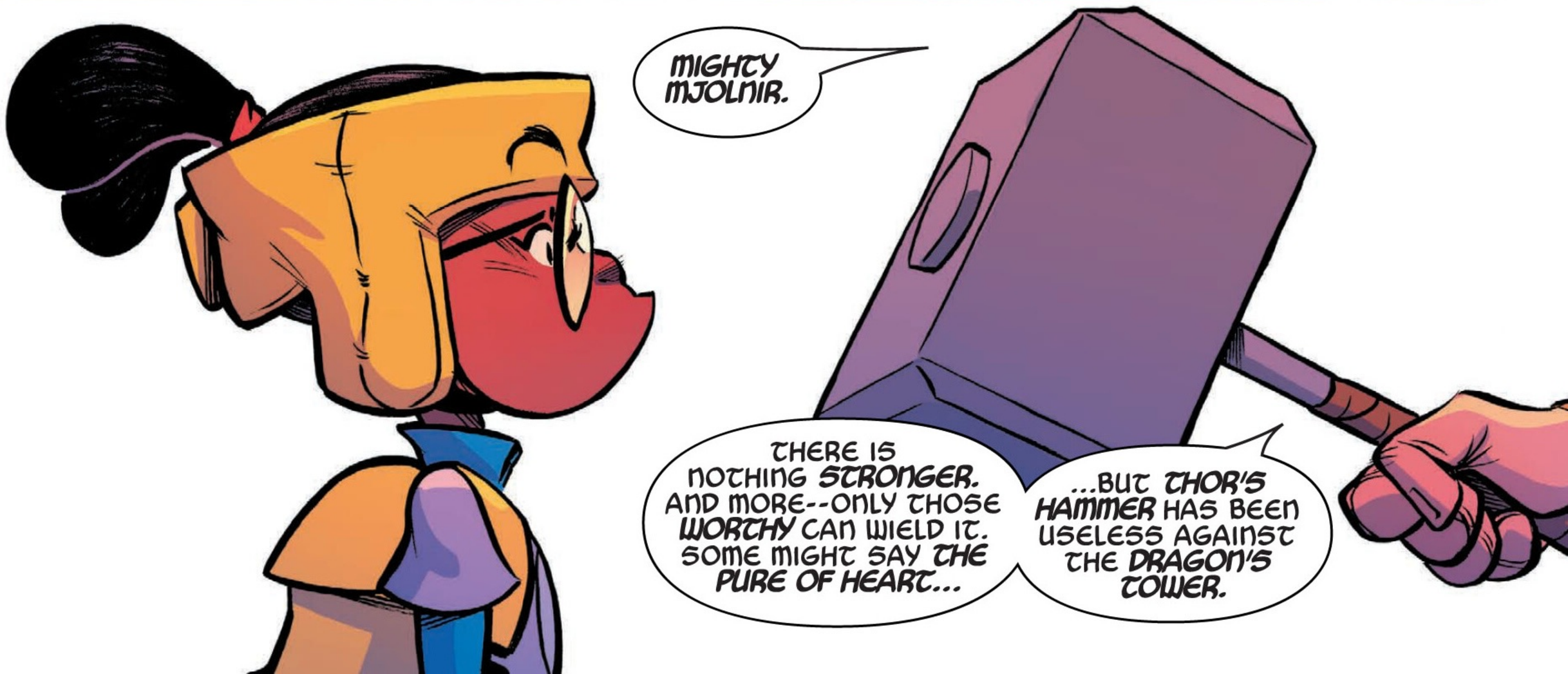

GRANT ME THE COURTESY OF LOOSENING THESE ROPES? I AM HERE TO HELP FREE THE PRINCELING.
YOU CAN TELL WHAT YOU'RE GOING TO TELL FROM THERE, BUDDY.
VERILY.
AS YOU WISH...
LISTEN NOW TO MY RHYMING RIDDLE...

"IN THE TOWER, AN INNOCENT THOU SHALL SEE.
"A YOUNG PRINCE WHO WANTS TO BE SET FREE.
"A DRAGON WHO UNBEATABLE BE.
"AND ONLY THE PURE OF HEART SHALL PROVE THE KEY."
"PURE OF HEART"...
NO DRAGON CAN MATCH THE HEARTS OF THE WARRIORS THREE!
PLUS OUR NEW FRIEND, THE CRIMSON TYRANT.
RAH!

WELL...?
MY RIDDLE IS--
OOF!
QUIET, YOU!
I WILL KEEP THIS ONE OUT OF TROUBLE.
YANK


HAST THOU SOLVED LOKI'S RIDDLE?
WHAT?
NO!
WHERE'S BIG RED?


WE NEED NOT THE DEVIL DINOSAUR.
INDEED--IF STRENGTH COULD WIN THIS DAY, THOR WOULD HAVE WON IT MANY DAYS AGO.

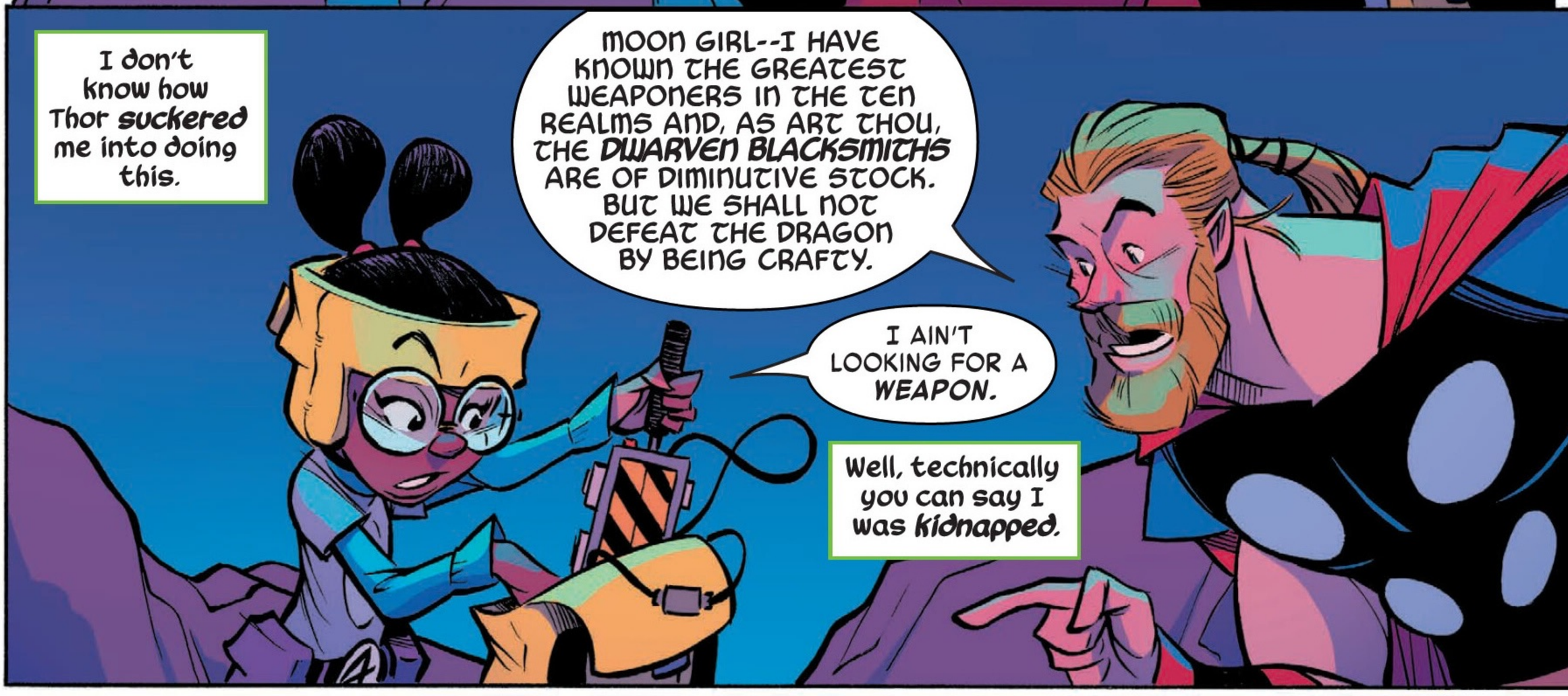

MIGHTY MJOLNIR.
THERE IS NOTHING STRONGER. AND MORE--ONLY THOSE WORTHY CAN WIELD IT. SOME MIGHT SAY THE PURE OF HEART...
...BUT THOR'S HAMMER HAS BEEN USELESS AGAINST THE DRAGON'S TOWER.

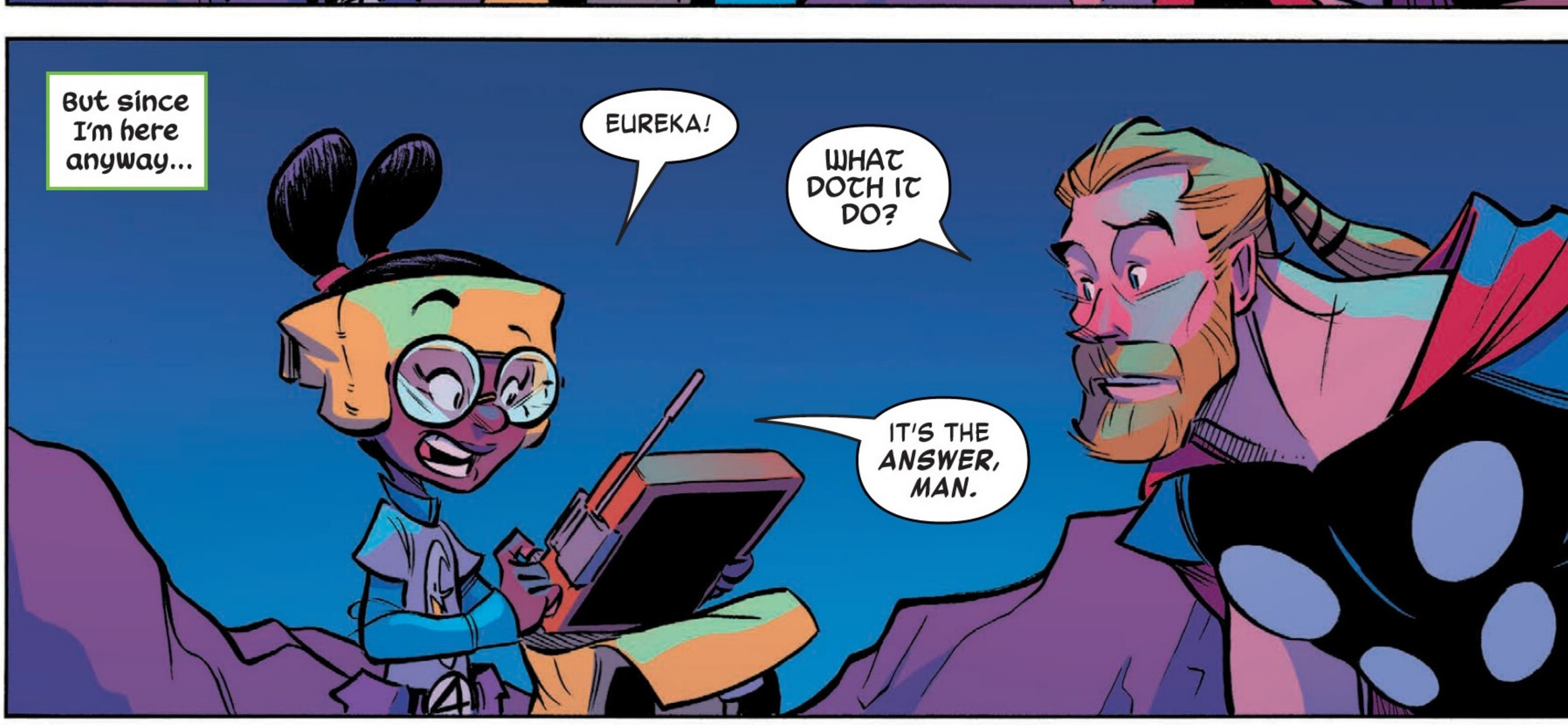
ELSEWHERE IN ASGARD.
BRAAP!
SOME CALL THIS DRINK THE JUICE OF POETRY.
IT'S THE GOOD STUFF.
WHO SAYS MIGHT CAN'T MAKE THIS RIGHT?
LOKI? SIF?
WE'LL SHOW HER!
WHAT SAY YOU, DEVIL DINOSAUR?

GLUG
GLUG
GLUG

BUUURP!
HUZZAH!

I've had bigger deals.
SO THE CAPTURED PRINCE IS IN THERE?
FORSOOTH, HOSTAGED ROYALTY GUARDED BY A JEALOUS DRAGON IS NOT UNCOMMON IN ASGARD. BUT BLOMMA IS A WILY WYRM. ALL USES OF FORCE BE USELESS AGAINST HER.
I'd need fingers and toes to count how many times I've been up against magic and monsters.


I don't know how Thor suckered me into doing this.
MOON GIRL--I HAVE KNOWN THE GREATEST WEAPONERS IN THE TEN REALMS AND, AS ART THOU, THE DWARVEN BLACKSMITHS ARE OF DIMINUTIVE STOCK. BUT WE SHALL NOT DEFEAT THE DRAGON BY BEING CRAFTY.
I AIN'T LOOKING FOR A WEAPON.
Well, technically you can say I was kidnapped.


But since I'm here anyway...
EUREKA!
WHAT DOTH IT DO?
IT'S THE ANSWER, MAN.

INSIDE THE DRAGON'S TOWER.

I HAVE KNOWN MUCH EVIL--THERE IS LITTLE WORSE THAN *BEING ALONE.*

LITTLE. BUT NOT *NOTHING.*

I HAVE COME, *PRINCE JOKUL.*

WHY DO YOU CONTINUE TO TORMENT ME? HAVE YOU NOT DONE *ENOUGH?*

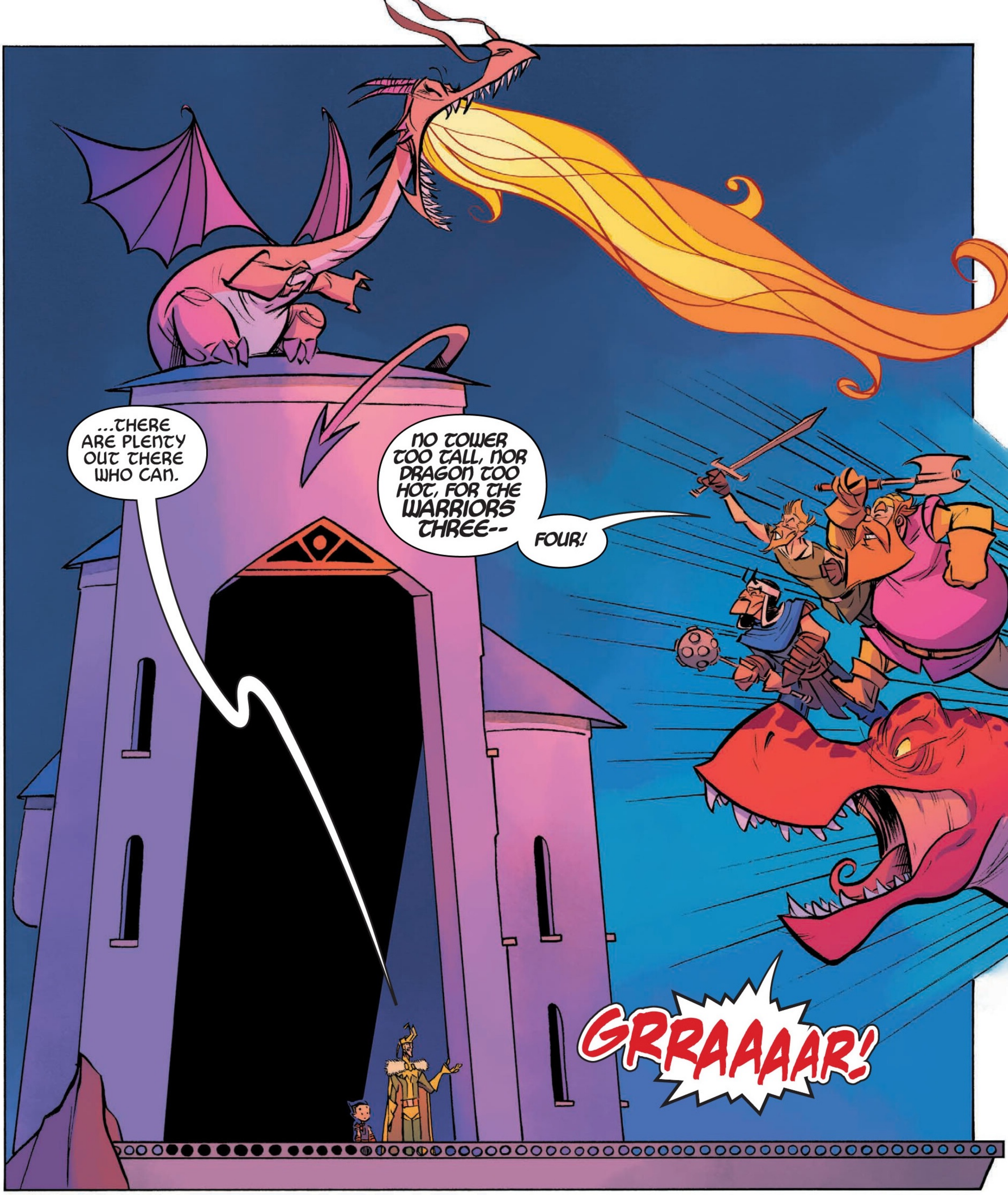
AS I HAVE PROMISED A *HUNDRED TIMES*-- I WAS *FORCED* TO IMPRISON YOU BY *ODIN.* AND I AM *LIKEWISE FORBIDDEN* TO SET YOU FREE.

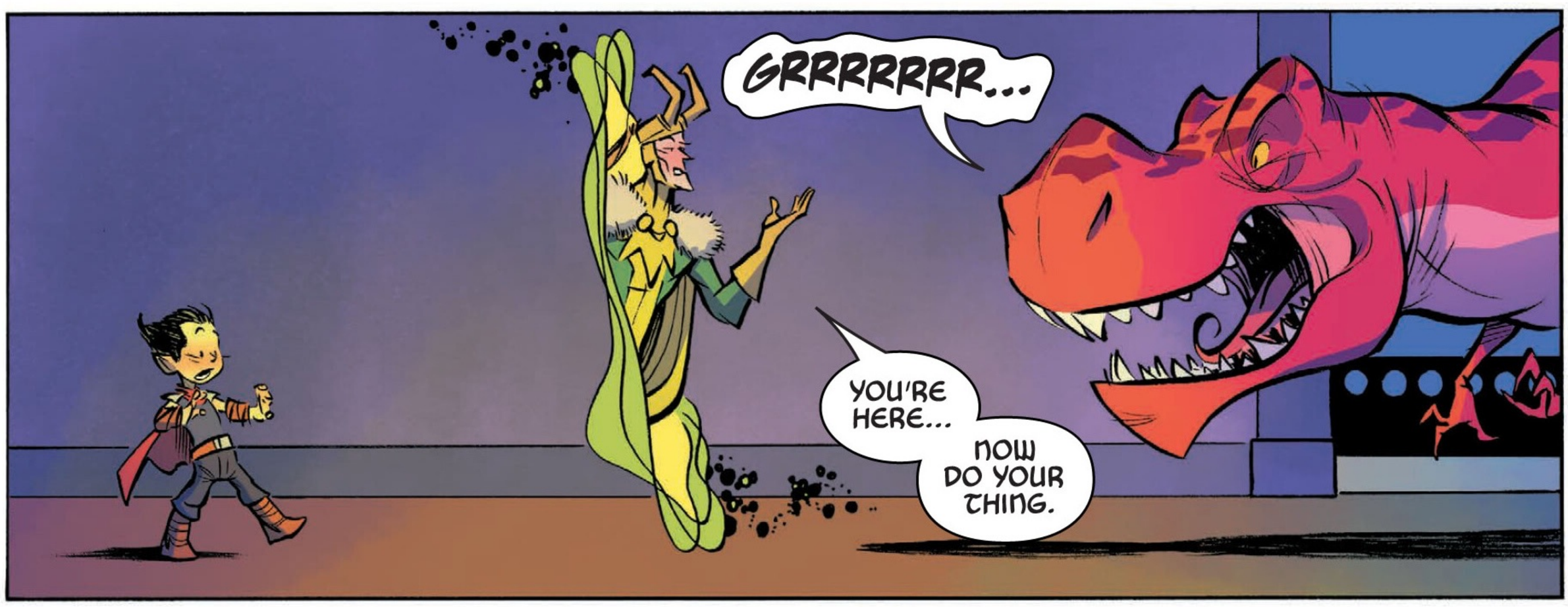
WHY DO YOU NOT BELIEVE ME?

BECAUSE YOU ARE A LIAR?

A FAIR POINT. BUT IRRELEVANT.

I COME WITH *GOOD NEWS,* JOKUL. WHILE *I* CANNOT HELP YOU...

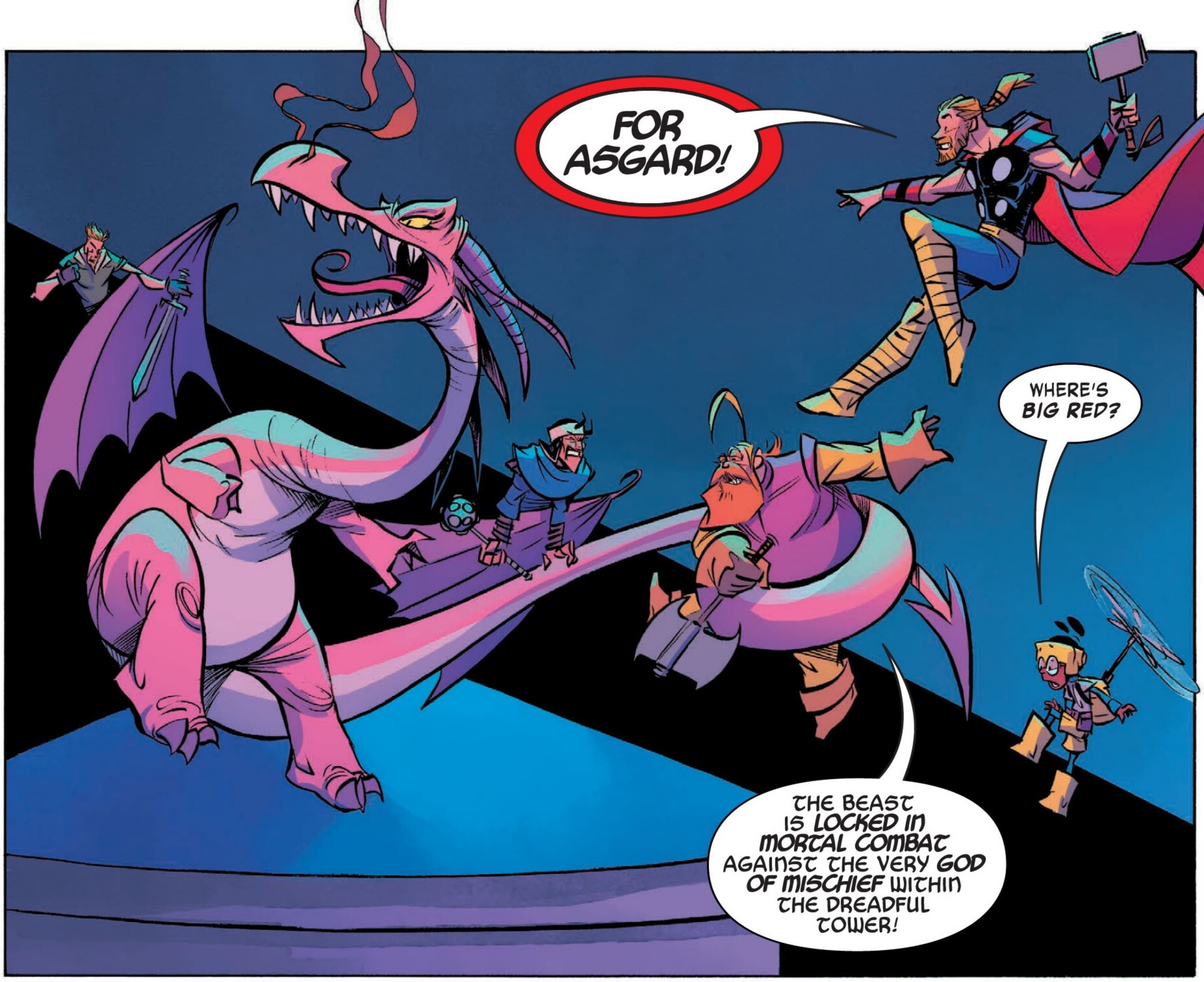

...THERE ARE PLENTY OUT THERE WHO CAN.
NO TOWER TOO TALL, NOR DRAGON TOO HOT, FOR THE WARRIORS THREE--
FOUR!
GRRAAAAR!

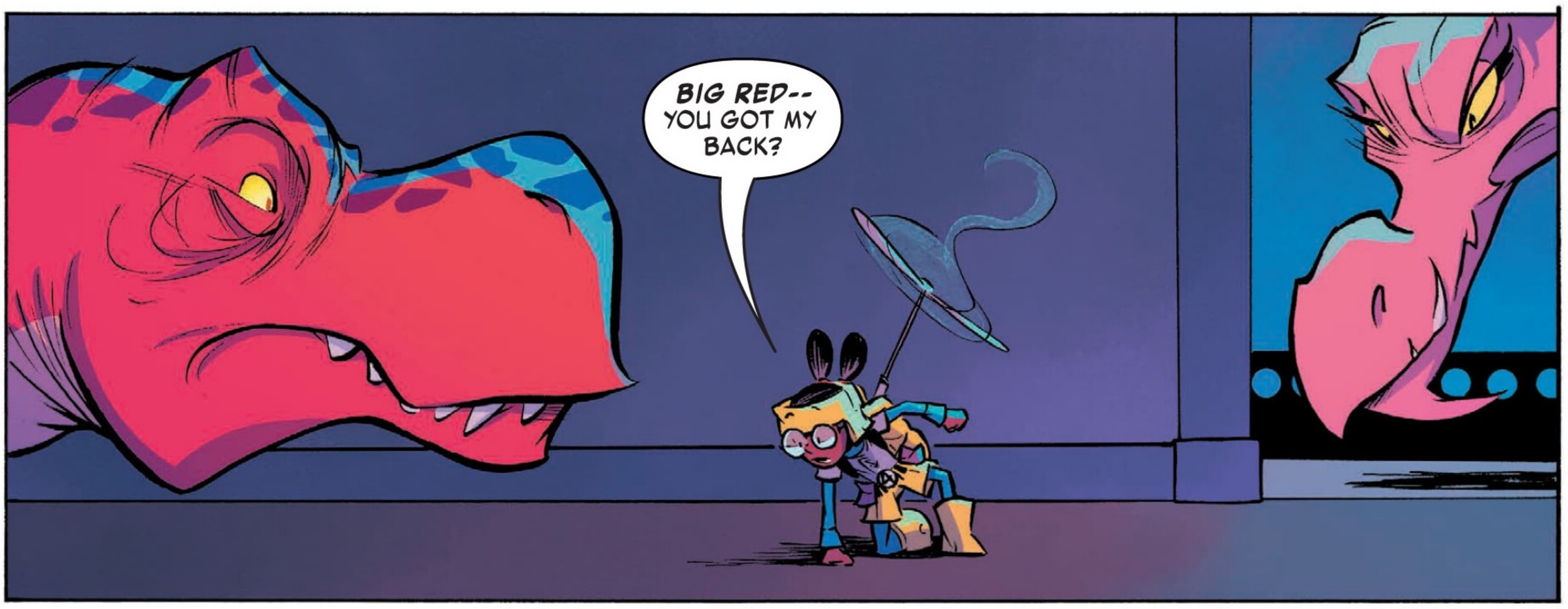

GRRRRRRR...
YOU'RE HERE...
NOW DO YOUR THING.

MOON GIRL...
NOT NOW, THOR.
I'M ANALYZING LOKI'S RIDDLE. IT SEEMS SIMPLE--BUT THIS ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IS REALLY CRACKLING...

THEY STARTED WITHOUT THEE.

Ask a stupid question...
PFFFFFFFT
...get a dumb Devil Dinosaur.
HOW DID THEY GET UP THERE?!
THE WARRIORS THREE HAVE A WAY ABOUT THEM. SAME WITH THY FIERY FRIEND. AND AS DOST THOU.
YOU'RE ONE TO TALK-- THE GYROSCOPIC FORCES IN YOUR HANDY-DANDY HAMMER TWIRLING SHOULDN'T BE STRONG ENOUGH TO FLY!


FOR ASGARD!
WHERE'S BIG RED?
THE BEAST IS LOCKED IN MORTAL COMBAT AGAINST THE VERY GOD OF MISCHIEF WITHIN THE DREADFUL TOWER!


BIG RED-- YOU GOT MY BACK?

THUD
Devil Dinosaur never met a big bad he couldn't handle.

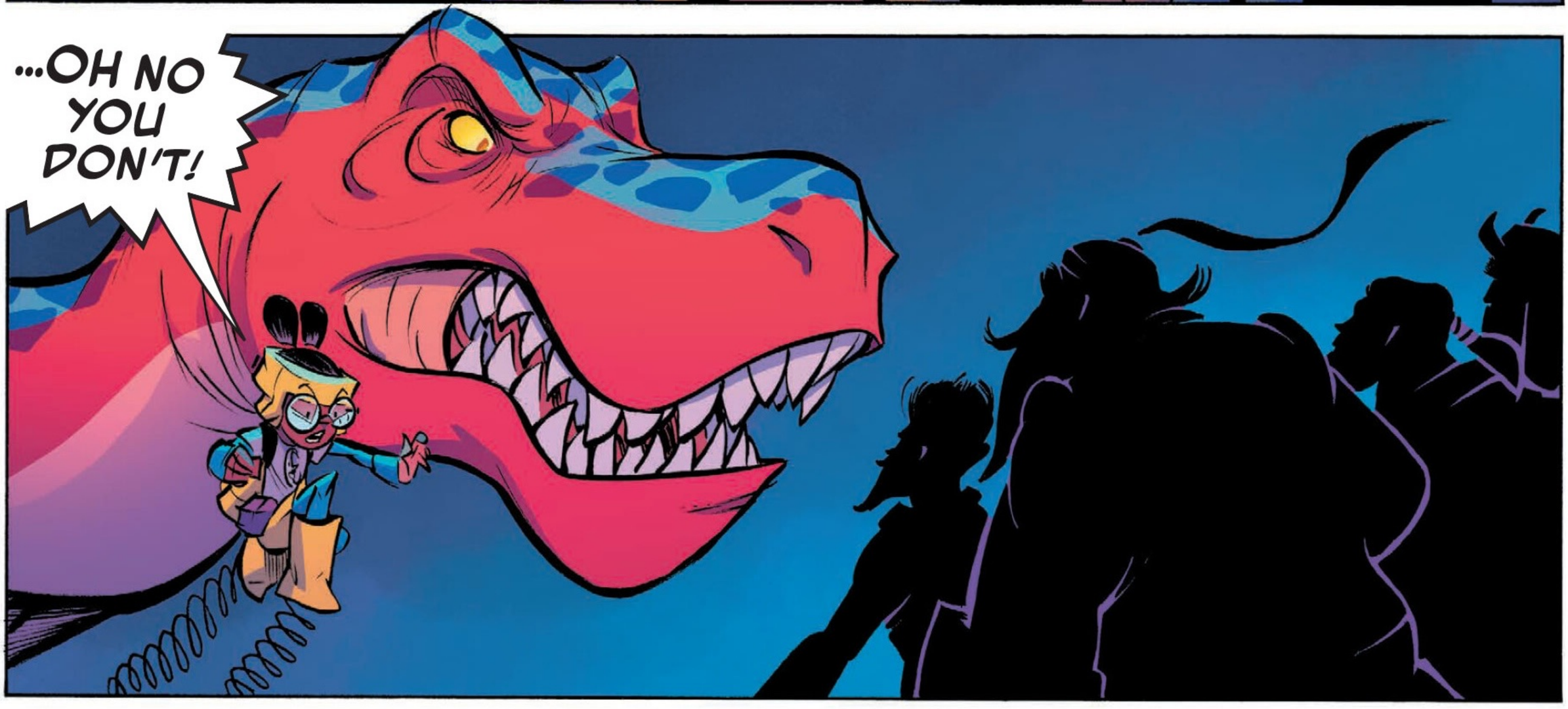
GRRRRR...
Until now.

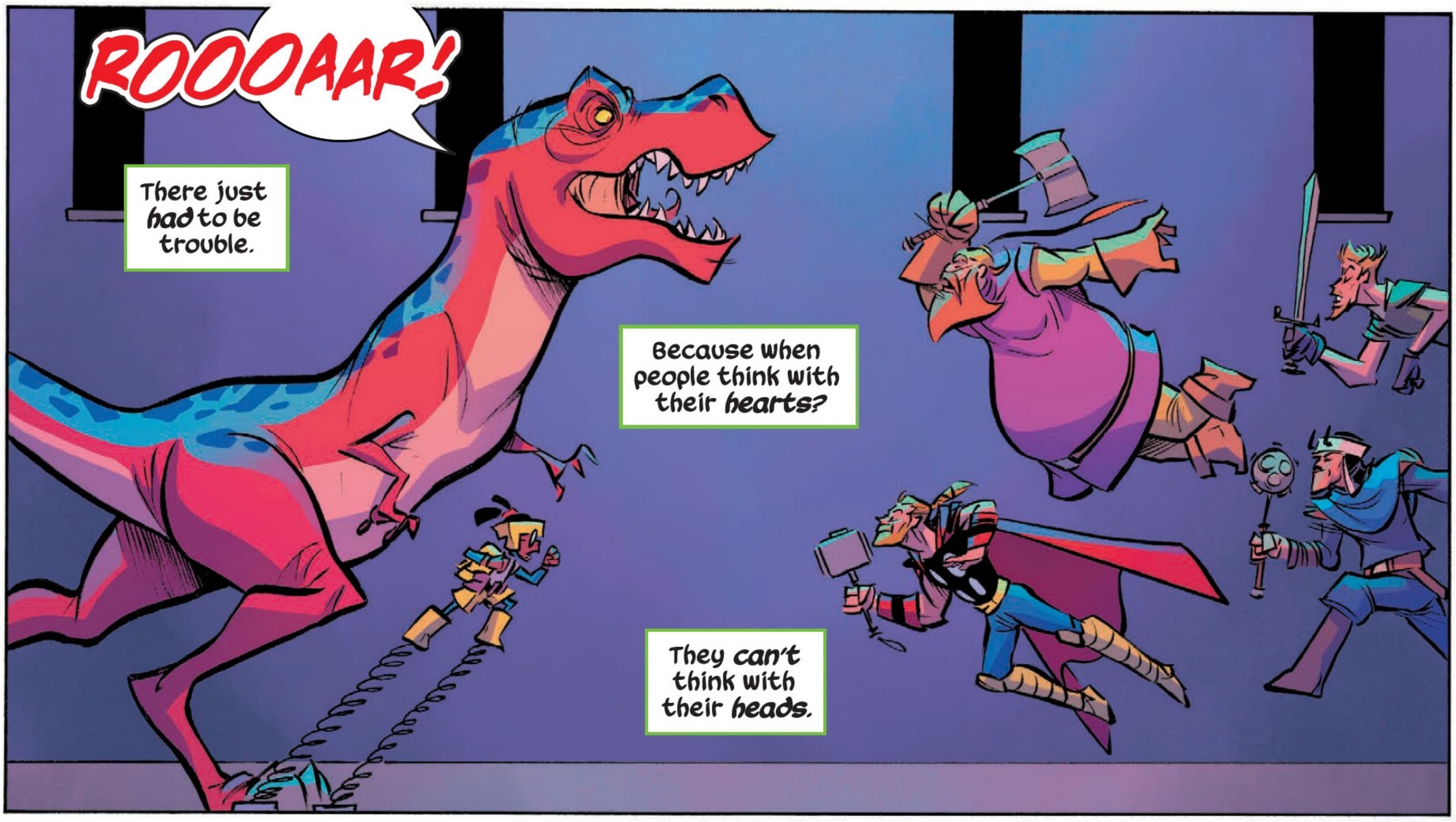
AHHH...
R-ROO?

AHHH...
...RAAAAVV...
...ROO.
Good grief.

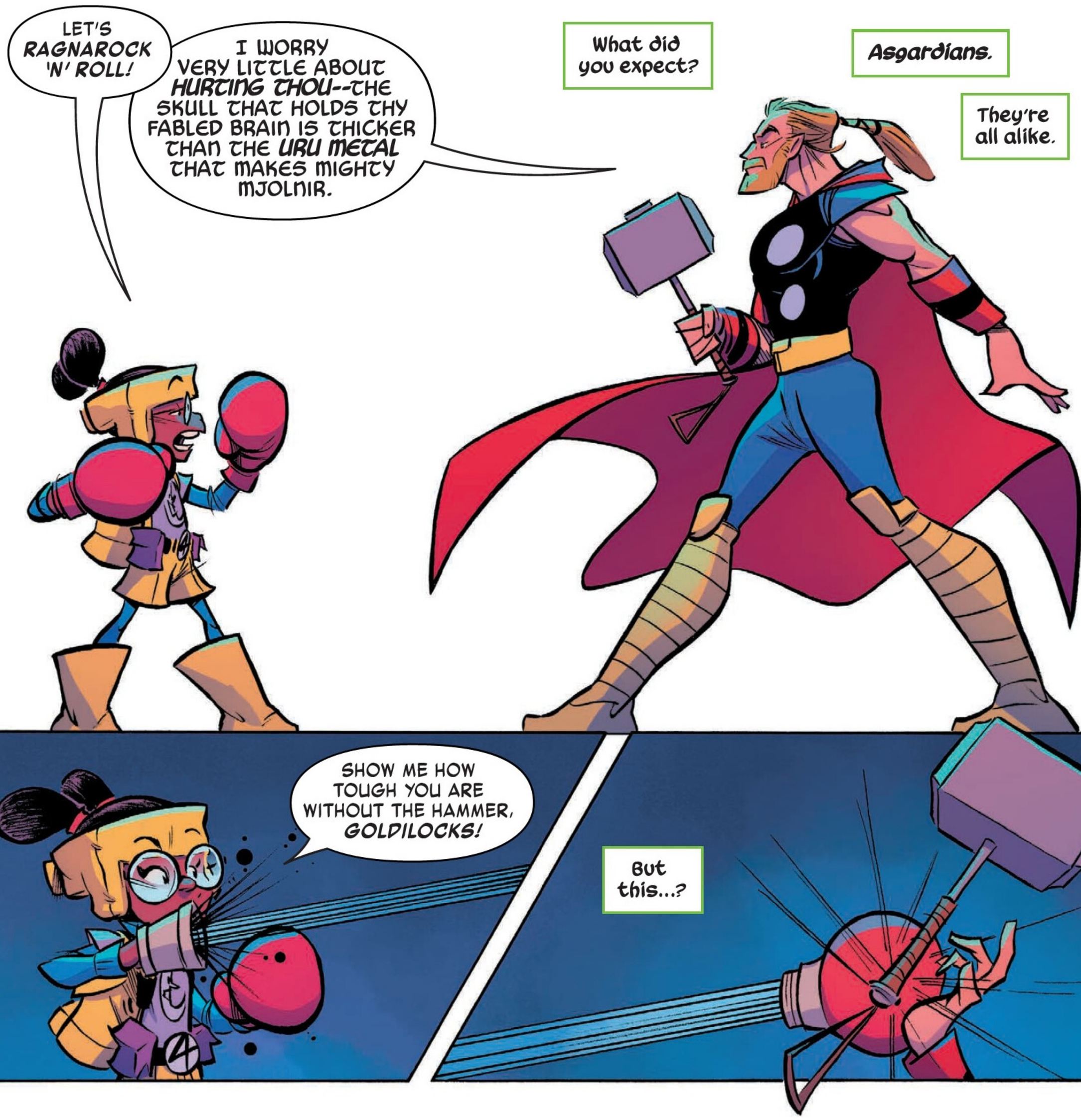
SLAM

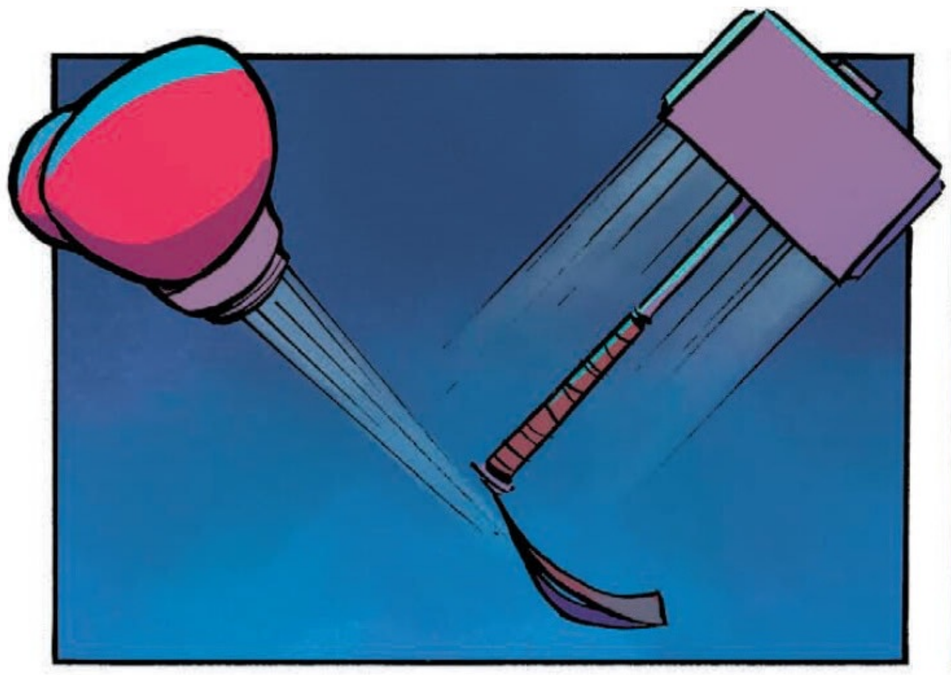
DEVIL DINOSAUR BETRAYS US!
HE'S HAD MORE JUICE OF POETRY THAN IS GOOD FOR HIM-- IT'S GONE TO HIS HEAD!
THOR... THREE GUYS...

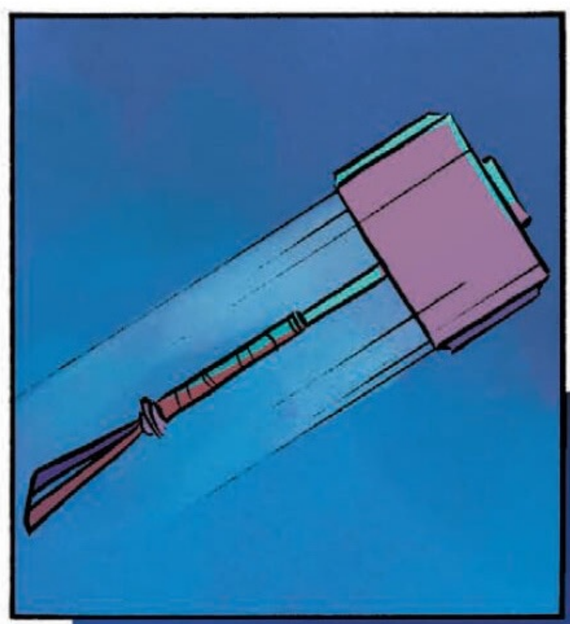

...OH NO YOU DON'T!

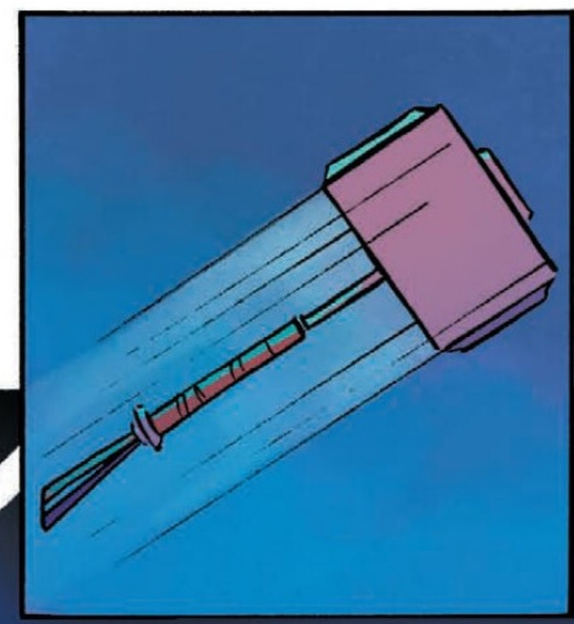

ROOOAAR!
There just had to be trouble.
Because when people think with their hearts?
They can't think with their heads.

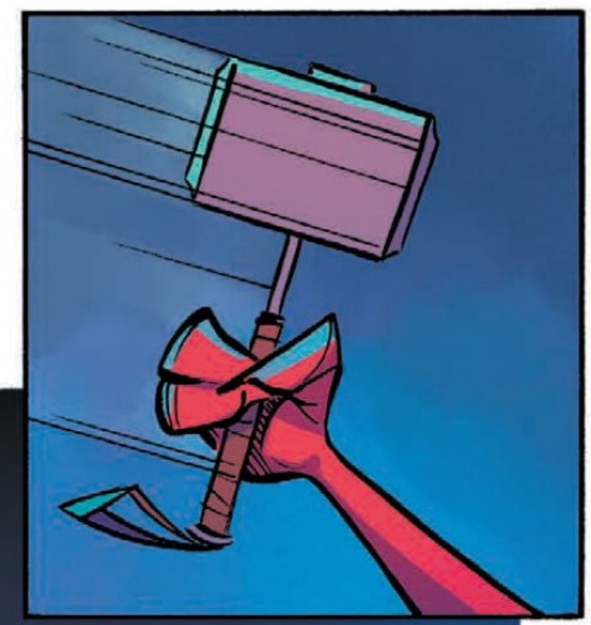
Moon Girl and Devil Dinosaur fighting *another* super hero.
THE DUMBER THEY ARE, THE HARDER THEY FALL!
I'LL HAVE THEE KNOW--IN ASGARD THERE TOO IS *SMACK TALK.*
FROM THOR IT SOUNDS LIKE *THUNDER!*
Classic.
A marvelous misunderstanding.


LET'S *RAGNAROCK 'N' ROLL!*
I WORRY VERY LITTLE ABOUT *HURTING THOU*--THE SKULL THAT HOLDS THY FABLED BRAIN IS THICKER THAN THE *URU METAL* THAT MAKES MIGHTY MJOLNIR.
What did you expect?
Asgardians.
They're all alike.
SHOW ME HOW TOUGH YOU ARE WITHOUT THE HAMMER, *GOLDILOCKS!*
But this...?









...I didn't expect *this* to happen.

BEHOLD...

THUNDER LIZARD!

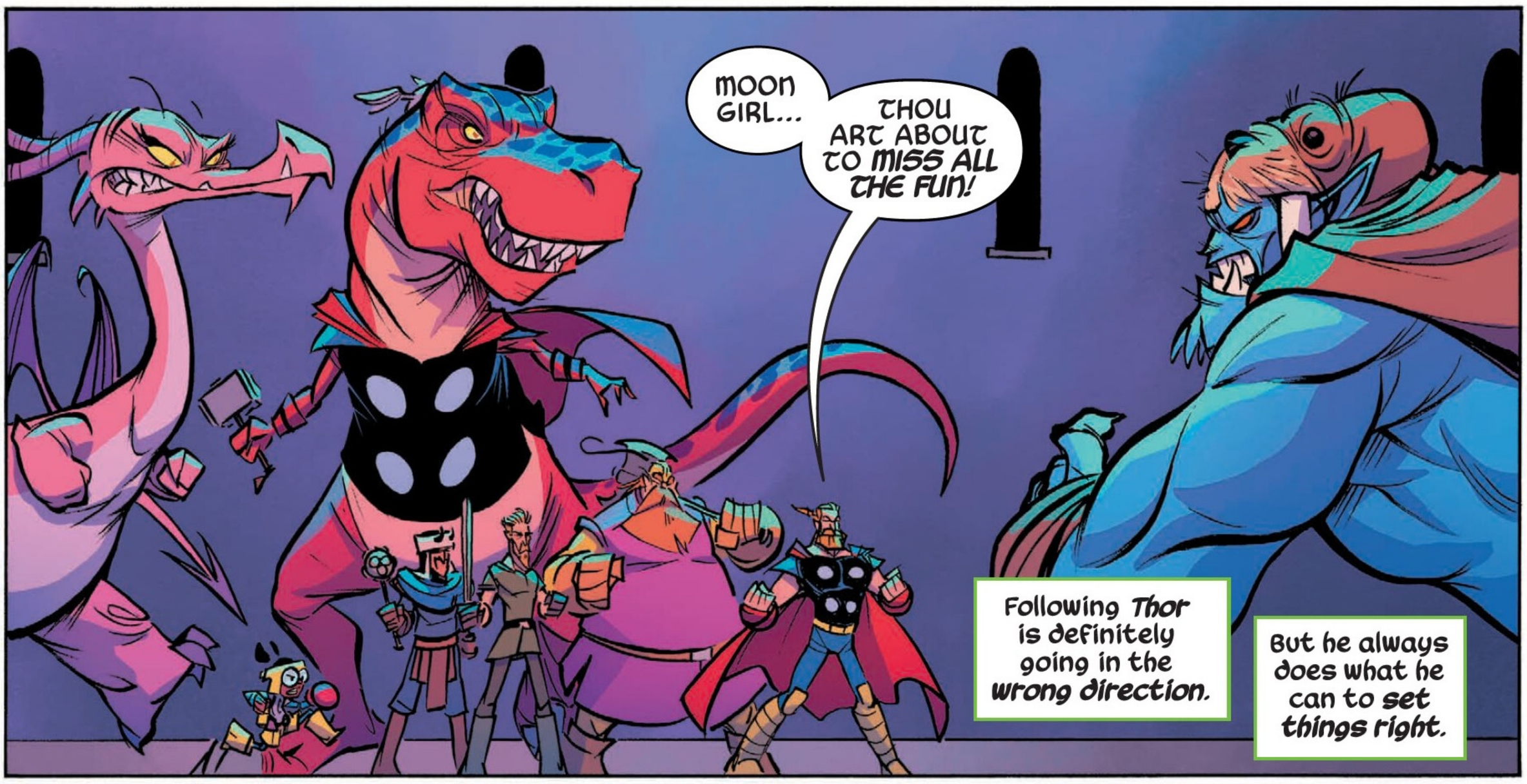
GET THIS...
IT'S DINO-THOR.
GOT IT?

MOON GIRL...
THOU ART SMART...
LET US BE REASONABLE.

GYAAAA!

LOOKS LIKE ASGARD'S TRICKSTER IN CHIEF PLAYED US FOR FOOLS.

IN THE TOWER... INNOCENT...
SOMETHING SOMETHING TO SET HIM FREE...
SOMETHING SOMETHING...
...PURE OF HEART...
Oh!
That does make sense.
I guess.


MOON GIRL...
THOU ART ABOUT TO MISS ALL THE FUN!
Following Thor is definitely going in the wrong direction.
But he always does what he can to set things right.

OUT OF THE WAY!
I WANT IN ON THIS.
I have to admit this rainbow road is fun while it lasts.

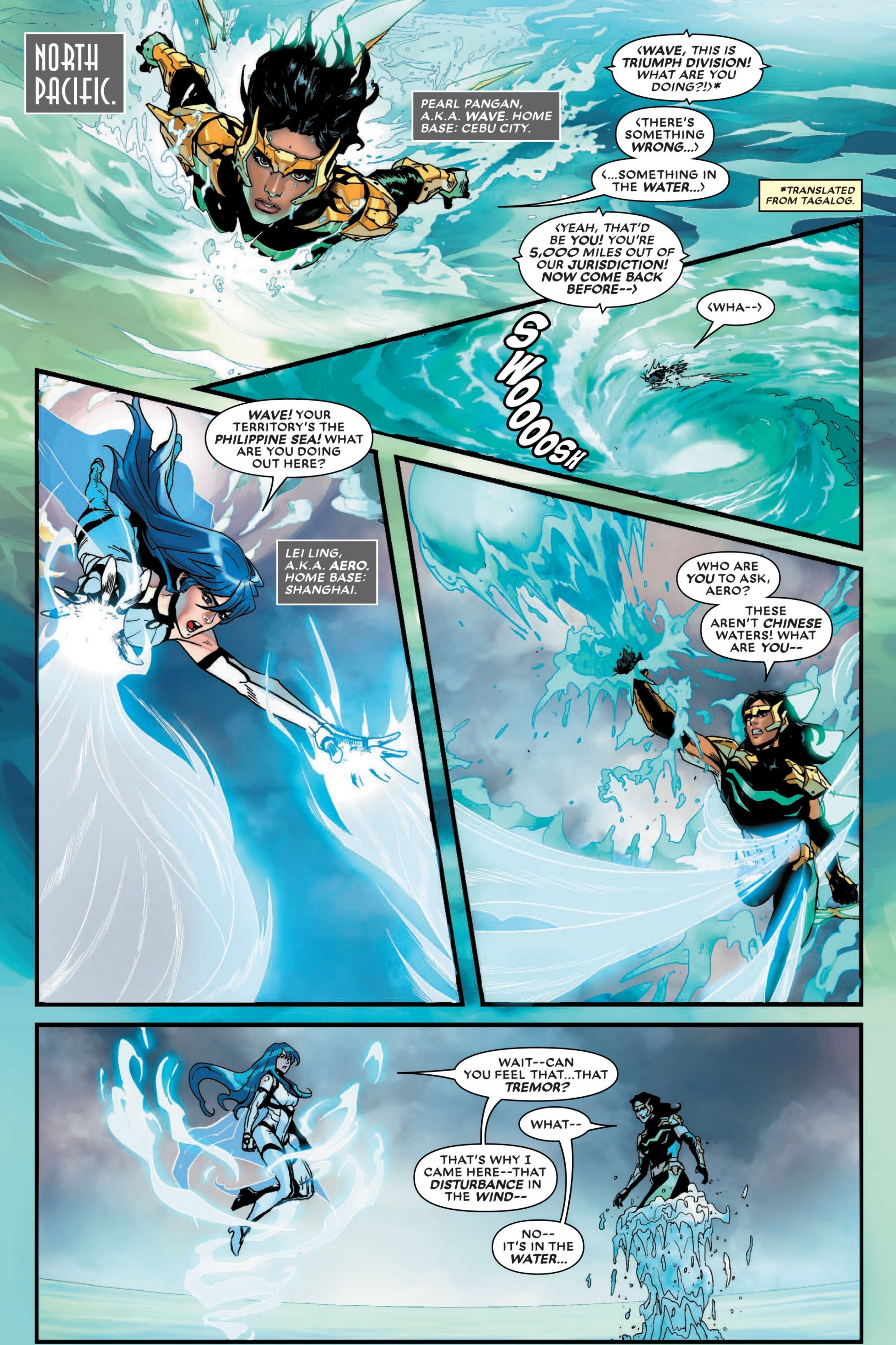
GIVE ME A PIECE OF HIM--
THOOOM
Missed out!
So close and yet so far.

BUT...NOW JOKUL HAS ESCAPED?!
YOU'LL GET YOURS IF IT'S THE LAST THING I EVER DO, JOE KILL.
Just you wait and see.

THE LOWER EAST SIDE.
TODAY, AGAIN.
Some things are worth waiting for.
THERE HE IS...
JOE KILL.
TALL, DARK AND UGLY.
HEY...
REMEMBER WHEN I SAID IT'D BE A COLD DAY IN HELL'S KITCHEN BEFORE WE LET YOU GET AWAY WITH IT?
WELL...
...WE'RE A FEW DAYS LATE AND A FEW BLOCKS EAST...
...BUT HERE WE ARE.
MROO?!
GET READY TO PAY THE DEVIL HIS DUE!
Payback served on a cold plate.
I'm the smartest person in the whole ten worlds. I don't have time for foolishness.
Nobody tries to fool me and gets away with it.
Not nobody.

WAR OF THE REALMS: NEW AGENTS OF ATLAS #1

Fire and Ice Chapter 1


NORTH PACIFIC.
PEARL PANGAN, A.K.A. WAVE. HOME BASE: CEBU CITY.
‹WAVE, THIS IS TRIUMPH DIVISION! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!›*
‹THERE'S SOMETHING WRONG...›
‹...SOMETHING IN THE WATER...›
*TRANSLATED FROM TAGALOG.
‹YEAH, THAT'D BE YOU! YOU'RE 5,000 MILES OUT OF OUR JURISDICTION! NOW COME BACK BEFORE--›
‹WHA--›
SWOOOSH
WAVE! YOUR TERRITORY'S THE PHILIPPINE SEA! WHAT ARE YOU DOING OUT HERE?
LEI LING, A.K.A. AERO. HOME BASE: SHANGHAI.
WHO ARE YOU TO ASK, AERO?
THESE AREN'T CHINESE WATERS! WHAT ARE YOU--
WAIT--CAN YOU FEEL THAT...THAT TREMOR?
WHAT--
THAT'S WHY I CAME HERE--THAT DISTURBANCE IN THE WIND--
NO-- IT'S IN THE WATER...

THOOOM
LOOK!
YES...

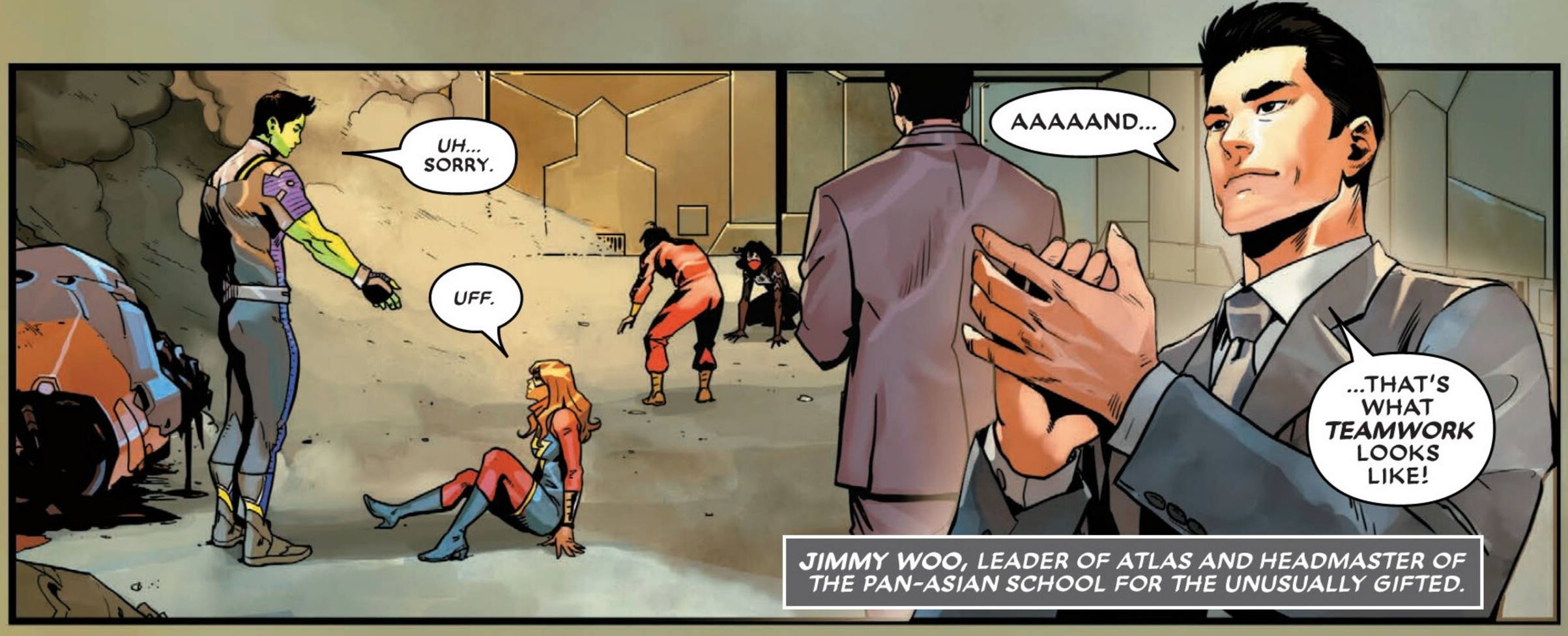
GAAAAAAH!
KRAKOOOOM

SOMETHING'S DOWN THERE...
WAIT, DON'T JUST PART THE WATERS!
WE DON'T KNOW WHAT--
SSSWWWOOOOSSH

RRRRRRMMMMMBBBBLLLLEE

ALMOST TOO EASY, ISN'T IT?
HA. DIVIDE AND CONQUER.

MUMBAI.
THAT'S IT, SILK! YOU GO HIGH, I GO LOW!
YEEE-HAW!
CINDY MOON, A.K.A. SILK.
KAMALA KHAN, A.K.A. MS. MARVEL. LEADER OF THE CHAMPIONS.
NOW, SHANG-CHI! THE NECK'S THE WEAK SPOT!
YAA!
SHANG-CHI, MASTER OF KUNG FU.
ACTUALLY--
SKRAKOOOM
--THE WHOLE THING'S THE WEAK SPOT!
WHAA!
AMADEUS CHO, A.K.A. BRAWN. THE CHAMPIONS' MOST IMPULSIVE MEMBER.


UH... SORRY.
UFF.
AAAAAND...
...THAT'S WHAT TEAMWORK LOOKS LIKE!
JIMMY WOO, LEADER OF ATLAS AND HEADMASTER OF THE PAN-ASIAN SCHOOL FOR THE UNUSUALLY GIFTED.

IT'S NEVER PERFECT.
BUT TOGETHER, AND ONLY TOGETHER, CAN WE GET THE JOB DONE.
HECK YEAH!
WoOoo-HoOoo!

"NOT EVERY STUDENT HERE IS GOING TO FIGHT GIANT ROBOTS...
"...BUT NO MATTER HOW THEY APPLY THEIR POWERS, THIS SCHOOL NEEDS TO GIVE THEM THE ETHICAL FOUNDATION TO DO IT THE RIGHT WAY.
"SO THANK YOU ALL FOR COMING.
"IT'S ONE THING FOR AN OLD HEADMASTER IN A SUIT TO TELL THEM..."

...BUT WHEN THE KIDS SEE IT AND HEAR IT FROM YOU...
AW, THANK YOU FOR ORGANIZING IT, JIMMY. WHATEVER YOU NEED, WE'RE THERE, YOU KNOW THAT...

...BUT I DON'T KNOW IF WE WERE THE BEST ROLE MODELS TODAY...
YES. WELL...

"...WE CAN TALK ABOUT IT OVER DINNER."
LUCKY JIMMY'S
DIM SUM PALACE
TOO TENSE.
BAD FOR DIGESTION.
YEAH, LET'S GET IT OUT. WHAT'S GOING ON WITH YOU TWO CHAMPS?
NOTHING.
YOU KNOW, WHEN I'M NOT RUNNING THE SCHOOL, I LEAD ATLAS...
...A SECRET ORGANIZATION OF THE BEST OF THE BEST. WE PROTECT THE GLOBE AS ONLY WE CAN.
I'VE BEEN WATCHING EACH OF YOU FOR QUITE A WHILE. AND I'D BEEN HOPING THAT SOMEDAY YOU WOULD JOIN ME AMONG THE ELITE...
...AS AGENTS OF ATLAS.
BUT LET ME ASK YOU SOMETHING...
...WHAT DO YOU CALL THIS?

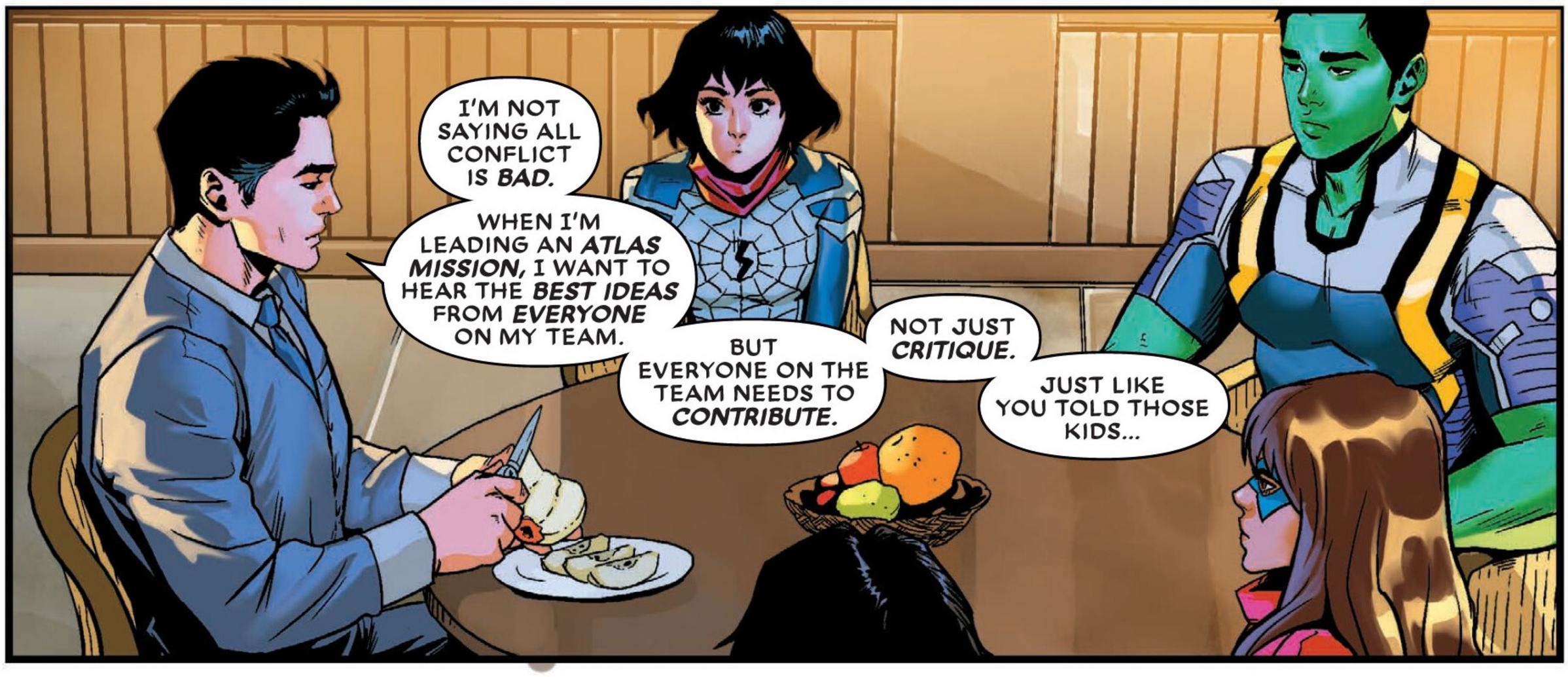
A... PEAR.
YES. BUT WHAT *KIND* OF PEAR?
A *CHINESE* PEAR.
CHINESE.
CHINESE AMERICAN.

WHAT? THAT'S A *KOREAN* PEAR.
KOREAN AMERICAN.
WORD.
THE CHINESE ONES ARE MORE *OBLONG.* THE BIG *FAT* ONES ARE DEFINITELY KOREAN.

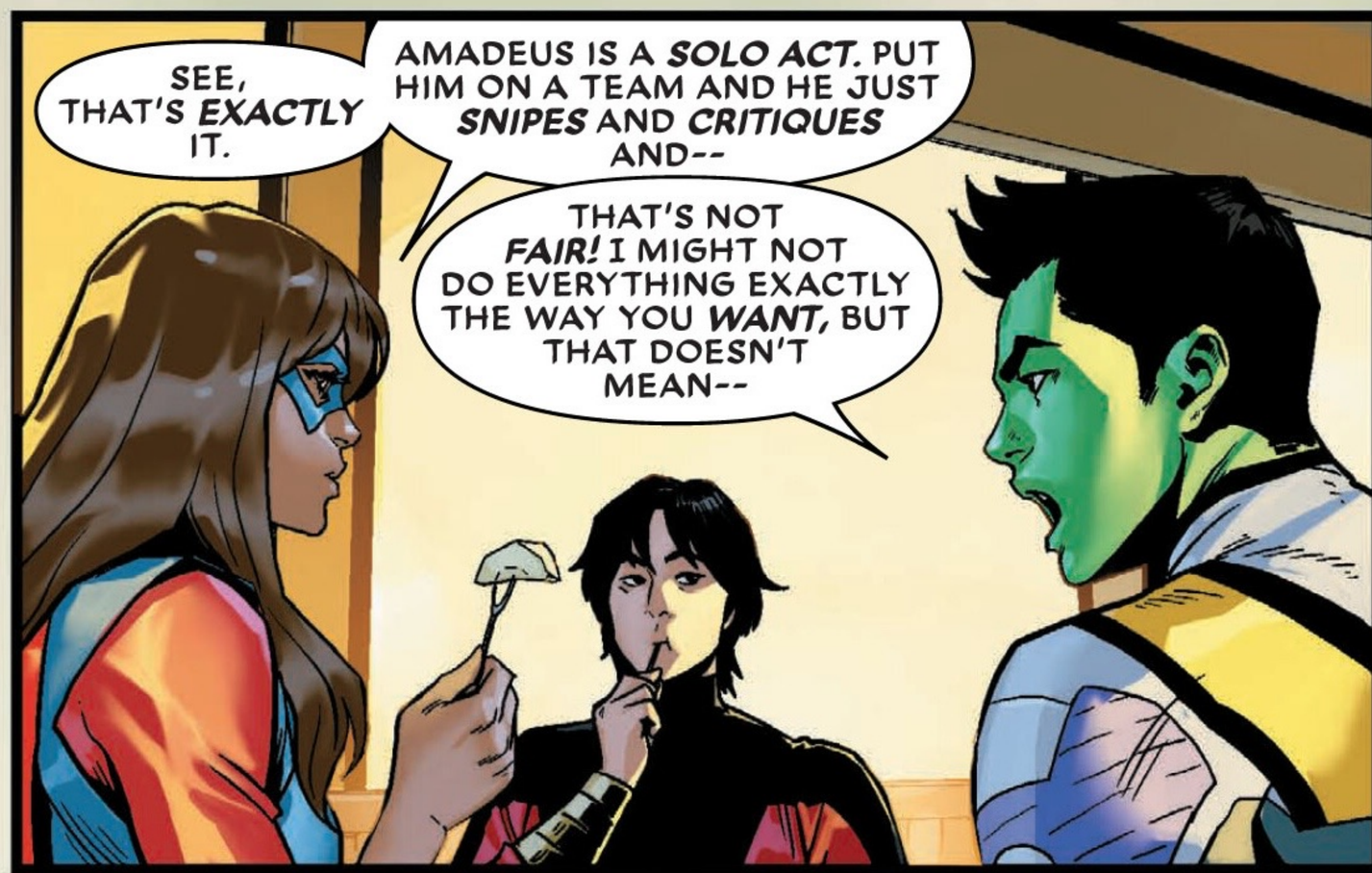
UH...I DUNNO...
PAKISTANI AMERICAN.
BUT...WE USED TO GET 'EM FROM A JAPANESE GROCERY AROUND THE CORNER. SO...
DON'T SAY IT.

...JAPANESE PEAR?
AAAAH!
HA HA!
JUST CALLING IT LIKE I SEE IT!
OKAY. LISTEN...

...IT'S JUST A *PEAR.*
THERE'S NO NEED TO *FIGHT* ABOUT IT.
JUST LIKE THERE'S NO NEED TO FIGHT ABOUT *MOST* OF THE STUFF WE WASTE OUR TIME FIGHTING ABOUT.


I'M NOT SAYING ALL CONFLICT IS *BAD.*
WHEN I'M LEADING AN *ATLAS MISSION,* I WANT TO HEAR THE *BEST IDEAS* FROM *EVERYONE* ON MY TEAM.
BUT EVERYONE ON THE TEAM NEEDS TO *CONTRIBUTE.*
NOT JUST *CRITIQUE.*
JUST LIKE YOU TOLD THOSE KIDS...

...WHEN PUSH COMES TO SHOVE, WE HAVE TO WORK *TOGETHER.*


SEE, THAT'S *EXACTLY* IT.
AMADEUS IS A *SOLO ACT.* PUT HIM ON A TEAM AND HE JUST *SNIPES* AND *CRITIQUES* AND--
THAT'S NOT *FAIR!* I MIGHT NOT DO EVERYTHING EXACTLY THE WAY YOU *WANT,* BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN--

YOU AND SPIDER-MAN DIDN'T TELL ME THE *TRUTH* ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED IN *DUBAI!**
WAIT A MINUTE, WE'RE STILL FIGHTING ABOUT THAT?
IT'S NOT JUST *THAT!* IT'S THE STUPID WAY YOU ACT ABOUT *EVERYTHING! HOW CAN I TRUST YOU?*
I'M JUST TRYING TO DO THE RIGHT THING!
**AS SHOWN IN THE SHOCKING EVENTS OF CHAMPIONS #2! --MARK*

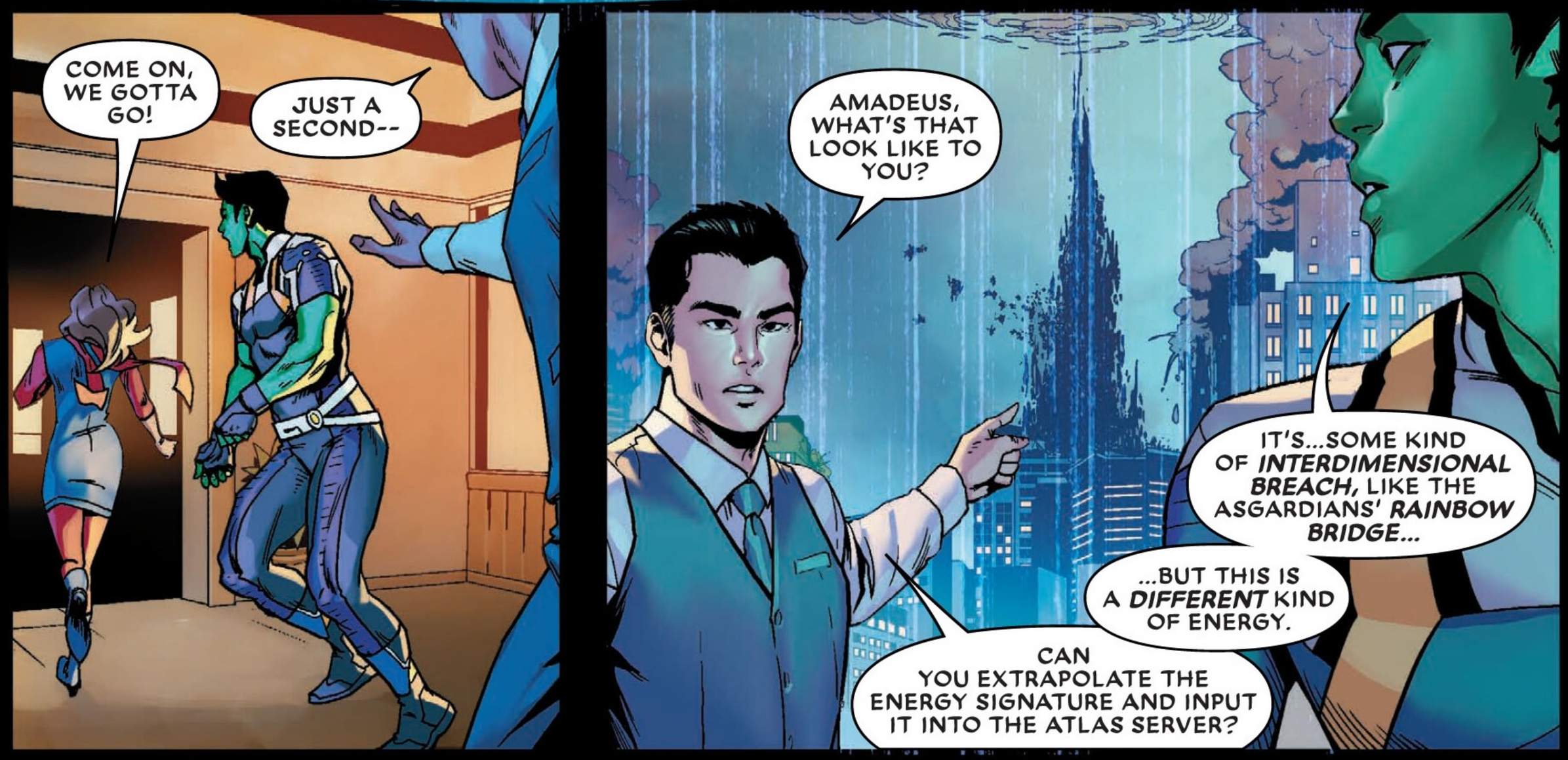
LIKE ONLY *YOU* CAN.
HEY, I DIDN'T SAY--
FINE! *YOU* TAKE CHARGE!
WAIT--
YOU'RE RUNNING THE CHAMPIONS NOW!

NO!
CRACK

DANGIT. I'M SORRY.
LOOK. THE LAST TIME I TOOK *CHARGE...*
...I KINDA *HULKED OUT* TOO MUCH. TRIED TO TAKE OVER THE *WORLD,* IF Y'ALL RECALL.**
DIDN'T MUCH LIKE *BEING* LIKE THAT.
SO YOU THINK BEING THE WAY YOU *ARE* IS SO GREAT?
**WHO COULD FORGET *INCREDIBLE HULK #714-717?* --MARK

WHA...
OH NO.
BEEP BEEP
BONG BONG BONG
VEET VEET VEET

JIMMY! THIS IS JAKE OH!
NEW YORK IS UNDER ATTACK!
OH MY GOD...
IT'S LIKE MY EIGHTH GRADE FRIDAY NIGHT D&D GAME THREW UP ON THE CITY...
...BUT FOR REAL!



TCH. THAT'S WHAT I THOUGHT. THIS ISN'T JUST NEW YORK.
WE'RE PICKING UP TRACES OF THE SAME KIND OF ENERGY TEN MILES FROM SEOUL. AND I DON'T HAVE ANYONE ON THE GROUND THERE...

COME ON, YOU'RE ALL AGENTS OF ATLAS NOW! WE'RE GOING TO KOREA!
WAIT--NEW YORK--
DON'T WORRY ABOUT NEW YORK.

I'LL JOIN THE REST OF THE CHAMPIONS THERE.
YOU GO WITH JIMMY AND THE OTHERS.
HANG ON, I DON'T GET A CHOICE?
NO. YOU CAN BE JIMMY'S PROBLEM FOR NOW.
WHAT?!

THERE'S NO TIME FOR THIS.
YOU COME WITH ME, AMADEUS.
JUST REMEMBER--

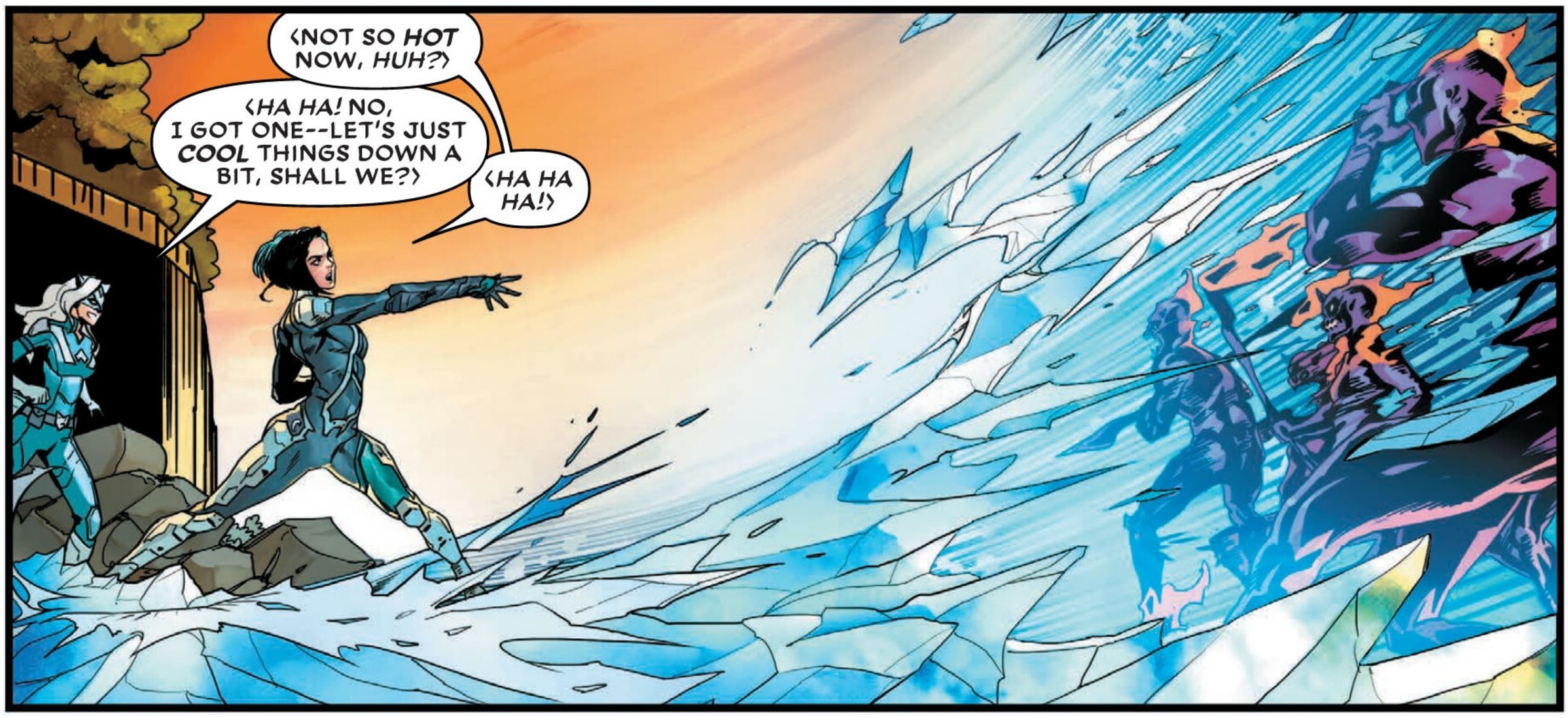
--WE ALL HAVE TO WORK TOGETHER.

SEOUL.
RRRRMMMBBLLL
HUH?
<WHAT THE-->*
SSSSSSSSSSSS
*TRANSLATED FROM KOREAN.
AAAAAA!
<BAD FIRE! BAD!>
SSSTTTTSSTSSSS
<HEY!>
AMI HAN, A.K.A. WHITE FOX, SOUTH KOREAN NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE SERVICE.
<I LOVE THE SPIRIT, KID...>

‹...BUT YOU MIGHT NEED A LITTLE HELP WITH THIS ONE.›
IN THE NAME OF THE QUEEN OF CINDERS--
--BOW DOWN BEFORE THE FLAMES OF MUSPELHEIM!
I DON'T KNOW ABOUT MUSPELHEIM...
...BUT THIS IS KOREA.
WE'VE DEALT WITH INVADERS AND COLONIZERS FOR CENTURIES...
...SO WE SURE AREN'T GONNA TAKE THIS KIND OF CRAP FROM A BUNCH OF MATCHSTICKS.
‹FIRE AT WILL!›
‹YEAAAH!›
BLAM BLAM BLAM BLAM
HA HA! STUPID WOMAN!
YOUR LITTLE BULLETS CAN'T STOP US!
OKAY, THEN...

...HOW 'BOUT A MAGIC BEAR?
DAN BI, A.K.A. CRESCENT. TAE KWON DO PRODIGY.
IO. A MAGIC BEAR.
SKRAAKK
UKK!
GRRAAH!
AROOOO!
THE BEAR WON'T BURN!
SO GRILL THE GIRL!
<WHOOP!>
FSSSST
AH! STINGS!
FSSSSS
<POOR BABY!>

SKOOOSSH
<MAYBE THIS'LL HELP!>
YAAAAAAA!
<HA HAAA!>
SEOL HEE, A.K.A. LUNA SNOW.
WHOA.
OMIGOD, THAT'S LUNA SNOW!
WHO?
WHADDAYA MEAN, "WHO?"
K-POP STAR! SUPER HERO!


‹NOT SO HOT NOW, HUH?›
‹HA HA! NO, I GOT ONE--LET'S JUST COOL THINGS DOWN A BIT, SHALL WE?›
‹HA HA HA!›

SHE'S THE BEST.
WOW.

HYAAA!
HUP!

WHOA! SHE NEEDS HELP!
WAIT, AMADEUS!
SHE'S DOING FINE!
THAT TEAM DOWN THERE'S GOT A PLAN. LET'S RECONNOITER AND SEE--

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? THOSE ARE MAGIC FIRE DEMONS! WE GOTTA GET DOWN THERE AND MAKE SURE--
AMADEUS, WAIT--!

SKRAK-BOOM
KRAKOOOSH
JIMMY!
NNNGH...
HE'S OUT!
YOU DIDN'T *LISTEN,* AMADEUS.
AND NOW YOU'VE GOT TO FACE YOUR *WORST FEAR.*
YOU'RE IN CHARGE.

HEY!
NO, WAIT, YOU'VE GOT IT ALL--
<IT'S THE HULK!>
<HE TRIED TO TAKE OVER AMERICA!>
<HE MUST BE HELPING THE FIRE DEMONS!>

GRRRAAAAAA!
SKRAKOOM
<GOOD BOY, IO!>

YAAA!
WHUP!
WAIT--!

GAH!
FWOOOSH
HAAA! GET THE WITCH!

DANGIT!
SKRANCH

FSSSSSSTTT
THAT'S IT!
I TOLD YOU GUYS THEY NEEDED--
GAAH!
<WHAT THE-->
HSSSSSTT
--HELP.
OH, THEY DID, MORTAL...
KRAKOOM
OH MY GOD...
I...
...SAID...
...WORK TOGETHER.
...BEAUTIFULLY...

SKRRRO

...AND I THANK YOUR WHOLE TEAM FOR HELPING MY LEGIONS CONQUER YOUR CONTINENT'S ONLY HOPE!

NOW BOW DOWN BEFORE QUEEN SINDR!

THE INVINCIBLE RULER OF YOUR LAND, WHICH I NOW RE-BAPTIZE AS...

...NEW MUSPELHEIM!

THE NORTH PACIFIC.

NNNGH...

<WAVE, DO YOU READ? WE NEED YOU NOW!>*

WH-- WHA--

<MANILA'S BURNING! THE DEMONS ARE EVERYWHERE!>

*TRANSLATED FROM TAGALOG.

<AERO! SHANGHAI'S UNDER ATTACK! THE STREETS--THE STREETS ARE MELTING!>*

WE'VE... WE'VE BEEN TRICKED!

*TRANSLATED FROM SHANGHAINESE.

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

LOOK--

YES, ELEMENTALS. OUR QUEEN SENSED YOUR POWER.

SO WE LURED YOU OUT HERE, THOUSANDS OF LEAGUES FROM THE CITIES THAT PLEAD FOR YOUR HELP.

WHO-- WHO ARE YOU?

SCKRRAAAAKK

UKK!

"THEY" ARE THE FIRE GOBLINS OF MUSPELHEIM...

...SERVANTS OF THE QUEEN OF CINDERS...

...AND THEY TRIED TO KILL ME TOO.

BUT I AM *TUTU PELE*...

...DAUGHTER OF THE SKY...

...CREATOR OF THE SACRED LAND...

...AND THE *ONLY* FIRE GODDESS THIS PLANET NEEDS.

WAR OF THE REALMS: NEW AGENTS OF ATLAS #2

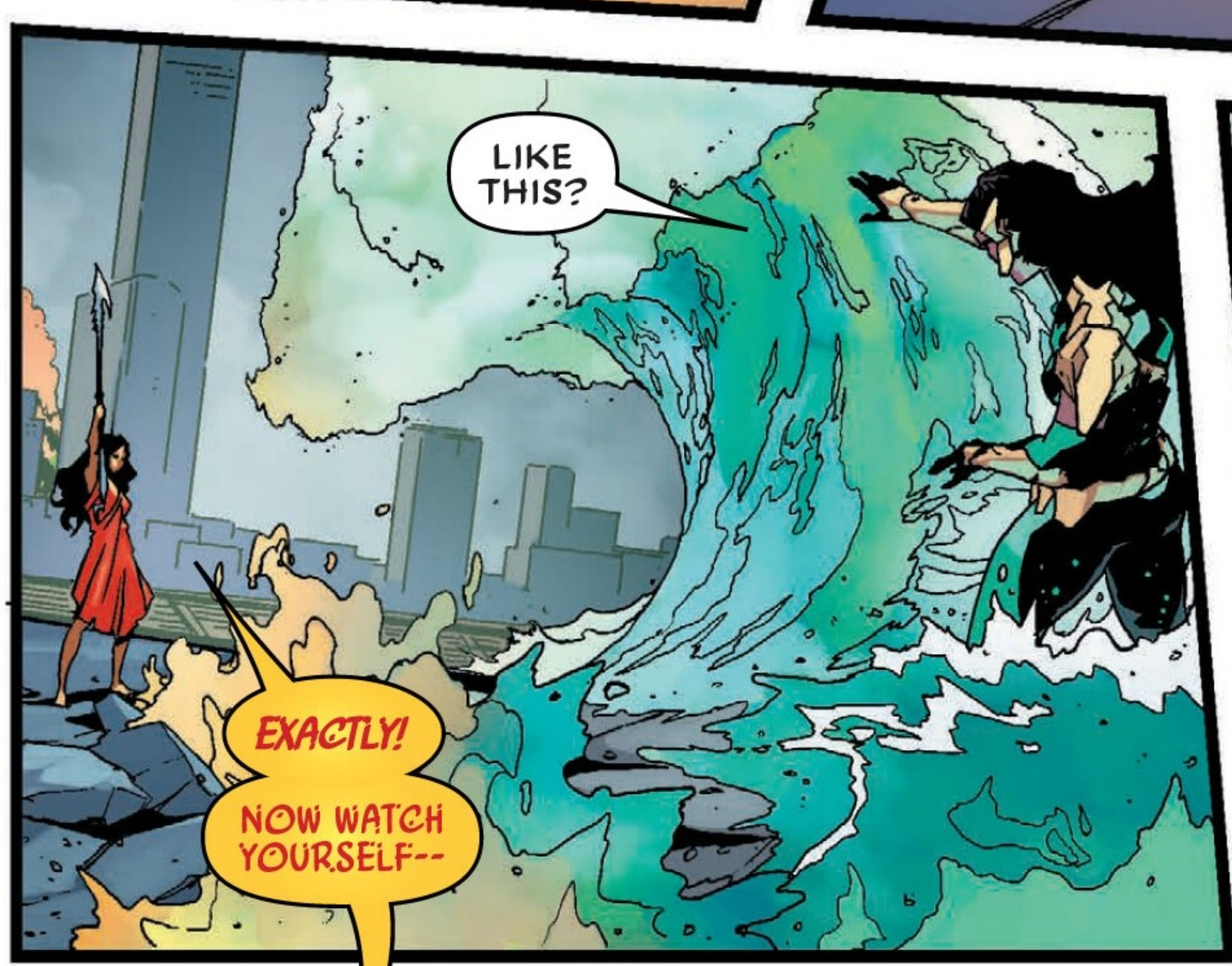
Fire and Ice Chapter 2

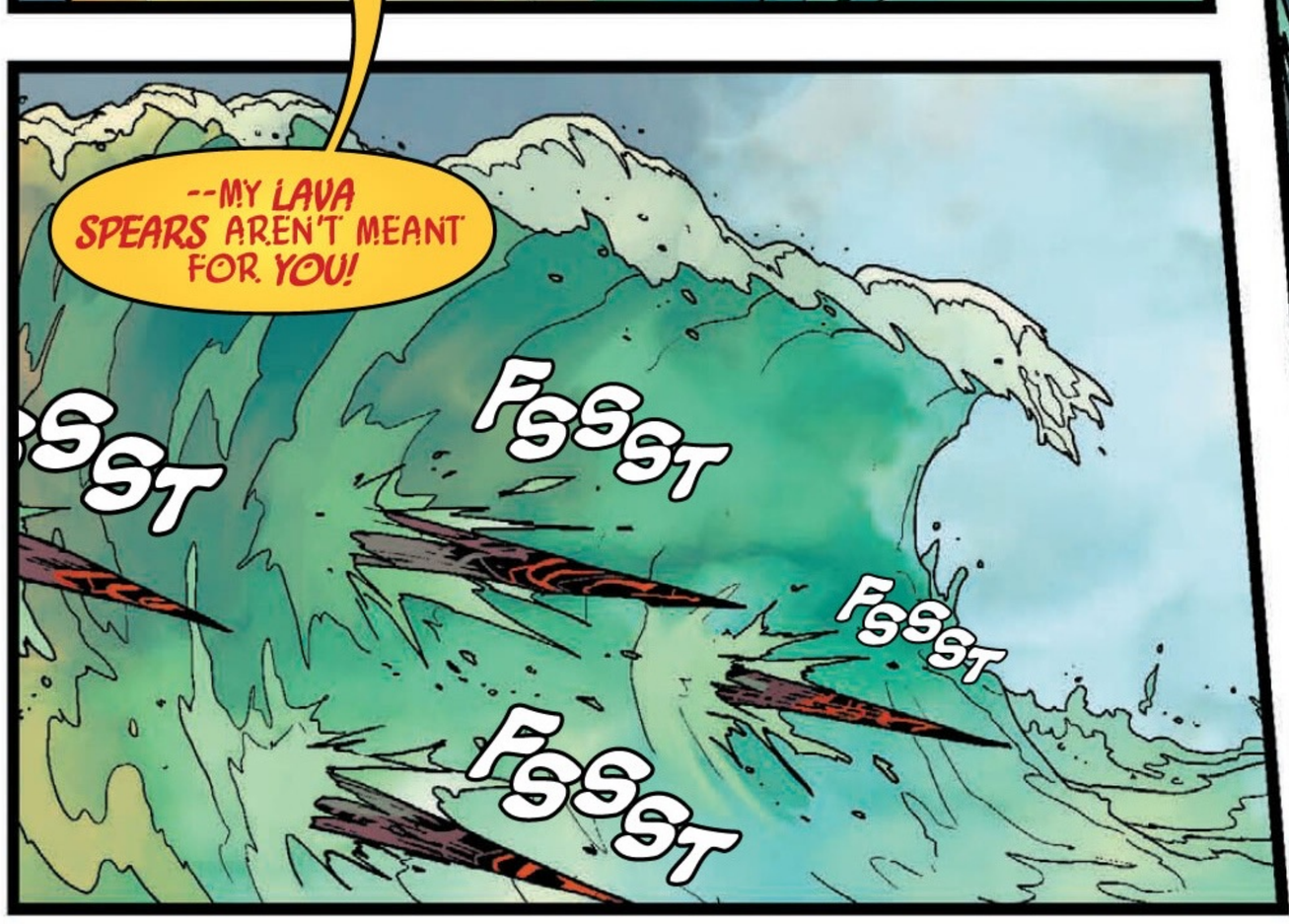
SHANGHAI.
JUST GIVE IT UP, HUMANS!
WE'RE THE FIRE GOBLINS OF MUSPELHEIM!
WE'LL MELT YOUR BULLETS!
BURN YOUR STUPID CLUBS!
AND FRY THE FAT RIGHT OFF YOUR CHEEKS!
<I'VE GOT A BETTER IDEA...>*
*TRANSLATED FROM MANDARIN.
<...HOW ABOUT I SEND YOU BACK TO HELL?!>
GAAH!
LIN LIE, A.K.A. SWORD MASTER.
<WE NEED BACKUP!>
<SWORD MASTER CAN'T HOLD THEM OFF FOR LONG!>
<DON'T WORRY--I'M COMING...>

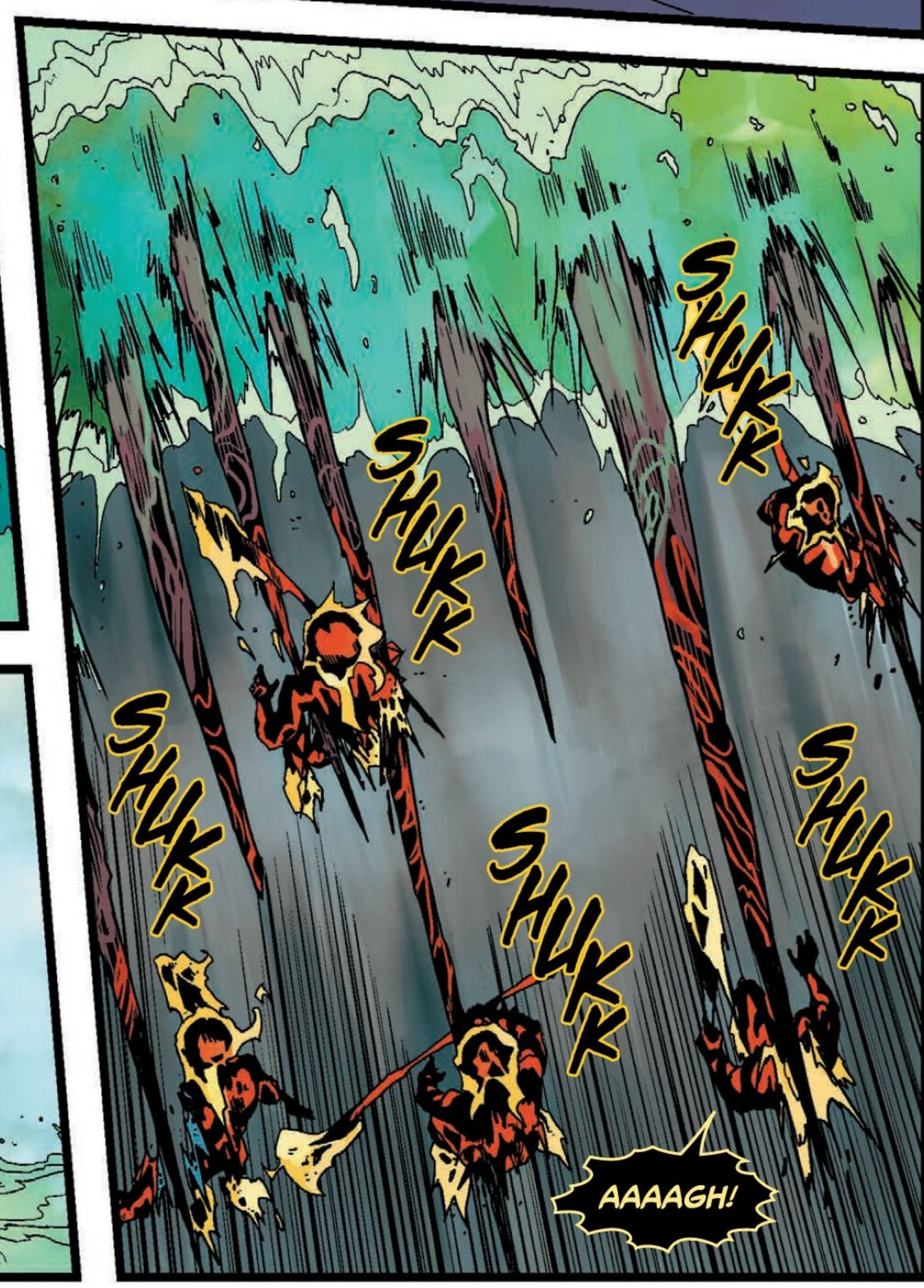
‹...AND I BROUGHT SOME FRIENDS!›
LEI LING, A.K.A. AERO.
IT'S THOSE ELEMENTALS!
HA HAAAA!
PEARL PANGAN, A.K.A. WAVE.
PELE, HAWAIIAN GODDESS OF FIRE AND LAVA.
WHAT'S THE MATTER, BOYS?
THE WATER'S FINE!
AAAAARGH!

GAH!
IN THE NAME OF QUEEN SINDR--
--KILL THEM!

WAVE!
LET THE WATERS RISE!
SKRAAAK


LIKE THIS?
EXACTLY!
NOW WATCH YOURSELF--


--MY LAVA SPEARS AREN'T MEANT FOR YOU!
FSSST
FSSST
FSSST
FSSST


SHUKK
SHUKK
SHUKK
SHUKK
SHUKK
AAAAGH!

YOU-- YOU KILLED THEM!
DAMN STRAIGHT.
THIS IS WAR, GIRL...

...IT'S LIFE OR DEATH.
I CAN FEEL SINDR'S GOBLINS DOWN BELOW, MEDDLING WITH THE EARTH'S CORE...
WE'RE FIGHTING FOR THE WHOLE WORLD--
YEAH...
...AND LOSING!
SHUKK
AAAGH!
GGGAHH!
HAAAAAA!
YOU ELEMENTALS ESCAPED US ONCE.
YOU COULD HAVE RUN AWAY...
NOOOO!
MORONS.
...BUT INSTEAD, YOU'VE GIVEN OUR QUEEN THE PRIZE SHE SOUGHT...
UUKKKKKK...

SINDR FEARS NO MORTAL!
SHOOO

KTHOK
KTHOK
HA.
KTHOK
KTHOK
<WHAT THE-->
<OPEN FIRE!>

CLICK CLICK
CLICK CLICK CLICK
<OUR GUNS-- THEY'RE--THEY'RE NOT WORKING!>
<DAMMIT.>
FOOLS.

I'M THE QUEEN OF CINDERS... MISTRESS OF FIRE IN MY REALM...
...AND NOW IN YOURS!
<WHA-->
GAH!

YOU'RE HELPLESS...
PAKOOOM
AAAGH!

...BECAUSE EVERY WEAPON YOU HAVE DEPENDS ON FIRE!
SKREEEE
BRAKOOOM

NOT EVERY WEAPON.
SHANG-CHI, THE UNDISPUTED, UNDEFEATED, ONE-AND-ONLY MASTER OF KUNG FU.

SKRRAAKK
WHAT THE HEL...

YEAH!
LET'S DO THIS!
YOU SURE?
DAN BI, A.K.A. CRESCENT. TAE KWON DO PRODIGY.

RRAAAWR!
OH YEAH.
ALL RIGHT THEN...
IO, THE SPIRIT BEAR SUMMONED AND CONTROLLED BY CRESCENT'S MASK.

YAAAAAA!
HA!
THOKK
KRRRAKKK
HA HA! SO BOLD!
BUT STILL SO DOOMED!
CINDY MOON, A.K.A. SILK.
LUNA, COME ON! WE GOTTA GET YOU OUT OF THERE...
W-WHAT HAPPENED...
AMADEUS ACCIDENTALLY HIT YOU WITH WATER WHILE YOU WERE ICING THE FIRE GOBLINS--
--SO YOU KINDA FROZE YOURSELF?
BUT YOU'RE OUR BEST HOPE AGAINST SINDR!
SEOL HEE, A.K.A. LUNA SNOW, K-POP STAR AND SUPER HERO.
BY THE WAY, I SAW YOU AT MSG DURING YOUR "COOL" WORLD TOUR AND YOU WERE AMAZING.
OH. WOW. THANK YOU.
OH, YOU'RE WEL--
--LLLLLLLLLLLLCOME!
SKRAK
GRRAAAAA!

AAAAH!
HANG ON, SILK! I GOTCHA!
OH NO.
AGENT WOO! COME BACK HERE!

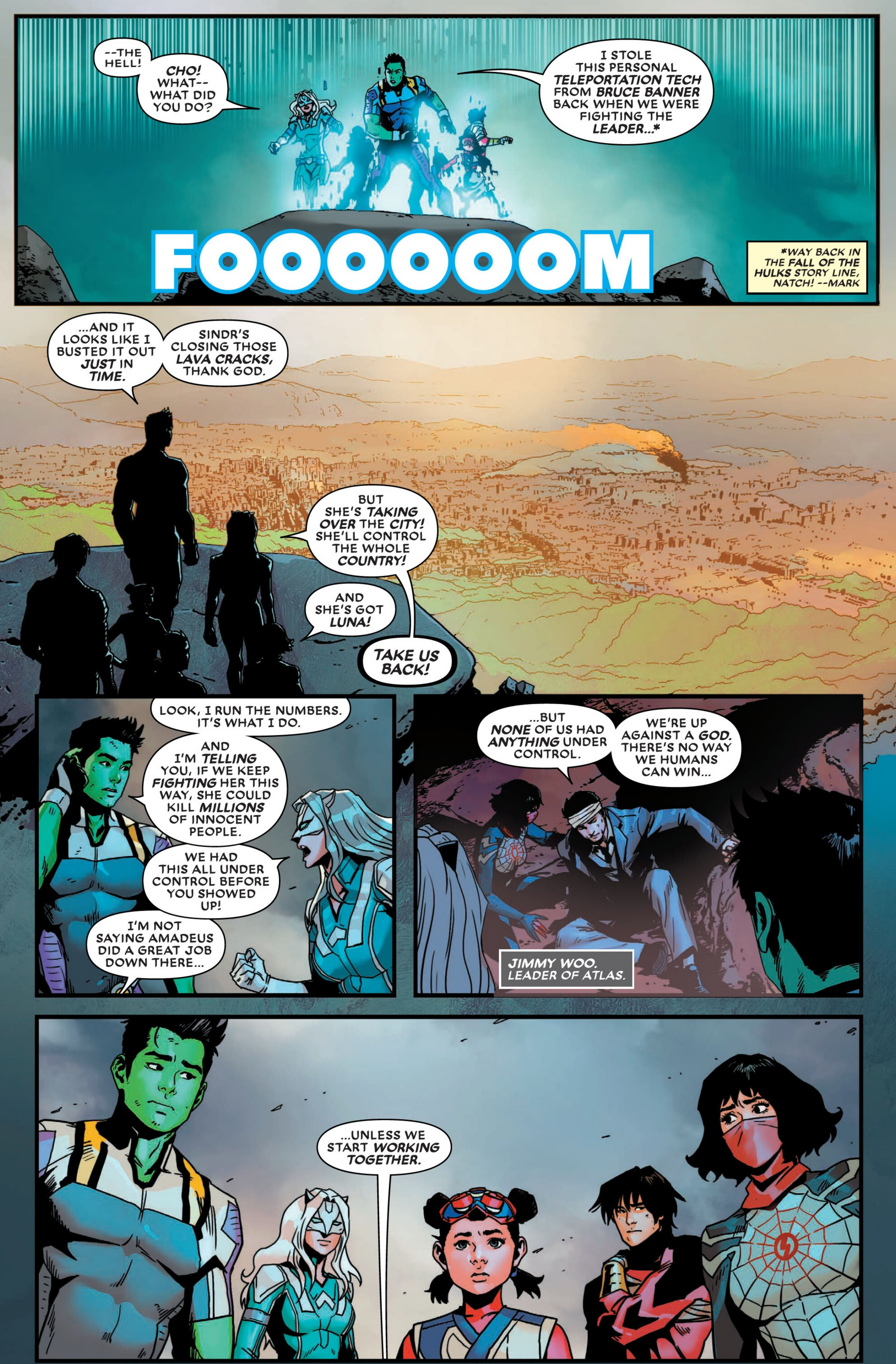
SKKRRAAAAKK
HA HA HA HA!
NOW YOU'RE IN FOR IT!

SINDR, I CAN SEE WHAT YOU'RE DOING--
--AND YOU'VE GOTTA STOP!
YOU CAN'T MAKE A VOLCANO HERE!
YOU'RE GOING TO KILL MILLIONS!

AND THE FAULT WILL BE YOURS.
SKLANG
GRAAARGH!

OKAY, WE'RE KILLING HER.
EVERYBODY, ON MY COMMAND--
ACTUALLY...

WHA--!
CLICK


--THE HELL!
CHO! WHAT-- WHAT DID YOU DO?
I STOLE THIS PERSONAL TELEPORTATION TECH FROM BRUCE BANNER BACK WHEN WE WERE FIGHTING THE LEADER...*
FOOOOOOOM
*WAY BACK IN THE FALL OF THE HULKS STORY LINE, NATCH! --MARK
...AND IT LOOKS LIKE I BUSTED IT OUT JUST IN TIME.
SINDR'S CLOSING THOSE LAVA CRACKS, THANK GOD.
BUT SHE'S TAKING OVER THE CITY! SHE'LL CONTROL THE WHOLE COUNTRY!
AND SHE'S GOT LUNA!
TAKE US BACK!
LOOK, I RUN THE NUMBERS. IT'S WHAT I DO.
AND I'M TELLING YOU, IF WE KEEP FIGHTING HER THIS WAY, SHE COULD KILL MILLIONS OF INNOCENT PEOPLE.
WE HAD THIS ALL UNDER CONTROL BEFORE YOU SHOWED UP!
I'M NOT SAYING AMADEUS DID A GREAT JOB DOWN THERE...
...BUT NONE OF US HAD ANYTHING UNDER CONTROL.
WE'RE UP AGAINST A GOD. THERE'S NO WAY WE HUMANS CAN WIN...
JIMMY WOO. LEADER OF ATLAS.
...UNLESS WE START WORKING TOGETHER.

SEOUL.

<AT FIVE O' CLOCK THIS MORNING, THE PRESIDENT'S PERSONAL GUARD SURRENDERED, AND THE QUEEN OF CINDERS FORMALLY ANNEXED SOUTH KOREA AS A PROTECTORATE OF **NEW MUSPELHEIM.**>*

*TRANSLATED FROM KOREAN.

<THE QUEEN ASSURES US THAT **NO FIRE** IN THE LAND WILL **SPARK** WITHOUT HER **BLESSING.**>

<BUT SHE ALSO PROMISES THAT THOSE WHO **ACCEPT** HER RULE WILL HAVE THEIR FIRES **RESTORED** AND WILL GAIN THE **PROTECTION** OF HER GOBLINS AS LONG AS SHE REIGNS.>

<HEY, HEY, HEY! DON'T JUST **SIT** THERE!>

<YOU'LL **BURN** THE **CHAIR!**>

<SIT ON THE **FOIL,** OKAY?>

PFT!

HA HA HA!

SHE'S GOT SOME FIRE IN HER BELLY TOO, HUH?

SO WHAT THE HEL'S THAT?

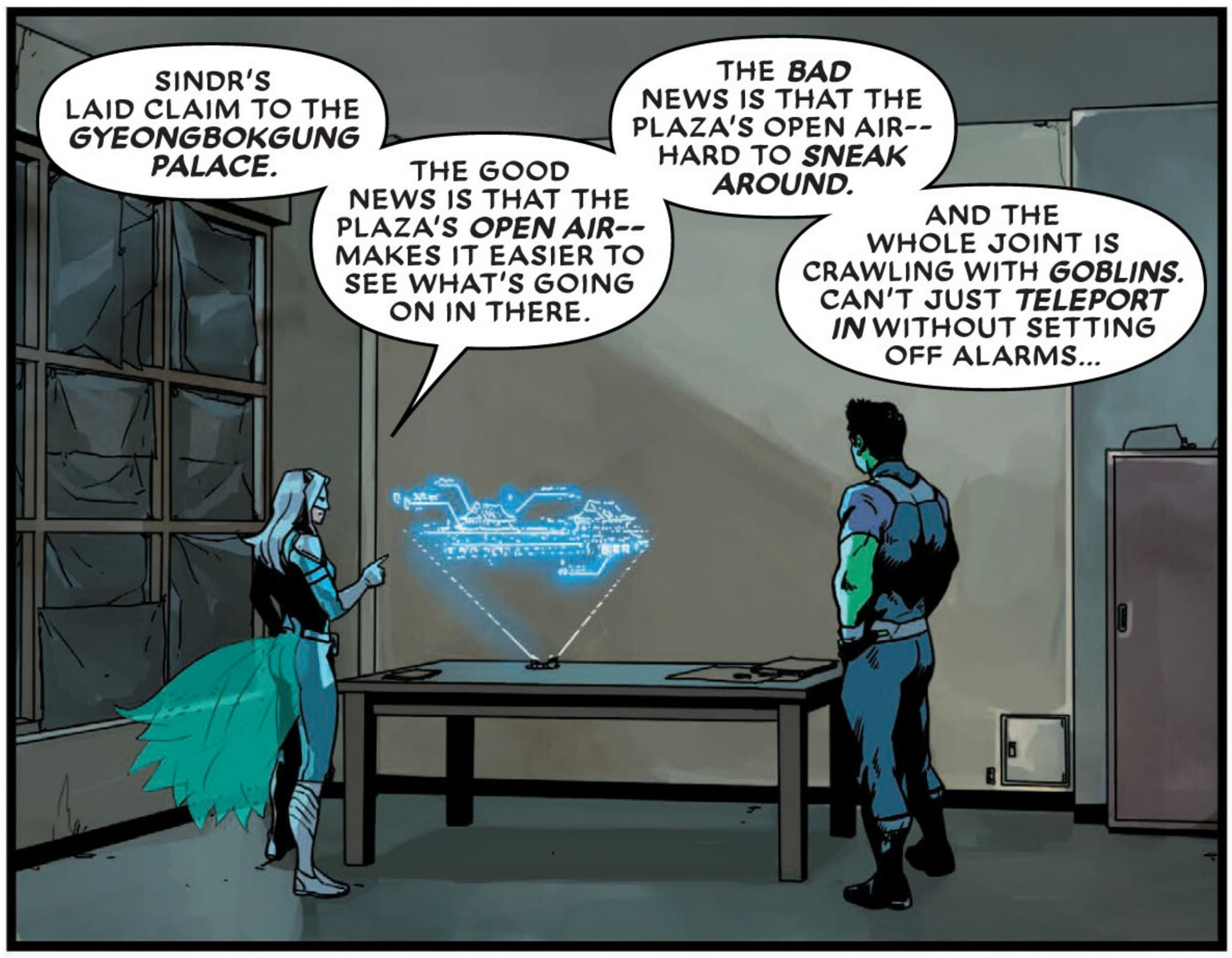
THEY CALL IT "SOUP." THEY **DRINK** IT.

WHAT? THEY PUT **LIQUID** IN THEIR BODIES?

I **KNOW!** THEY'RE BRAVER THAN THEY LOOK, HUH?

"ALL RIGHT, TEAM A'S IN PLACE..."

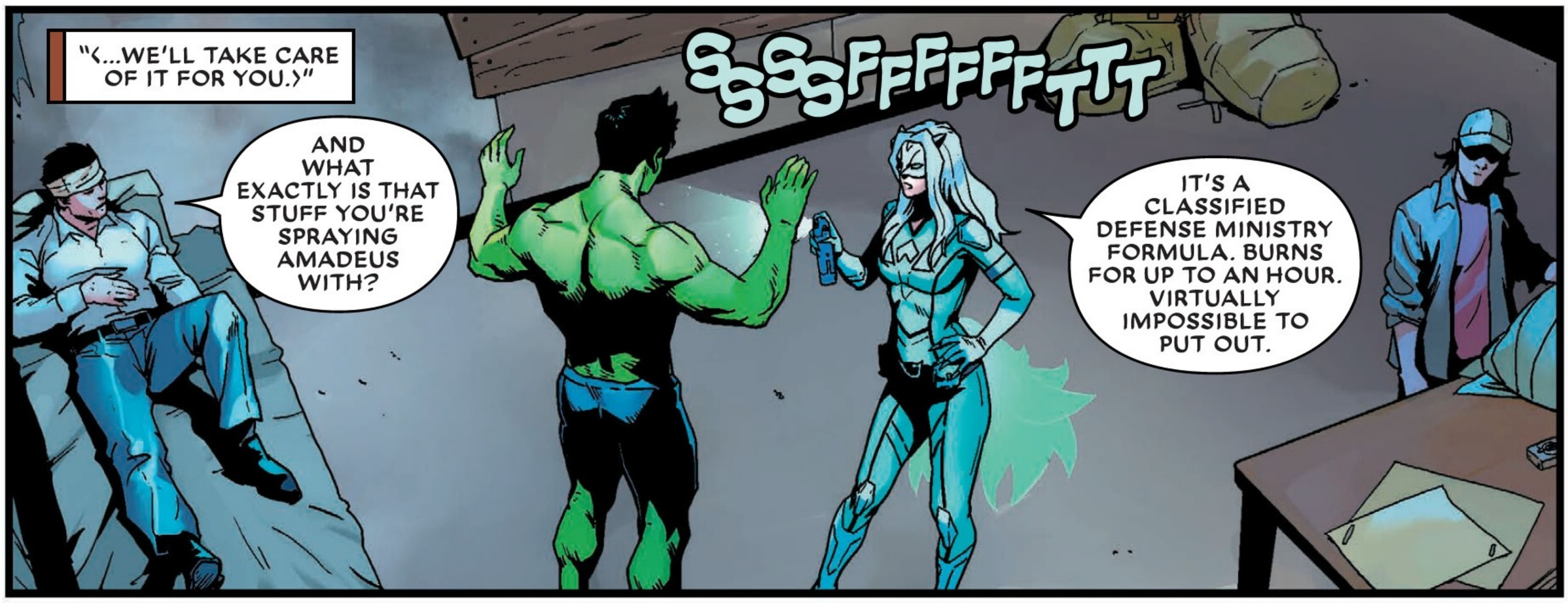
...LET'S REVIEW THE PLAN.


SINDR'S LAID CLAIM TO THE *GYEONGBOKGUNG PALACE.*
THE GOOD NEWS IS THAT THE PLAZA'S *OPEN AIR*-- MAKES IT EASIER TO SEE WHAT'S GOING ON IN THERE.
THE *BAD* NEWS IS THAT THE PLAZA'S OPEN AIR-- HARD TO *SNEAK AROUND.*
AND THE WHOLE JOINT IS CRAWLING WITH *GOBLINS.* CAN'T JUST *TELEPORT IN* WITHOUT SETTING OFF ALARMS...

"...BUT WITH A LITTLE *PATIENCE...*"
THIS IS TAKING TOO LONG. LET'S JUST KICK THEIR BUTTS.
HEH.
I'M SERIOUS.
SHH.

HMP!

THERE WE GO.
<WHAT A MESS!>
<DON'T WORRY, *AJUMMA...*>

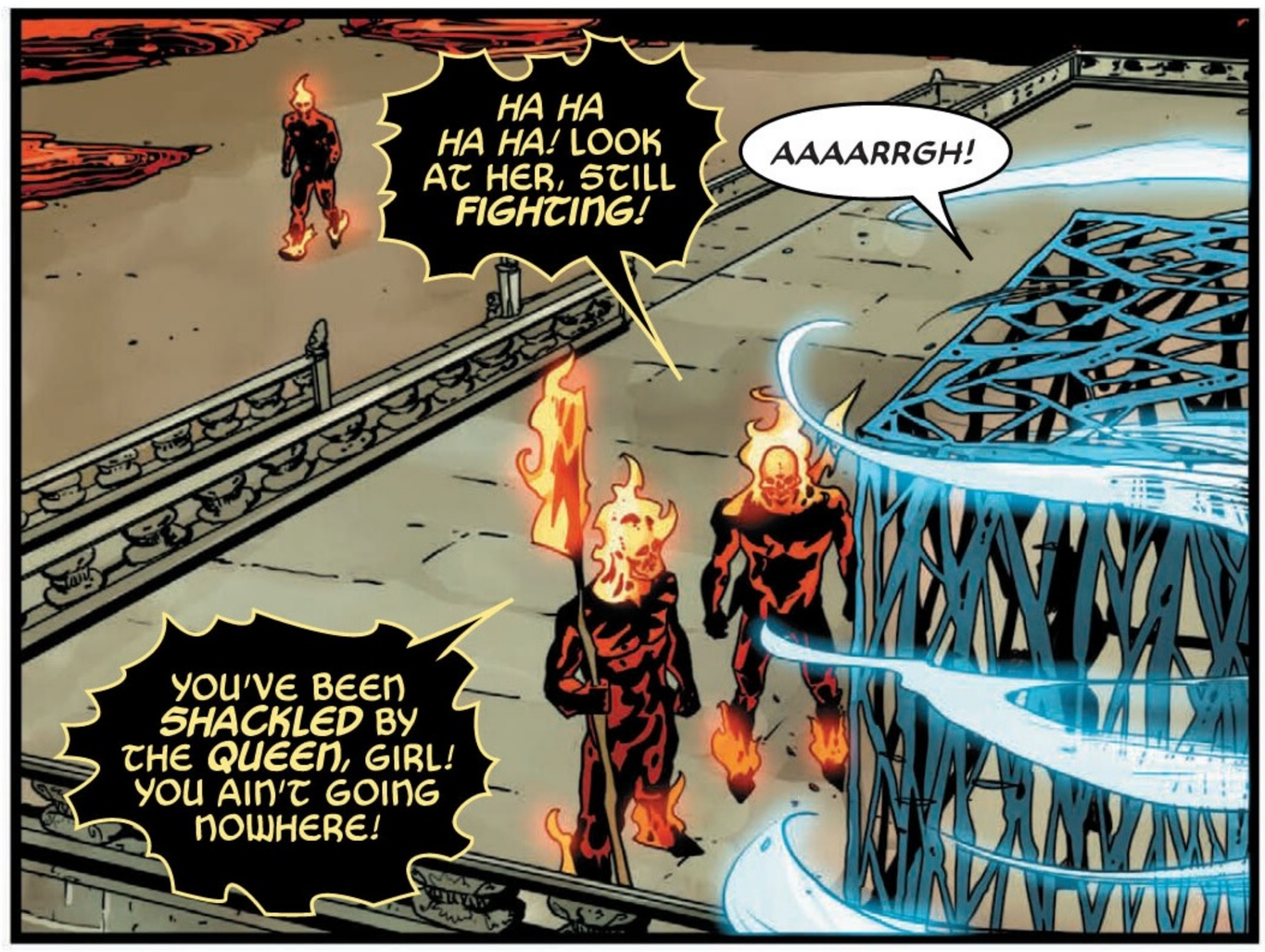

"<...WE'LL TAKE CARE OF IT FOR YOU.>"
SSSSFFFFFFTTT
AND WHAT EXACTLY IS THAT STUFF YOU'RE SPRAYING AMADEUS WITH?
IT'S A CLASSIFIED DEFENSE MINISTRY FORMULA. BURNS FOR UP TO AN HOUR. VIRTUALLY IMPOSSIBLE TO PUT OUT.

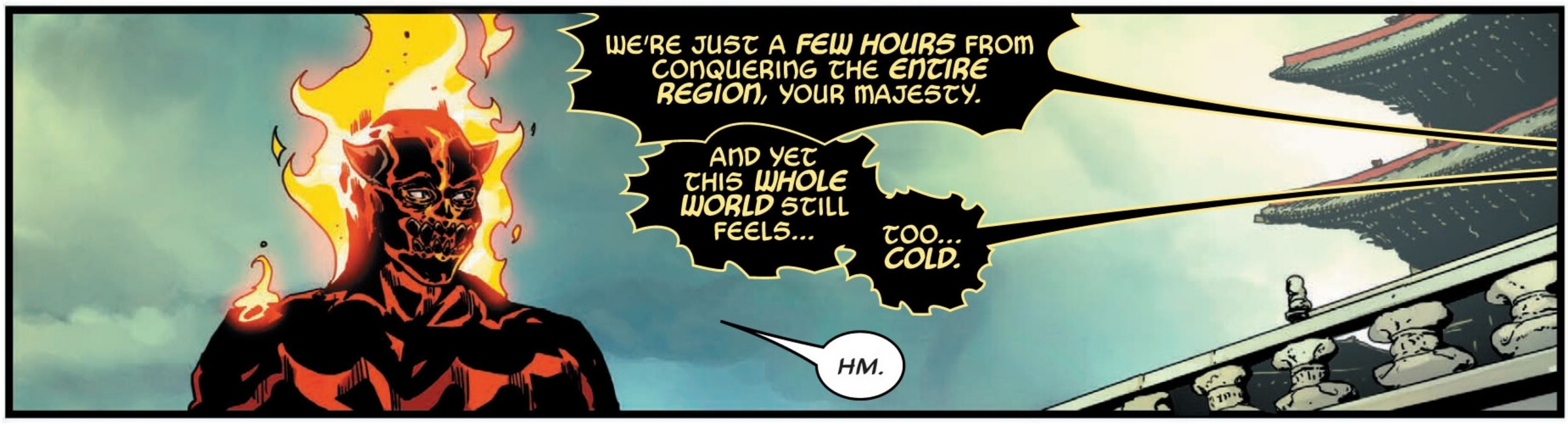
ALL RIGHT, WE GOT THE EMBERS!
YOU READY FOR THIS, AMADEUS?
NO.
BUT LET'S DO IT.

FLICK

AAAGH!
YES! HENCE THE SCREAMING!
DOES...THAT HURT?
FWOOOSH
YOU'LL FEEL BETTER WHEN YOU'RE DRESSED.

-SNIFF-
-SNIFF-
WHAT'S THAT SMELL?
UH, I JUST HAD BARBECUE.
THAT JOINT DOWN THE STREET EVERYONE'S TALKING ABOUT.
OH YEAH! I GOTTA TRY THAT!

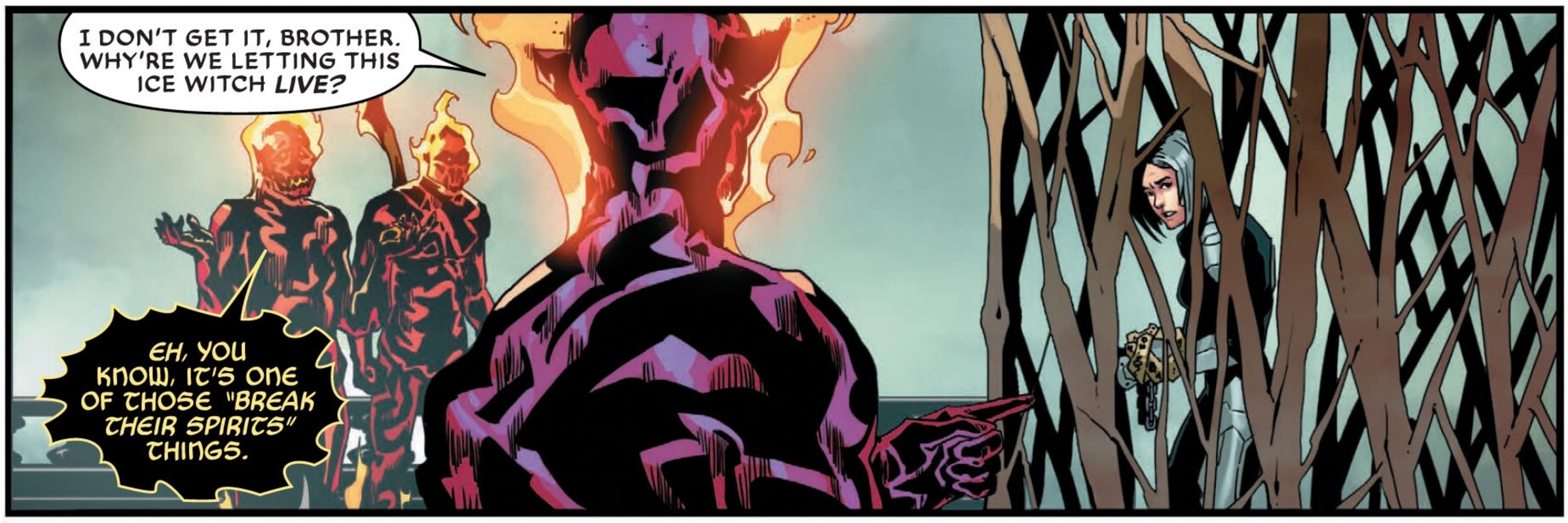

HA HA HA HA! LOOK AT HER, STILL FIGHTING!
AAAARRGH!
YOU'VE BEEN SHACKLED BY THE QUEEN, GIRL! YOU AIN'T GOING NOWHERE!


WE'RE JUST A FEW HOURS FROM CONQUERING THE ENTIRE REGION, YOUR MAJESTY.
AND YET THIS WHOLE WORLD STILL FEELS...
TOO... COLD.
HM.

YES, MY QUEEN...
...BUT IT DOESN'T HAVE TO BE...

...HERE AS YOU COMMANDED...

OH NO...


I DON'T GET IT, BROTHER. WHY'RE WE LETTING THIS ICE WITCH *LIVE?*
EH, YOU KNOW, IT'S ONE OF THOSE "BREAK THEIR SPIRITS" THINGS.

THE QUEEN COULD JUST *KILL* HER.
BUT IT'S A LOT MORE *FUN* TO SEE HER *BURN UP* IN *SLOW MOTION* WHEN HER OWN POWERS *FAIL* HER.
THAT'S NEVER GONNA HAPPEN, YOU HEAR ME?!

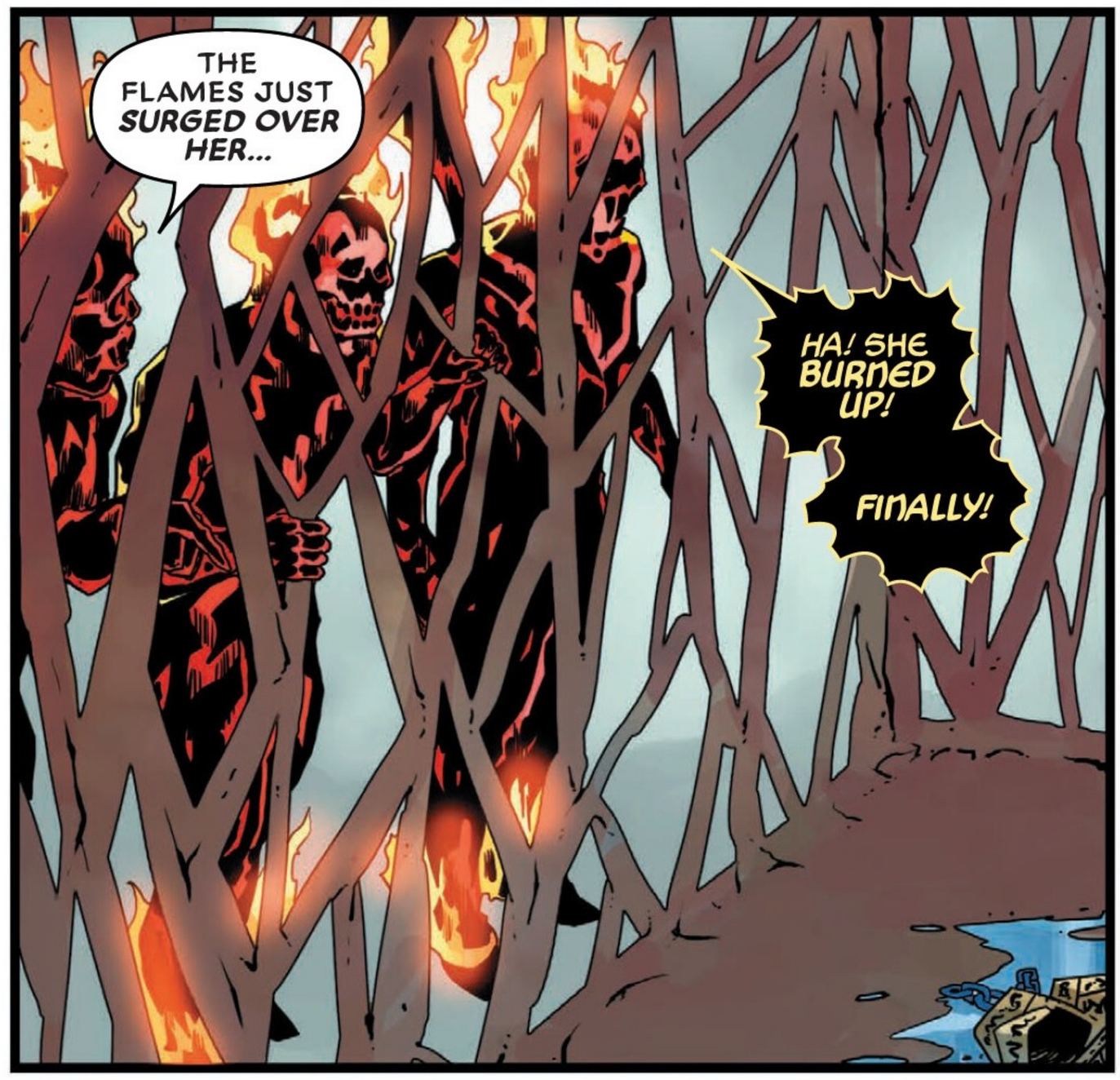
NEVER!
HA HA HA!
BETTER WATCH IT, GIRL! YOU'RE GONNA USE UP ALL YOUR STRENGTH!

MAYBE SOONER THAN YOU THINK.
WINK

CHO!

VOOOOOP

HEY, GUYS, LOOK!
SHE'S GONE!
WHA--?!


THE FLAMES JUST SURGED OVER HER...
HA! SHE BURNED UP!
FINALLY!

I WAS GETTING TIRED OF THAT CHILL IN THE AIR.
OH, YEAH, THAT'S THE WORST!

QUEEN SINDR!
THE ICE WITCH HAS FALLEN!

PERFECT.
ALL THE SIGNS ARE IN OUR FAVOR...

SHANGHAI.
"...NOW LET OUR TRUE PURPOSE BE KNOWN!"
COME ON, THEN!
IS THAT ALL YOU'VE GOT?

RETREAT!
BY ORDER OF THE QUEEN!
RETREAT!

HA! THEY'RE RUNNING!
YES! GO ON, YA COWARDS!
YEEEAAAAH!

HEY--
WHAT--
VOOOOOOP

SEOUL.
--THE HELL!
FWOOOSH
WHERE ARE WE?
WHO ARE YOU?
WHAT'S GOING ON?
YYYYEAH, THOSE ARE THE RELEVANT QUESTIONS, AREN'T THEY?
LOOK, I'M VERY SORRY FOR SPRINGING THIS ON YOU, BUT WE DON'T HAVE MUCH TIME.
MY NAME IS AMADEUS CHO, AND WE'RE THE... NEW AGENTS OF ATLAS.
WE SAW WHAT YOU'VE BEEN DOING THROUGH THE ATLAS FLYSPIES.
YOU'RE AMAZING. AND WE NEED YOUR HELP.
WE'VE ALL BEEN FIGHTING SINDR'S FORCES IN THE PACIFIC REGION...
...BUT RIGHT NOW, WE'RE HEADING TO OUR NEW STAGING GROUND...
...IN SIBERIA.
SIBERIA?!

WE'VE GOT OUR *OWN* FIGHT!
WE'VE GOT THEM ON THE RUN!
AND THEN I'VE GOTTA HELP *TRIUMPH DIVISION* FREE THE *PHILIPPINES!*

WE HAD THIS ALL UNDER CONTROL! WHO THE HELL DO YOU THINK YOU *ARE?*
YOU SEND US *BACK HOME!*
HANG ON! CALM DOWN!
NO! YOU SEND US BACK!

RIGHT!
NOW!
AGH!
I *TOLD* YOU THIS WAS A BAD IDEA!
SWOOOOOOOSSSSH

FWOOSH

STAND DOWN, CHILDREN.
THE GREEN BOY'S *RIGHT.*
THE GOBLINS HAVE *POISONED* ME...
...BUT I'M STILL THE *DAUGHTER* OF *MOTHER EARTH...*

"...AND I CAN FEEL THIS QUEEN OF CINDERS...

"...DIGGING DEEP INTO MY MOTHER'S HEART...

FFFFSSSSSSS

"...PUSHING HER TO MADNESS WITH ALIEN FIRE."

SINDR'S GOING TO MELT THE ICE CAPS...

...AND MAKE THIS WHOLE WORLD INTO HER FIERY, NEW DOMAIN.

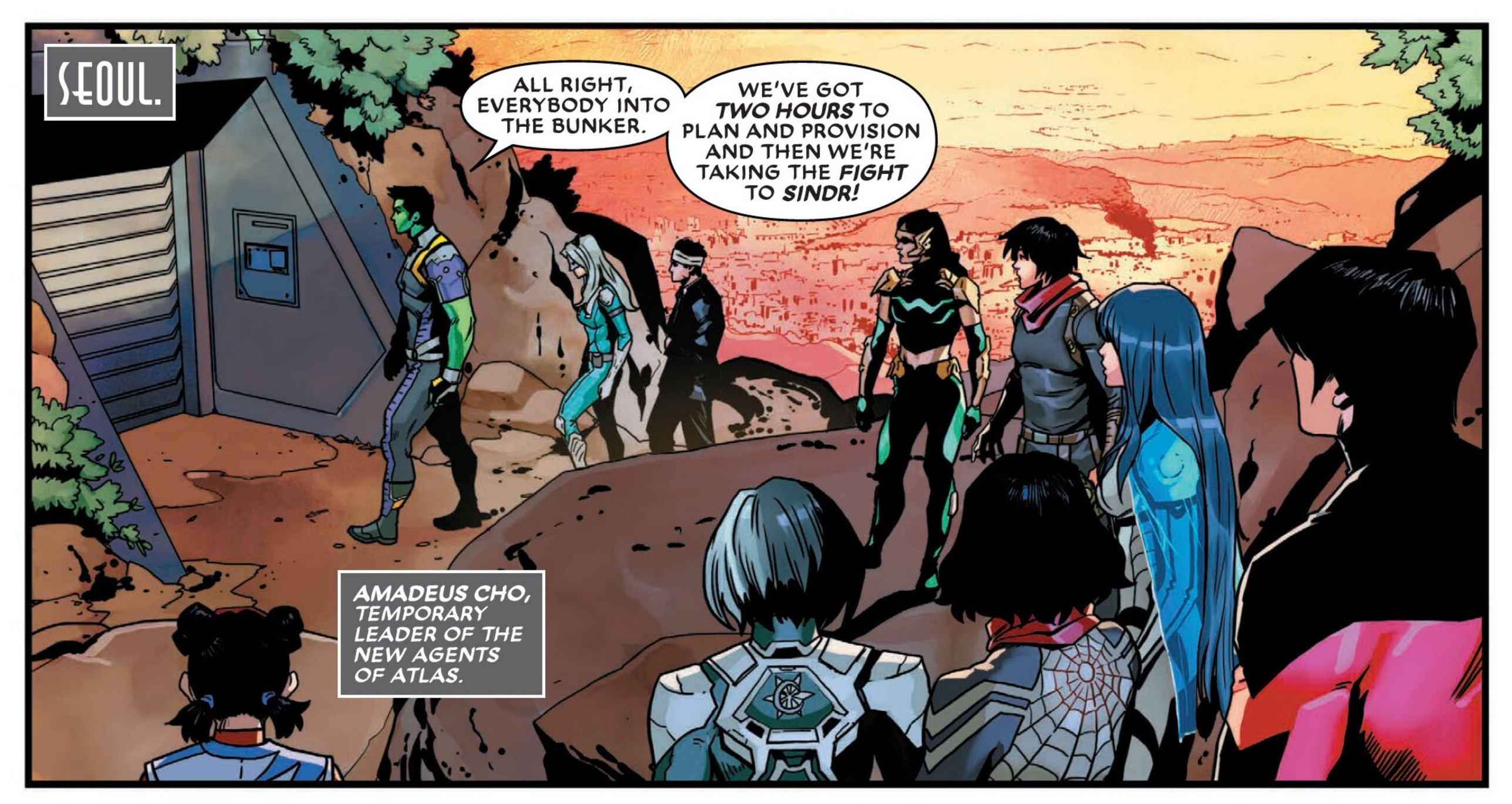
NOW, WE CAN WATCH ALL OUR PEOPLE BURN AND DROWN...

...OR WE CAN JOIN TOGETHER.

LIKE I'VE BEEN SAYING...

WAR OF THE REALMS: NEW AGENTS OF ATLAS #3

Fire and Ice Chapter 3


SEOUL.
ALL RIGHT, EVERYBODY INTO THE BUNKER.
WE'VE GOT TWO HOURS TO PLAN AND PROVISION AND THEN WE'RE TAKING THE FIGHT TO SINDR!
AMADEUS CHO, TEMPORARY LEADER OF THE NEW AGENTS OF ATLAS.

HOLD UP! WE DIDN'T ASK TO COME HERE!
WE NEED TO DEFEND OUR OWN COUNTRIES!
SWORD MASTER, A.K.A. LIN LIE.
CALM DOWN, LIN.

YOU HEARD PELE. SINDR'S GOING TO MELT THE ICE CAPS.
AERO, A.K.A. LEI LING.
SHE'S ALREADY BEGUN. SHE JUST NEEDS TO REACH THE POLE TO FINISH THE JOB.
PELE, HAWAIIAN GODDESS OF FIRE AND VOLCANOES.

THIS IS ALL STARTING TO MAKE SENSE.
THE OCEAN'S BEEN STRANGE...
WAVE, A.K.A. PEARL PANGAN.
THAT'S RIGHT. NOW WE'VE GOT TO WORK TOGETHER LIKE PELE SAID AND--

ENOUGH OF THIS MUMBO JUMBO--
SAYS THE GUY WITH THE MAGIC SWORD.
YOU SEND US BACK. NOW.

TOK
HEY--
SHANG-CHI, MASTER OF KUNG FU.

THOK
GAH!

UNGH!
CLANG

NICE WEAPON.
YOU SHOULD LEARN HOW TO *HOLD* IT.
W-WHAT--

VOOOP VOOOP VOOOP
ALL RIGHT. ENOUGH FOOLING AROUND...

"...WE'VE GOT WORK TO DO."
CHO HERE. WE'VE GOT MAYBE THREE MINUTES BEFORE THE ENEMY DISCOVERS AND SHUTS DOWN THIS COMM LINK. LET'S HEAR IT.
SINDR'S LEFT A GARRISON IN TOKYO, AND ANY WEAPON DEPENDENT ON FIRE IS STILL INOPERABLE...
...BUT HER TROOPS ARE MUSTERING. THEY'RE GETTING READY TO MOVE OUT.
SAME STORY HERE.
WE'VE BEEN OPERATING UNDER A CEASE-FIRE FOR THE PAST FEW HOURS, BUT WE'LL BE IN GOOD POSITION FOR A COUNTEROFFENSIVE PRETTY SOON.
SHE'S STOPPED HER ADVANCE ON BEIJING, BUT WE'RE GETTING REPORTS OF TEMPERATURE ANOMALIES IN INNER MONGOLIA.
SHE'S LOOKING NORTH.
THE ASCENDANTS ARE GOING TO DEFEND THE CAPITAL...
CODEC. FUTURE AVENGERS. TOKYO.
RED FEATHER. TRIUMPH DIVISION. MANILA.
MONKEY KING. ASCENDANTS. BEIJING.

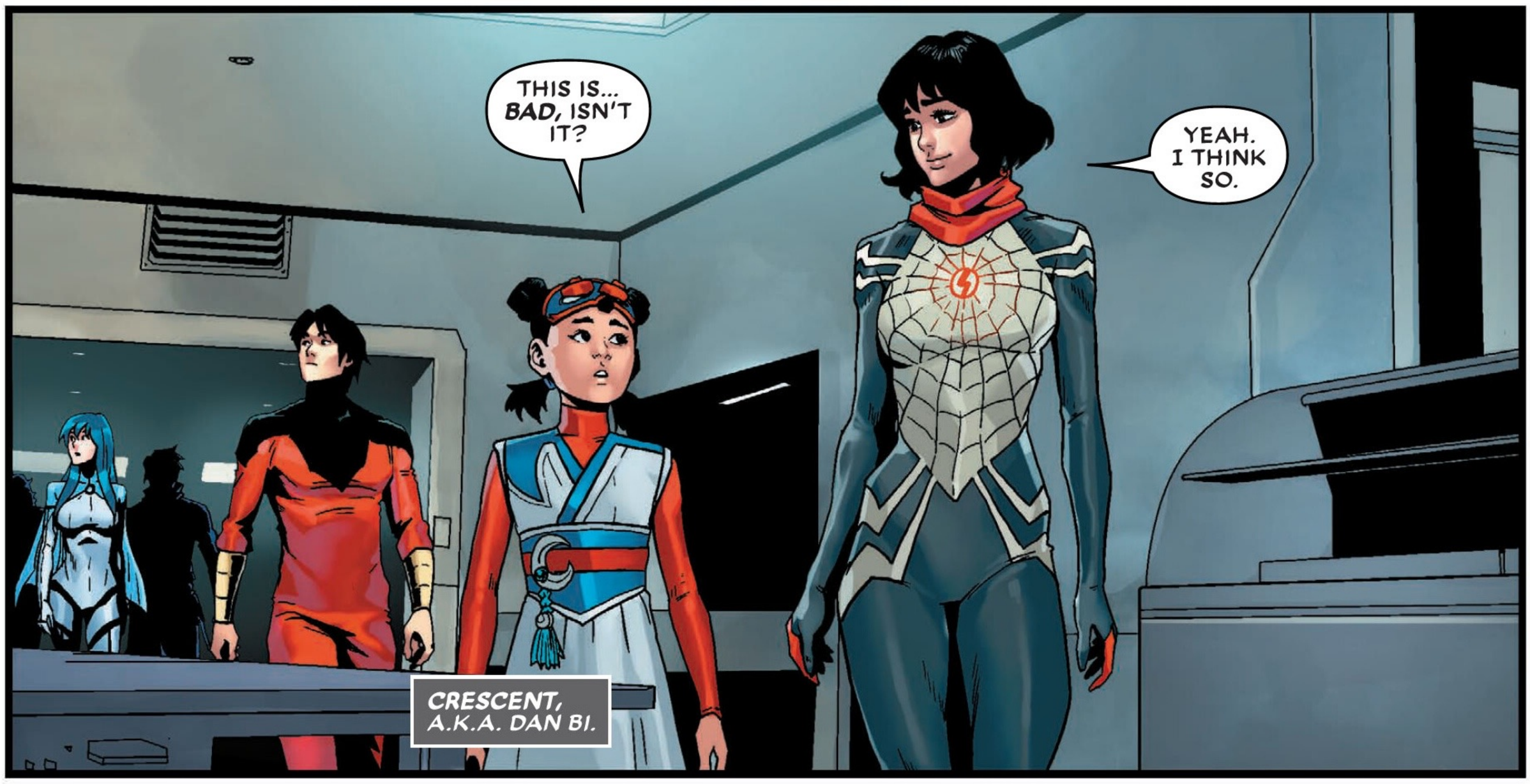
...BUT I'M GOING TO INTERCEPT.
NO, NO, WAIT FOR US.

WHAT ARE YOU GUYS GONNA DO?
THIS IS GOD-LEVEL BUSINESS, FOOL.

WE'VE GOT A GODDESS.
WHO?

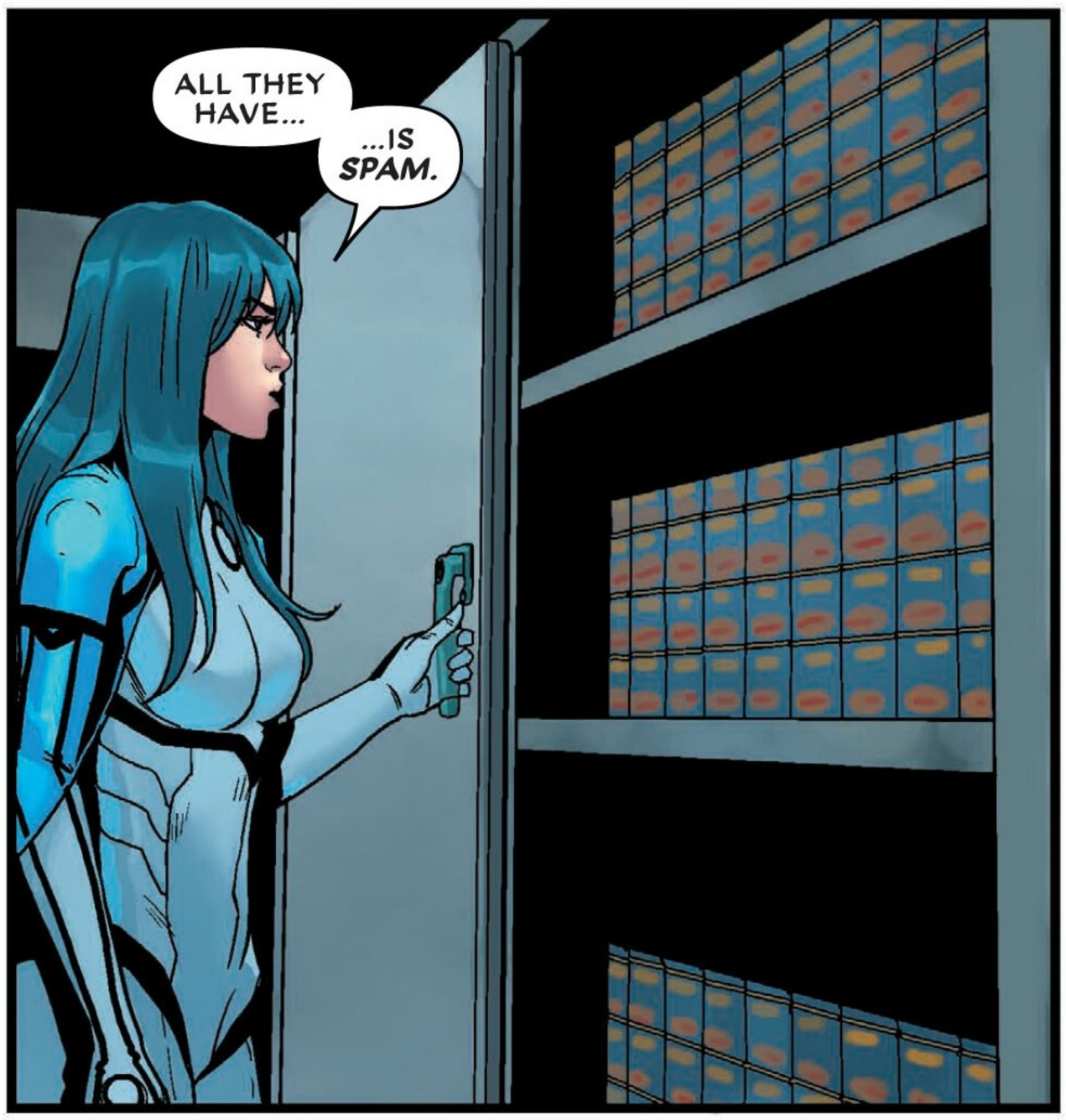
PELE? DOESN'T SEEM QUITE HERSELF. AT BEST, SHE'S INJURED...
WATCH YOURSELF, MONKEY KING...
...AND YOUR HUMAN ICE MAKER'S WEAK.
UFF.
YOU JUST REST NOW.
SILK, A.K.A. CINDY MOON.
LUNA SNOW, A.K.A. SEOL HEE.

AND YOU'RE NOT EVEN A FULL HULK ANYMORE.
LOOK, I'VE GOT A PLAN.
JUST CALM DOWN AND LISTEN...


THIS IS... BAD, ISN'T IT?
YEAH. I THINK SO.
CRESCENT, A.K.A. DAN BI.

SO... WE JUST SIT AROUND AND WAIT?

NO.
WE EAT.


ALL THEY HAVE...
...IS SPAM.

SPAM?

LATER.
WE'VE GOT THREE CORKS FOR A HUNDRED LEAKS, BUT I THINK IT'S OUR BEST SHOT.
JIMMY WOO, HEAD OF ATLAS.
THE BIG QUESTION IS IF WE CAN GET EVERYONE TO STOP FIGHTING AND--
HEYYYY, THAT SMELLS LIKE...
WHITE FOX, A.K.A. AMI HAN.

ALL RIGHT!
SPAM FRIED RICE.
SPAM MUSUBI.
SPAMSILOG.
AT LEAST WE CAN AGREE ON SOMETHING.
MMF.
HA.

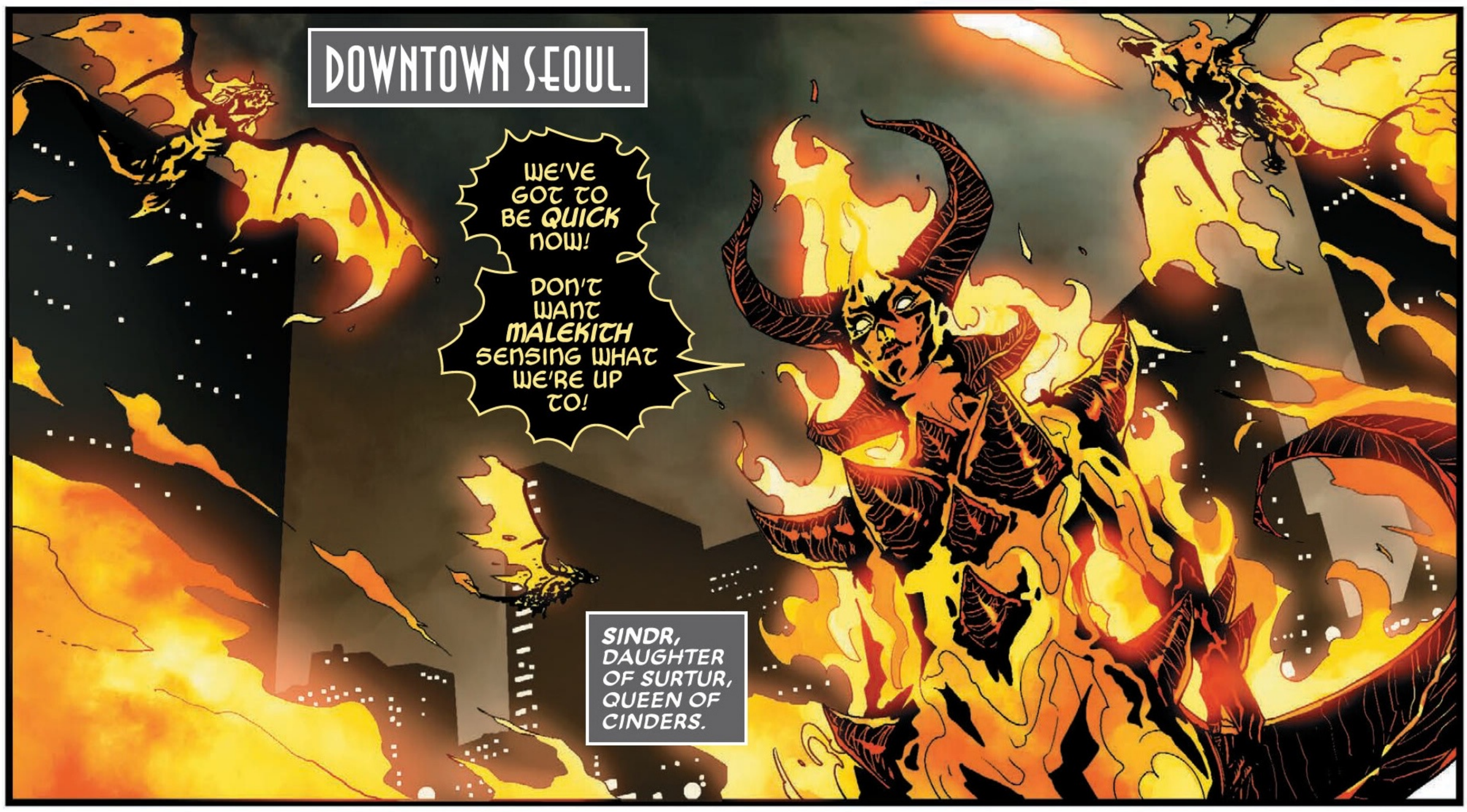
LATER.

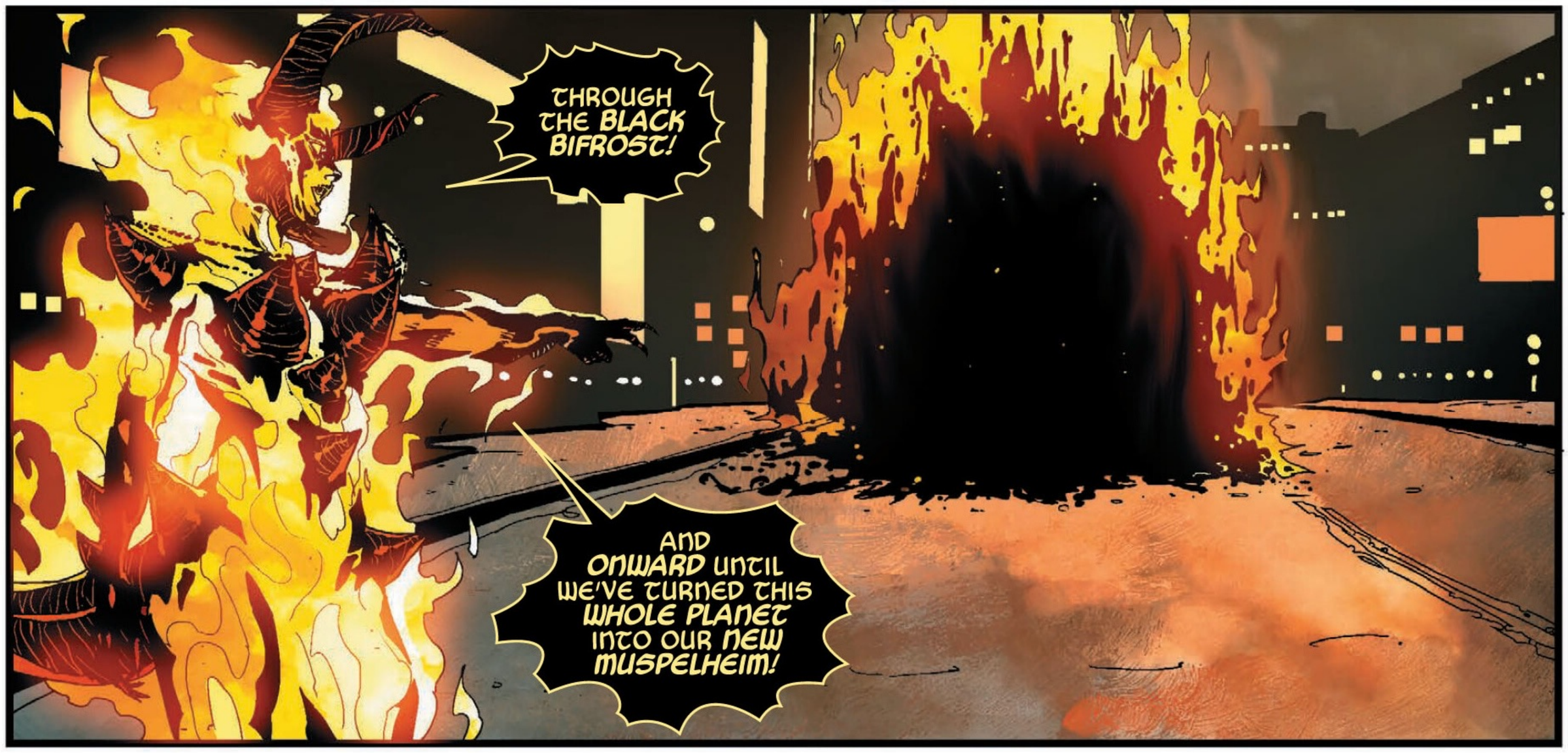
YOU FEELING BETTER?
OH, YEAH. I COULD FREEZE THE WORLD!
HA!

HOW 'BOUT YOU?
EH.
DRINK A GLASS OF WATER.

WHATEVER YOU SAY, UNCLE SHANG.
ALL RIGHT...
...SO WE WORK PRETTY WELL TOGETHER *STUFFING* OUR *FACES.*

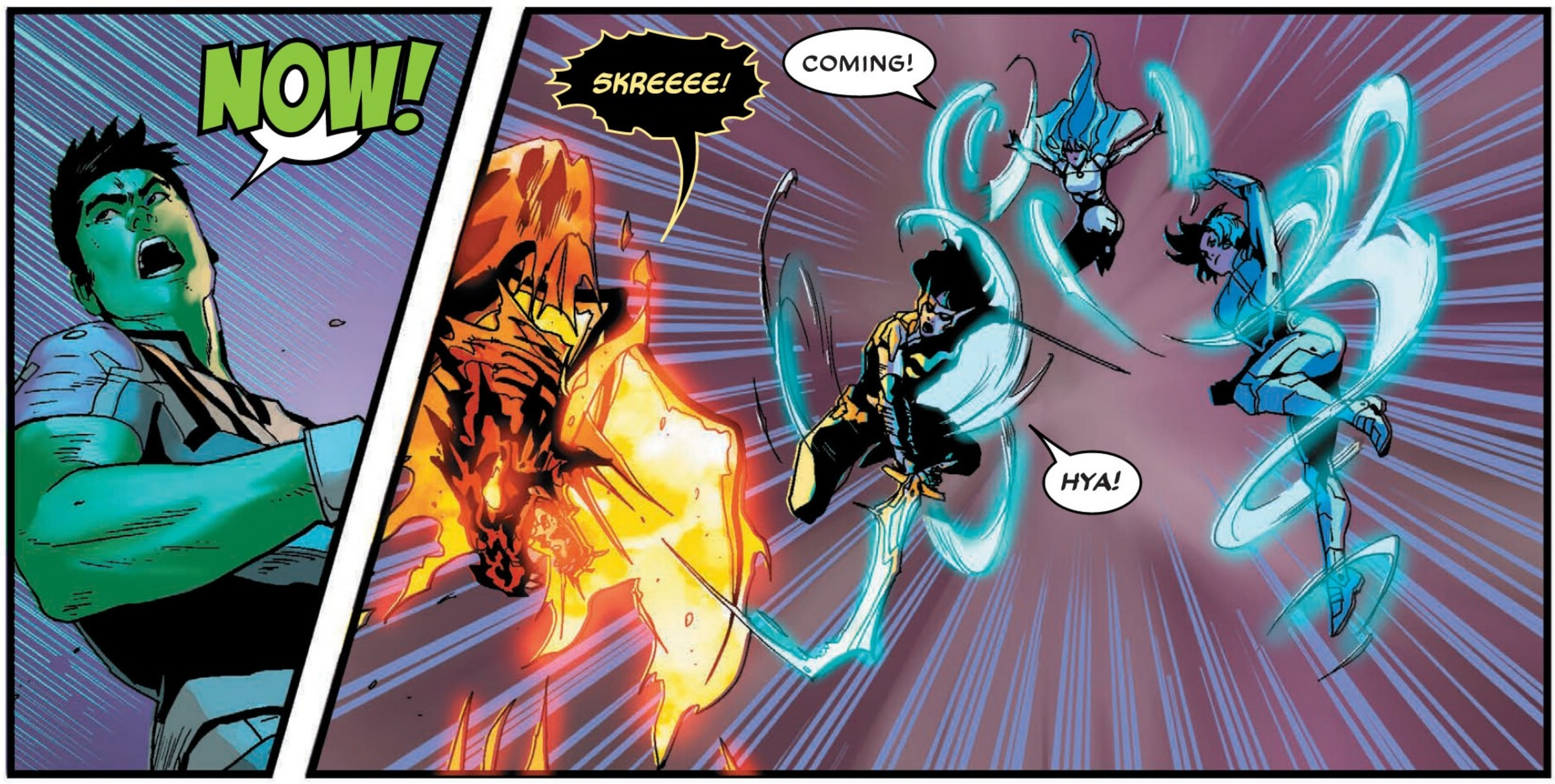
...WHO'S READY TO *SAVE* THE *WORLD?*

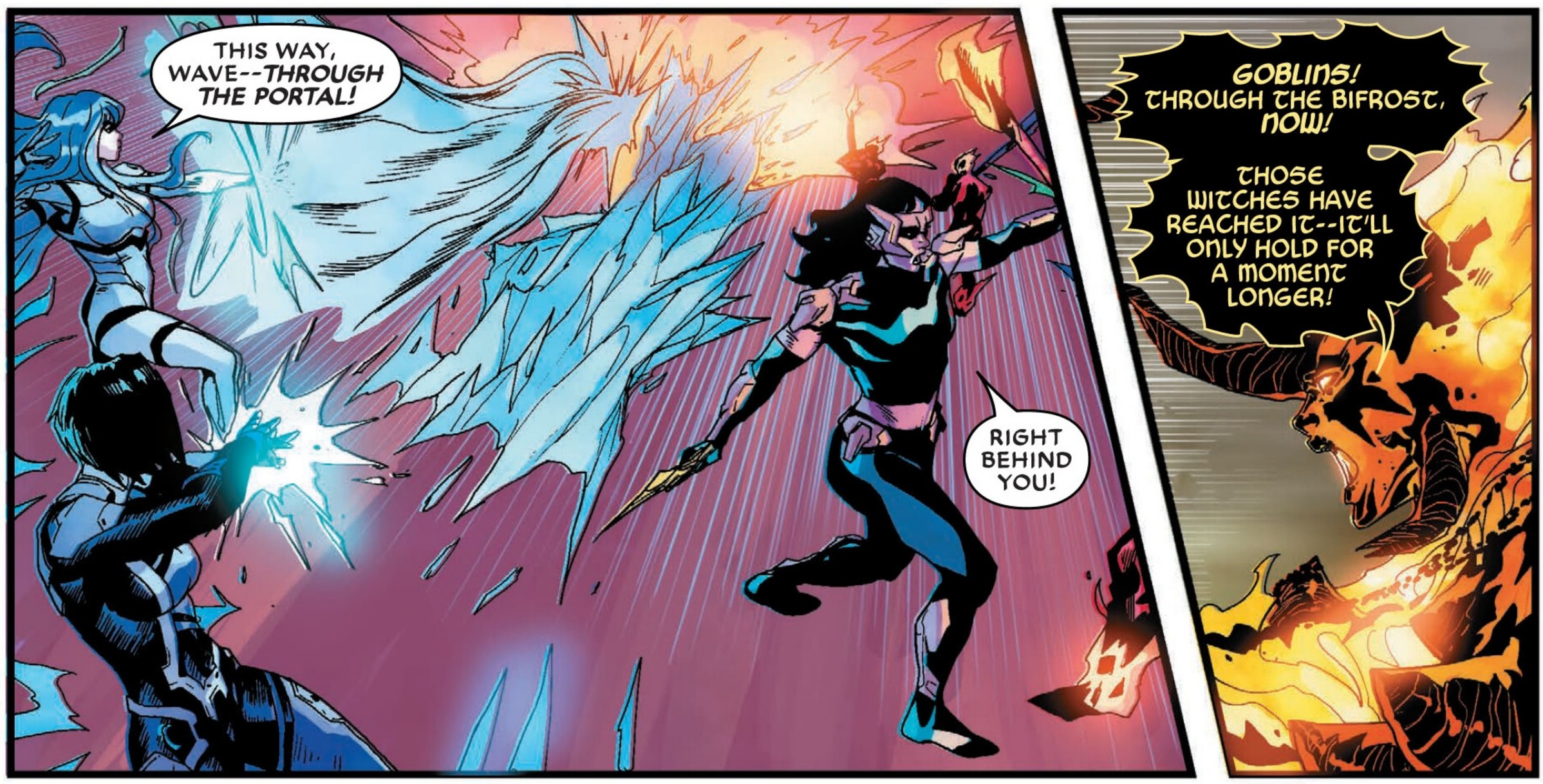

DOWNTOWN SEOUL.
WE'VE GOT TO BE QUICK NOW!
DON'T WANT MALEKITH SENSING WHAT WE'RE UP TO!
SINDR, DAUGHTER OF SURTUR, QUEEN OF CINDERS.


THROUGH THE BLACK BIFROST!
AND ONWARD UNTIL WE'VE TURNED THIS WHOLE PLANET INTO OUR NEW MUSPELHEIM!

BAAAAAAAA!
ALL HAIL QUEEN--
PARDON ME, FELLAS...
WHA--

SHAKOOOOM
NO ONE'S GOING THROUGH THAT PORTAL!
GAAAH!
STUPID ORC.
YOU THINK YOU CAN STOP MY ARMY?
FIRST OFF, "ORC"?
I'M REALLY MORE OF A HILL GIANT, PHYSIOLOGICALLY.
SECOND OFF--
--YES!

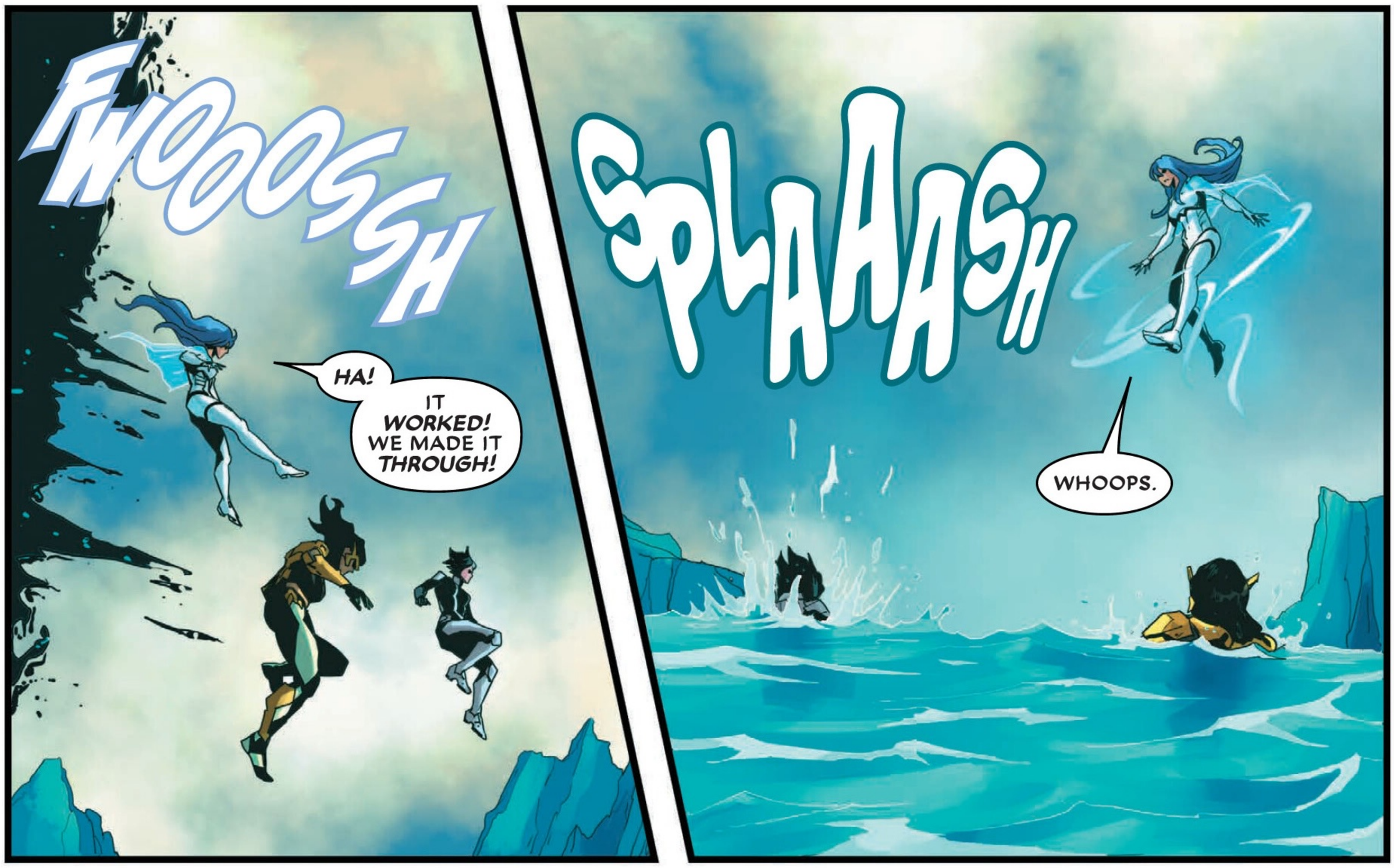

NOW!
SKREEEE!
COMING!
HYA!


THIS WAY, WAVE--THROUGH THE PORTAL!
RIGHT BEHIND YOU!
GOBLINS! THROUGH THE BIFROST, NOW!
THOSE WITCHES HAVE REACHED IT--IT'LL ONLY HOLD FOR A MOMENT LONGER!

THUNDERCLAP
GAAAAH!
SORRY, FELLAS.
IT'S NOT YOUR DAY.

YOU'LL DIE IF YOU RESIST US, MORTAL.
YOU KNOW...
...I ACTUALLY MIGHT...

...BUT NONE OF YOU ARE GETTING PAST ME BEFORE I GO!

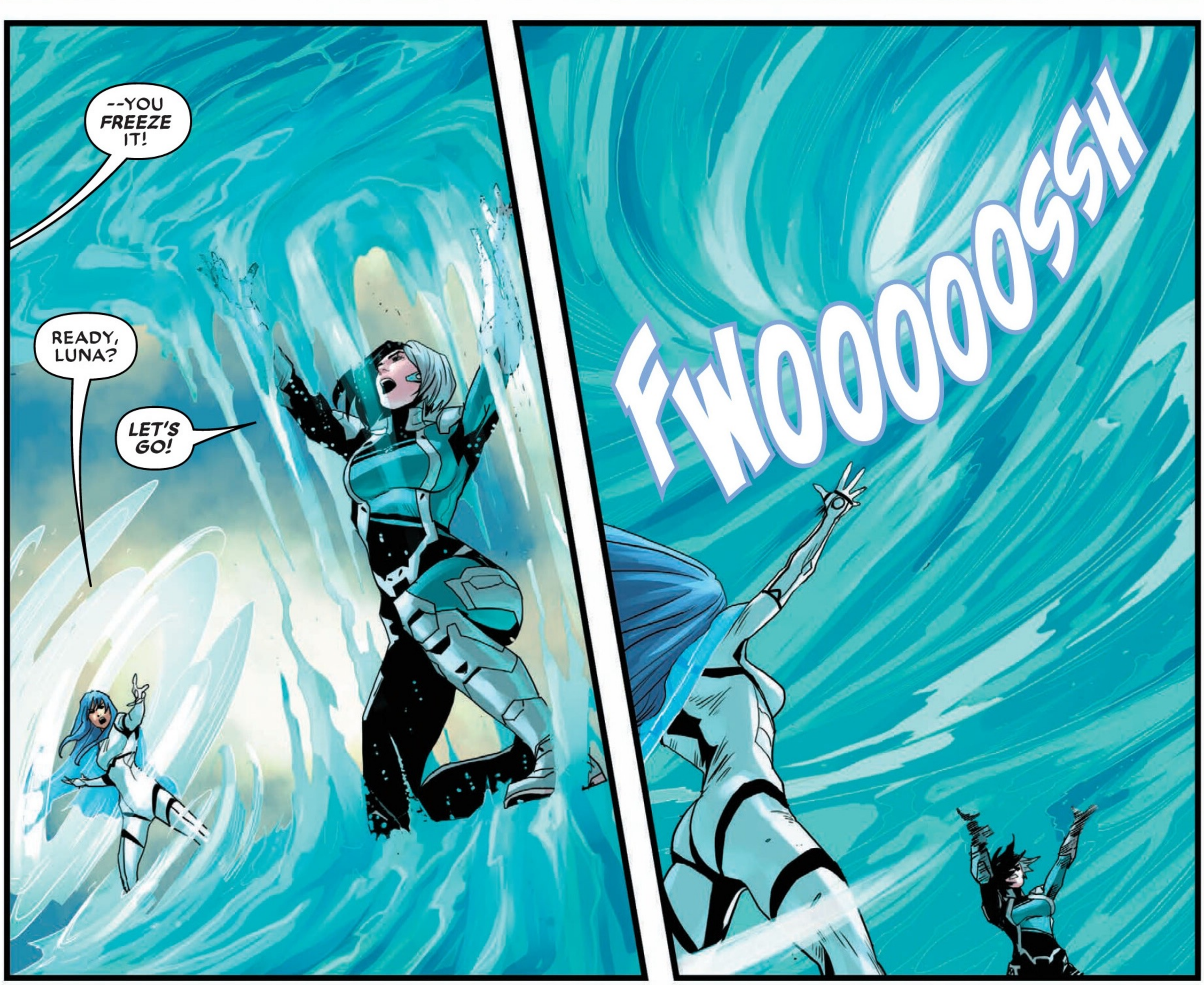

FWOOSH
HA!
IT WORKED! WE MADE IT THROUGH!
SPLAAASH
WHOOPS.

WAIT, WATER?
IN THE ARCTIC?
IT'S...IT'S TWENTY DEGREES WARMER THAN IT SHOULD BE.
JUST LIKE PELE SAID-- SINDR'S ALREADY STARTED!
OH, LOLO...
WHAT?
MY GRANDPA-- IN CEBU--HE LIVES BY THE BEACH--

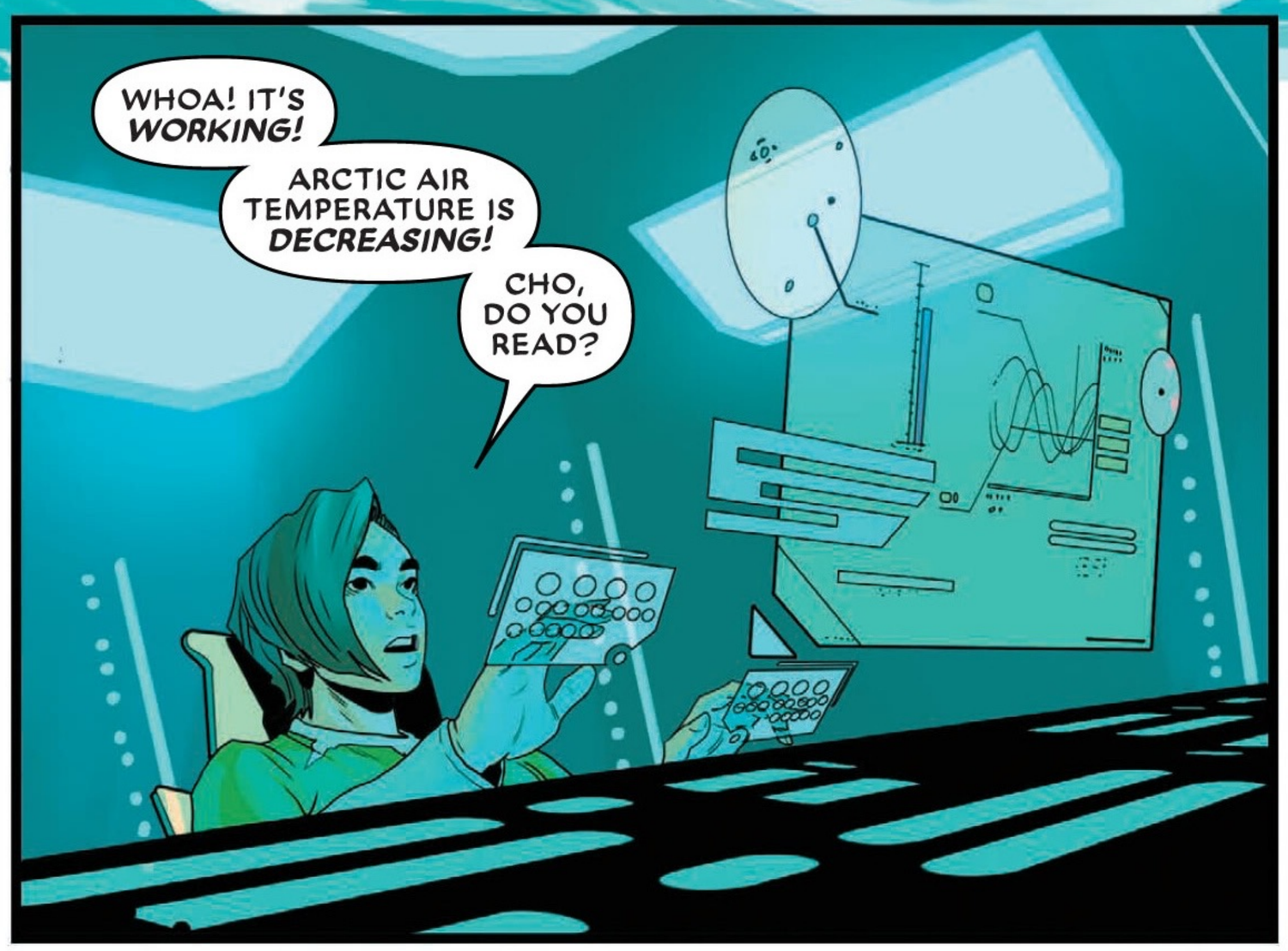
--IF IT'S THIS WARM HERE, THE FLOODING THERE--
I KNOW.
SINDR WILL DROWN ALL OUR CITIES...

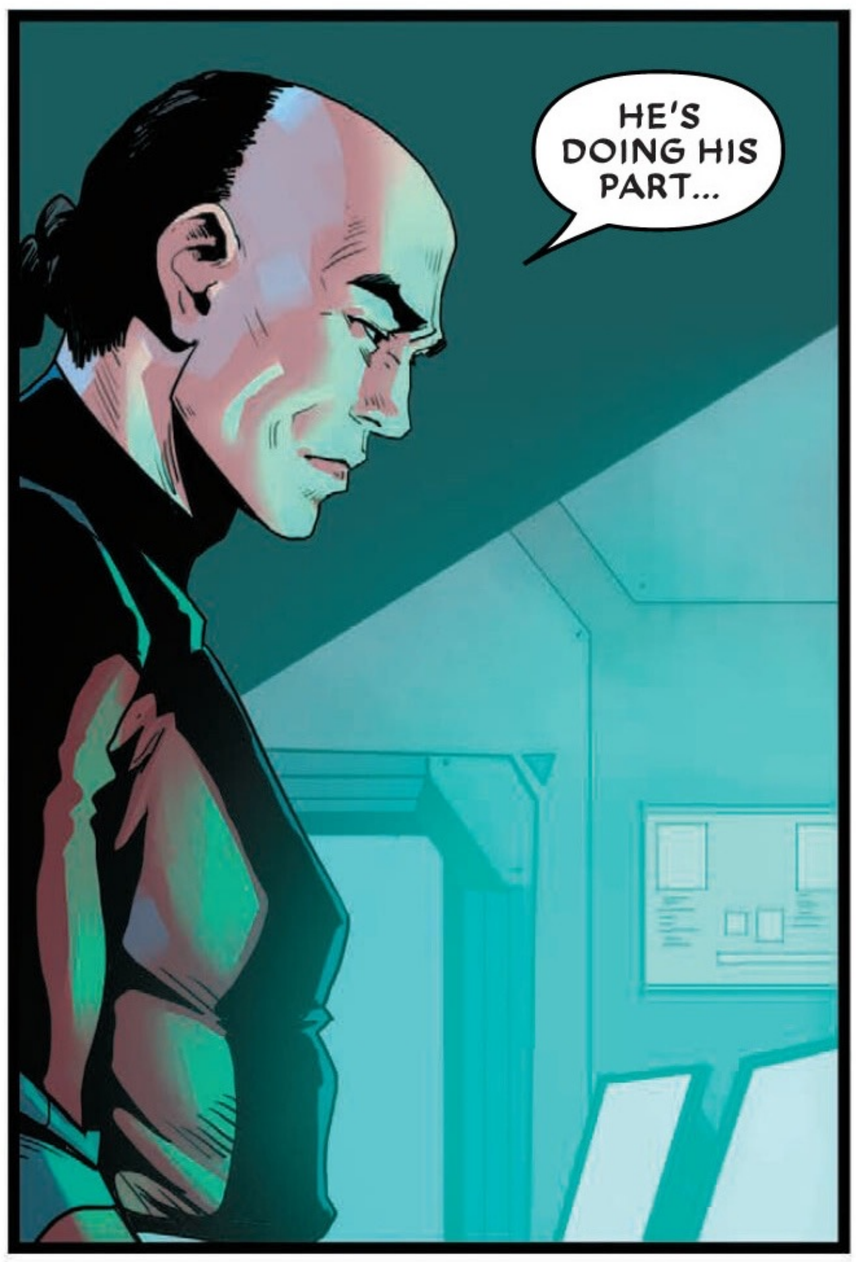
"...UNLESS WE DO OUR JOB."
ALL RIGHT, THIS IS GONNA TAKE EVERYTHING WE HAVE!
NO HOLDING BACK!

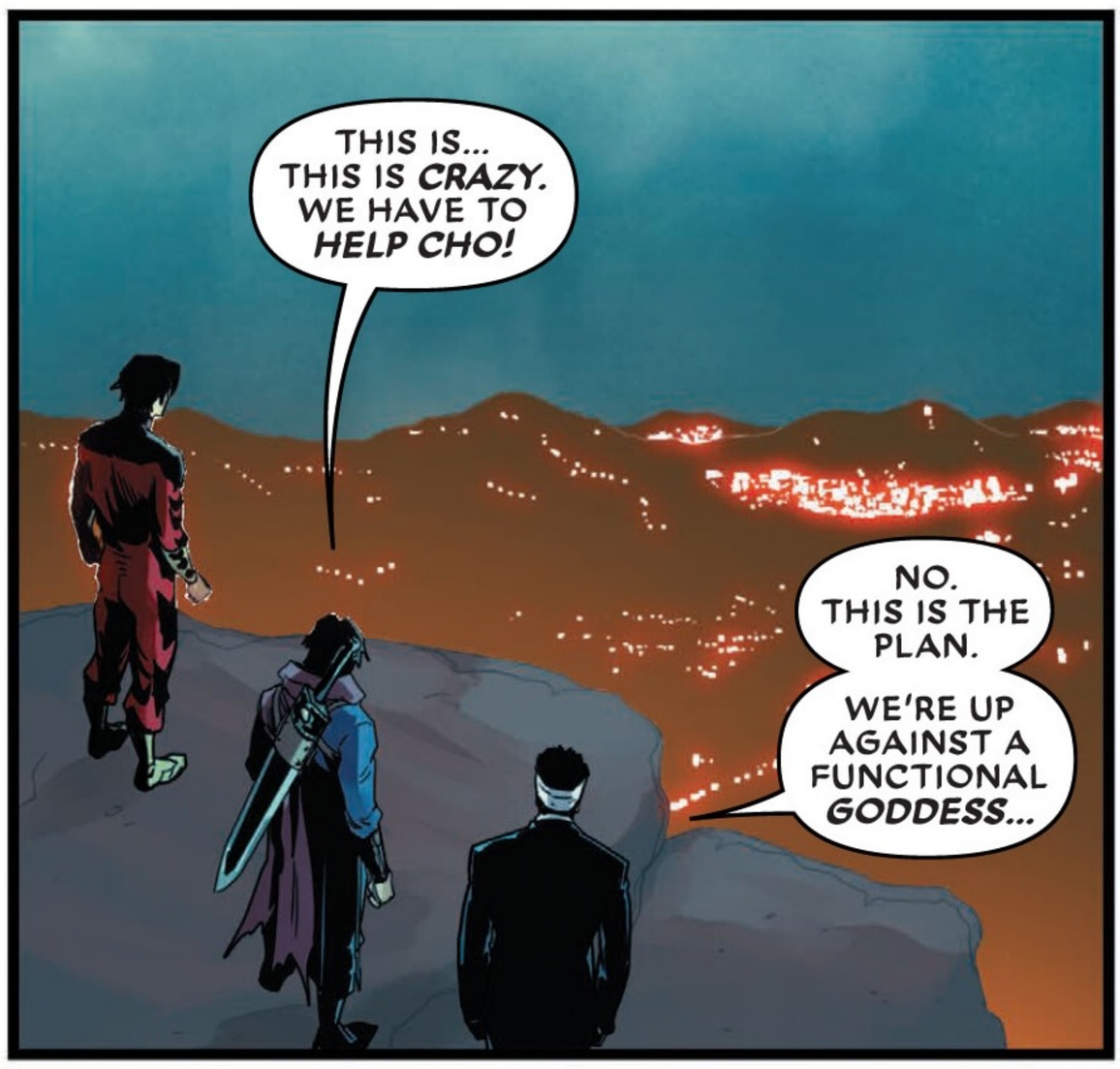
I'LL MIX IT UP--

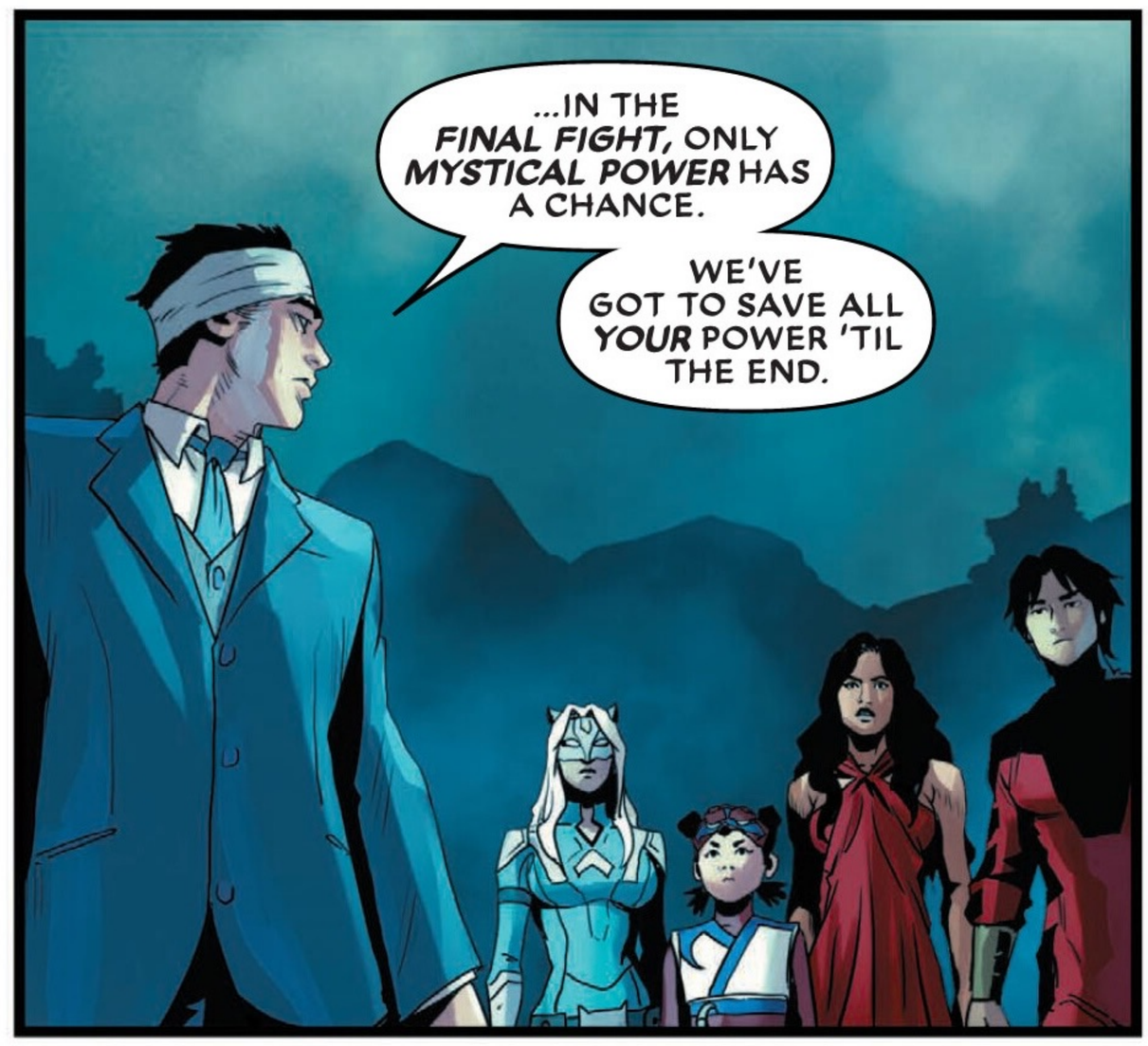

--YOU FREEZE IT!
READY, LUNA?
LET'S GO!
FWOOOOOSSH

WWWHOOOOOOOSH






THIS IS... THIS IS CRAZY. WE HAVE TO HELP CHO!
NO. THIS IS THE PLAN.
WE'RE UP AGAINST A FUNCTIONAL GODDESS...


...IN THE FINAL FIGHT, ONLY MYSTICAL POWER HAS A CHANCE.
WE'VE GOT TO SAVE ALL YOUR POWER 'TIL THE END.

SHUUKK
AAAAGH!
FWWWOOOOOM
GRAAAA!
THE BRIDGE IS GONE!

COME ON, THEN!
WE'RE TAKING THE DRAGONS!

GOT THAT, JIMMY? SHE'S HEADING NORTH.
GOT IT.

NORTHERN CHINA.

--OOOOOP

WAIT-- WHAT--!

I THOUGHT WE WERE SUPPOSED TO WORK *TOGETHER!*

AND WE JUST LEFT CHO THERE TO *DIE?*

HE'S A *HULK.* HE WON'T DIE EASILY.

AND WORKING TOGETHER MEANS WE EACH DO OUR PART--

WHICH IN THIS CASE, PROBABLY MEANS DYING HERE IN THE STEPPES.

WHO THE HELL ARE YOU?

DON'T YOU RECOGNIZE ME, BROTHER?

I'M *SUN WUKONG,* THE HANDSOME *MONKEY KING!*

NOW LET'S SEE WHO I'M GOING TO DIE WITH.

PELE, IF THAT'S *REALLY* YOU...IT'S MY HONOR.

HMP.

WEREN'T YOU JUST *SNEERING* AT ME A FEW HOURS AGO?

AT LEAST YOU'RE A *REAL* GODDESS...

...UNLIKE THIS LITTLE GOBLIN.

I'M *WHITE FOX...*

...LAST OF THE *KUMIHO.*

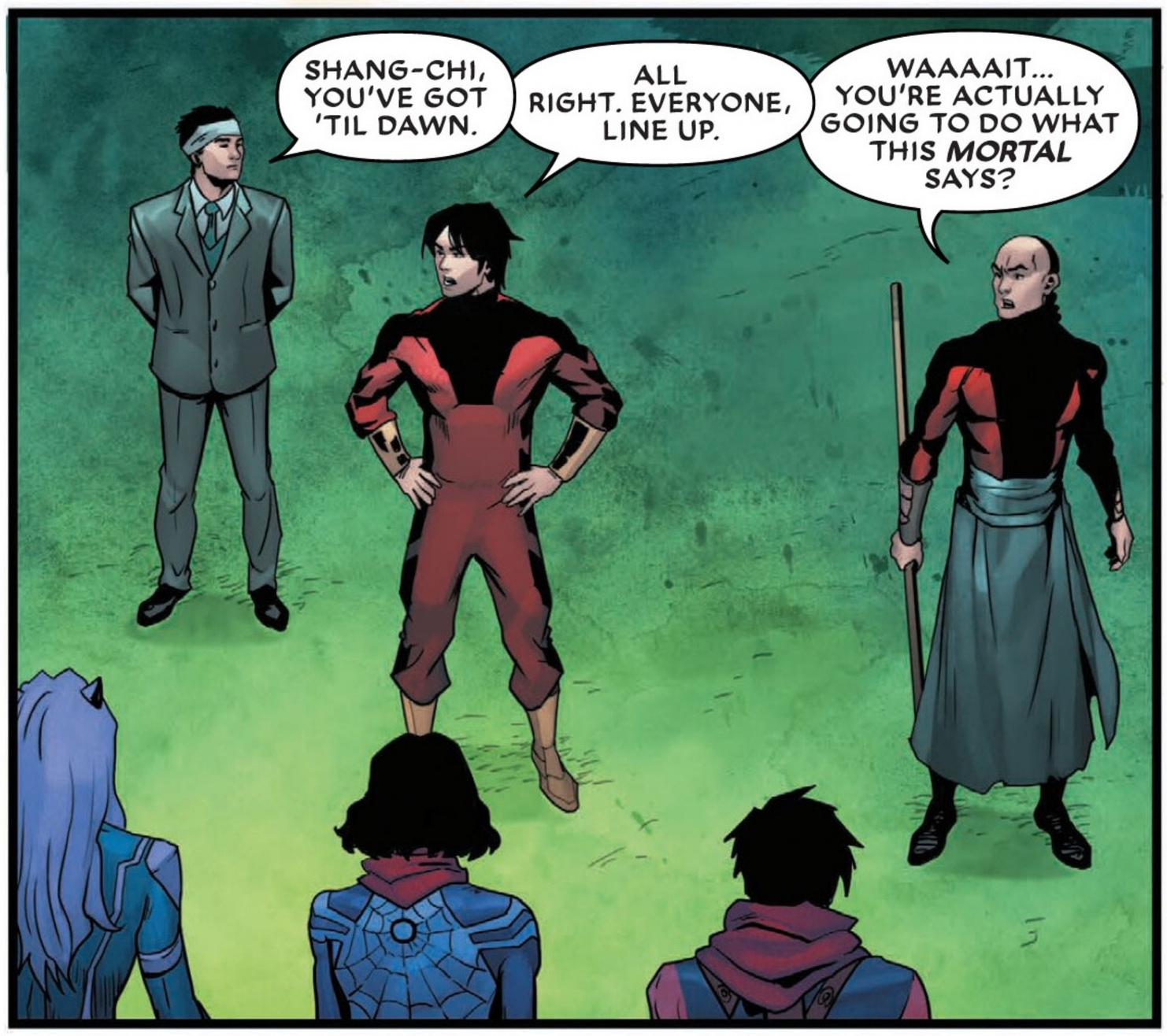
AND I'M ONLY *LITTLE* WHEN IT SERVES ME.

HAHA! BEAUTIFUL!

I'M CRESCENT...
...AND I AM IO.

THE BEAR *TALKS?*
YES, JUST LIKE THE FOX.
HA HA!

AND WHAT KIND OF GODS ARE *YOU* TWO?
WE'RE NOT GODS AT ALL.
BUT ALL YOUR *MAGIC* WON'T BE *ENOUGH*...
...WITHOUT *TRAINING.*


SHANG-CHI, YOU'VE GOT 'TIL DAWN.
ALL RIGHT. EVERYONE, LINE UP.
WAAAAIT... YOU'RE ACTUALLY GOING TO DO WHAT THIS *MORTAL* SAYS?

UH-OH.
"UH-OH" WHAT?

GRAB
WHA--

--AAA--

THOK

WHOA.
"UH-OH" THAT.

WELL.
FINE...

"...THE GREAT SUN WUKONG IS ALWAYS UP FOR LEARNING SOMETHING NEW!"

ALL RIGHT, AMADEUS. WE'RE IN POSITION.
HOW ARE YOU?

I'M... FINE.
YOU DON'T SOUND SO GOOD.
DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME...
"...EVERYONE'S IN PLACE.
"DOING WHAT THEY'RE SUPPOSED TO DO.
HYA!
HYA!
"YOU JUST STICK TO THE PLAN AND HOLD THE LINE..."

...AND I'LL SEE YOU SOON.

THOR #11 VARIANT BY
Giuseppe Camuncoli & Jason Keith

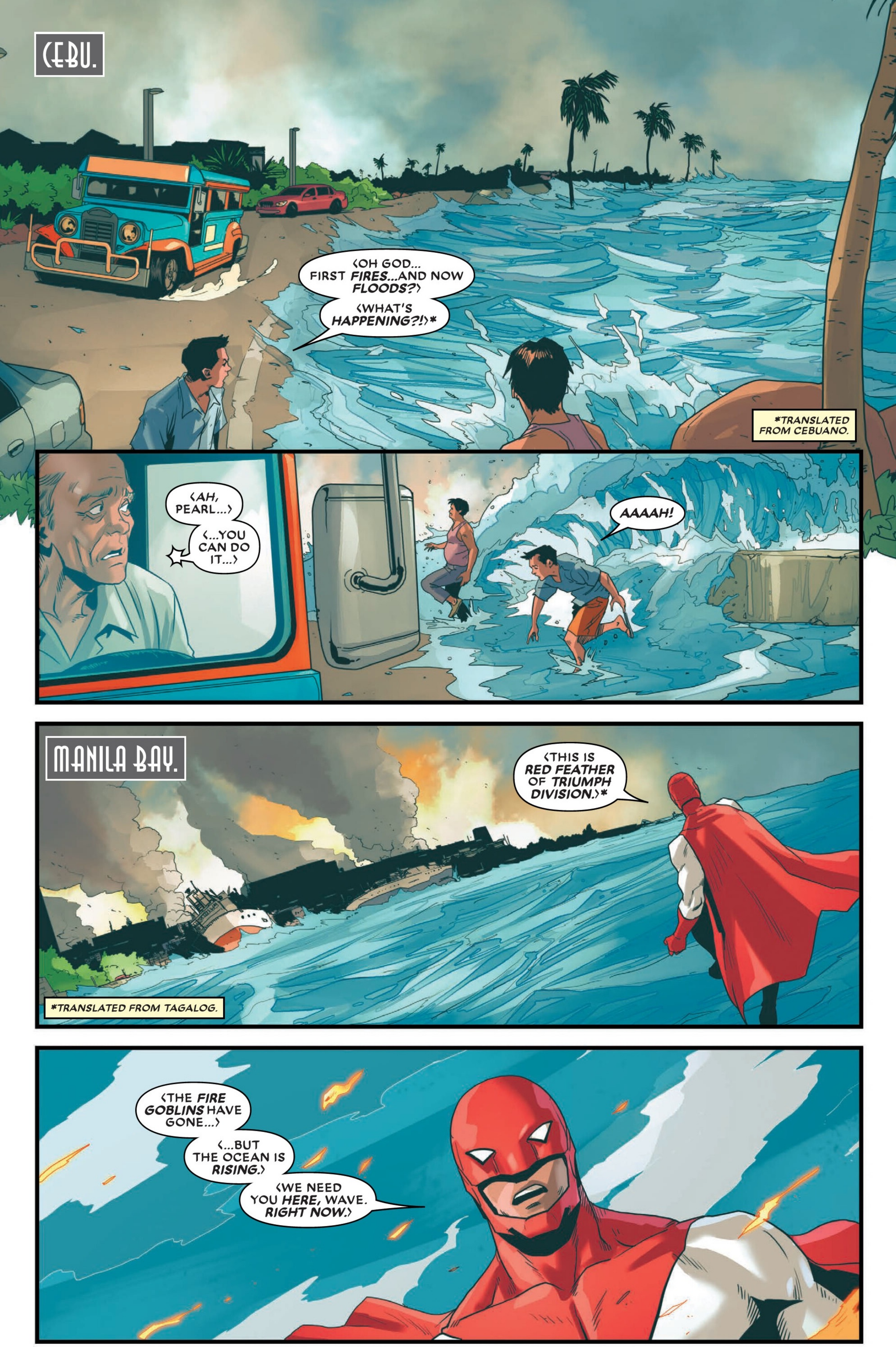
THOR #12 VARIANT BY
Olivier Coipel & Matthew Wilson

THOR #16 80TH FRAME VARIANT BY
Mike McKone & Edgar Delgado

THOR #16 BRING ON THE BAD GUYS VARIANT BY
Will Sliney & Morry Hollowell

WAR OF THE REALMS: NEW AGENTS OF ATLAS #4

Fire and Ice Chapter 4

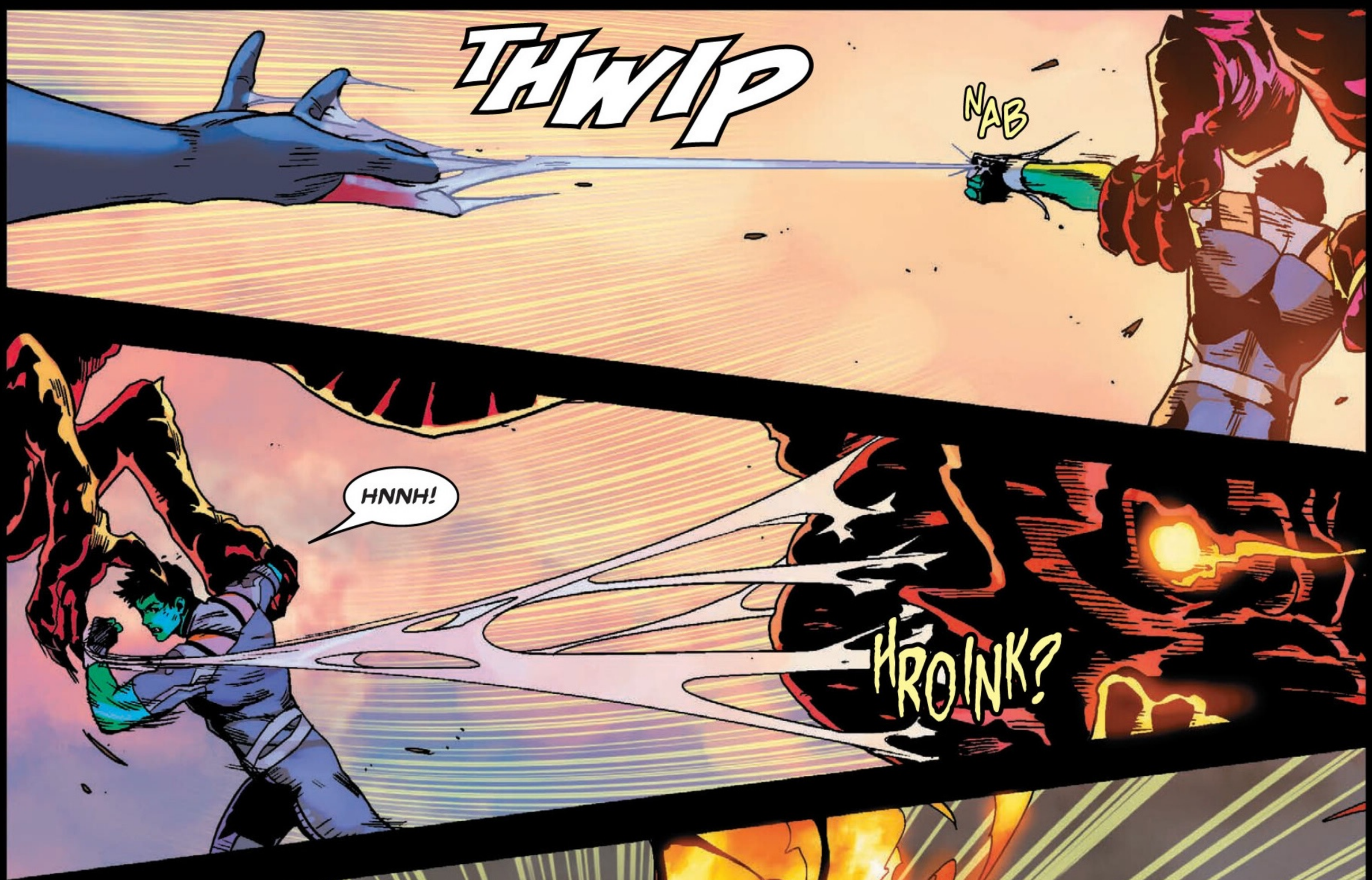

CEBU.
‹OH GOD... FIRST FIRES...AND NOW FLOODS?›
‹WHAT'S HAPPENING?!›*
*TRANSLATED FROM CEBUANO.
‹AH, PEARL...›
‹...YOU CAN DO IT...›
AAAAH!
MANILA BAY.
‹THIS IS RED FEATHER OF TRIUMPH DIVISION.›*
*TRANSLATED FROM TAGALOG.
‹THE FIRE GOBLINS HAVE GONE...›
‹...BUT THE OCEAN IS RISING.›
‹WE NEED YOU HERE, WAVE. RIGHT NOW.›

NORTH POLE.
<I'M FIGHTING THE SAME FIGHT OVER *HERE*, RED FEATHER!>
<THE GOBLINS ARE MELTING THE *ICE CAPS!* THAT'S WHY-->
WAVE, A.K.A. PEARL PANGAN.
SKREEEE!
GAH!
WATCH OUT, WAVE!
LUNA SNOW, A.K.A. SEOL HEE.
WE'D NEARLY *REVERSED* THE MELTING! WHERE'D *THIS* THING COME FROM? WHAT'S GOING *ON?*
THE *AIR'S* GETTING WARMER.
I THINK THESE MONSTERS ARE GETTING *STRONGER...*
AERO, A.K.A. LEI LING.

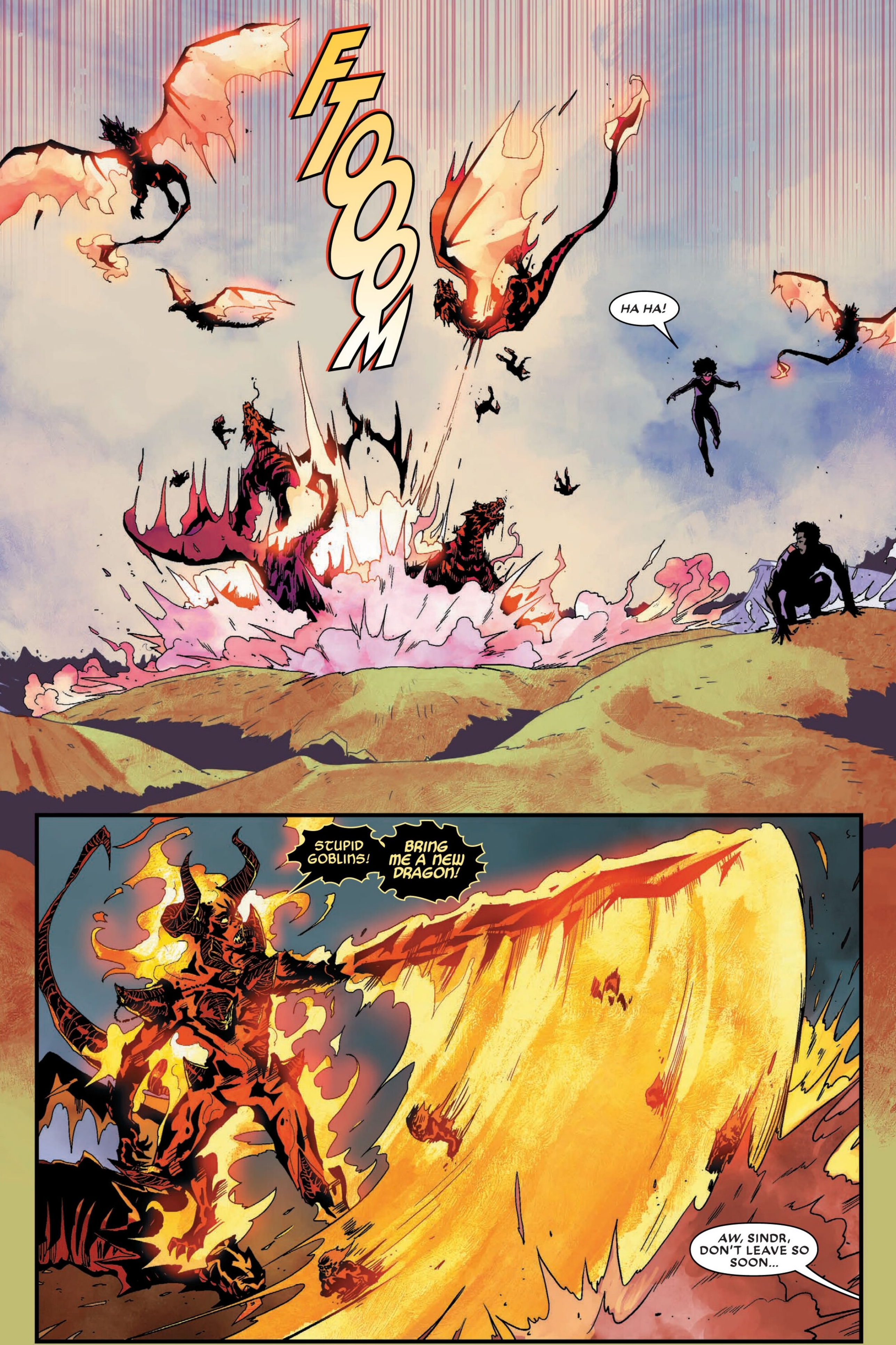
"...AS SINDR DRAWS NEARER."
NORTHERN CHINA.
HA HA HA HA HA!
BURN, MY NEW WORLD--
--UNTIL YOU'RE FIT FOR THE QUEEN OF CINDERS!
SINDR, DAUGHTER OF SURTUR. SELF-PROCLAIMED QUEEN OF "NEW MUSPELHEIM."
FWOOOSSH

SILK! THIS IS JIMMY WOO! WE CAN SEE YOU INCOMING--
NOW OR NEVER...
SILK, A.K.A. CINDY MOON.

AMADEUS!
R-READY WHEN YOU ARE!
BRAWN, A.K.A. AMADEUS CHO.


THWIP
NAB
HNNH!
HROINK?

GRRAAARK!
WATCH IT, YOU FOOL!
I'M SORRY, MY QUEEN! I DON'T KNOW WHAT--

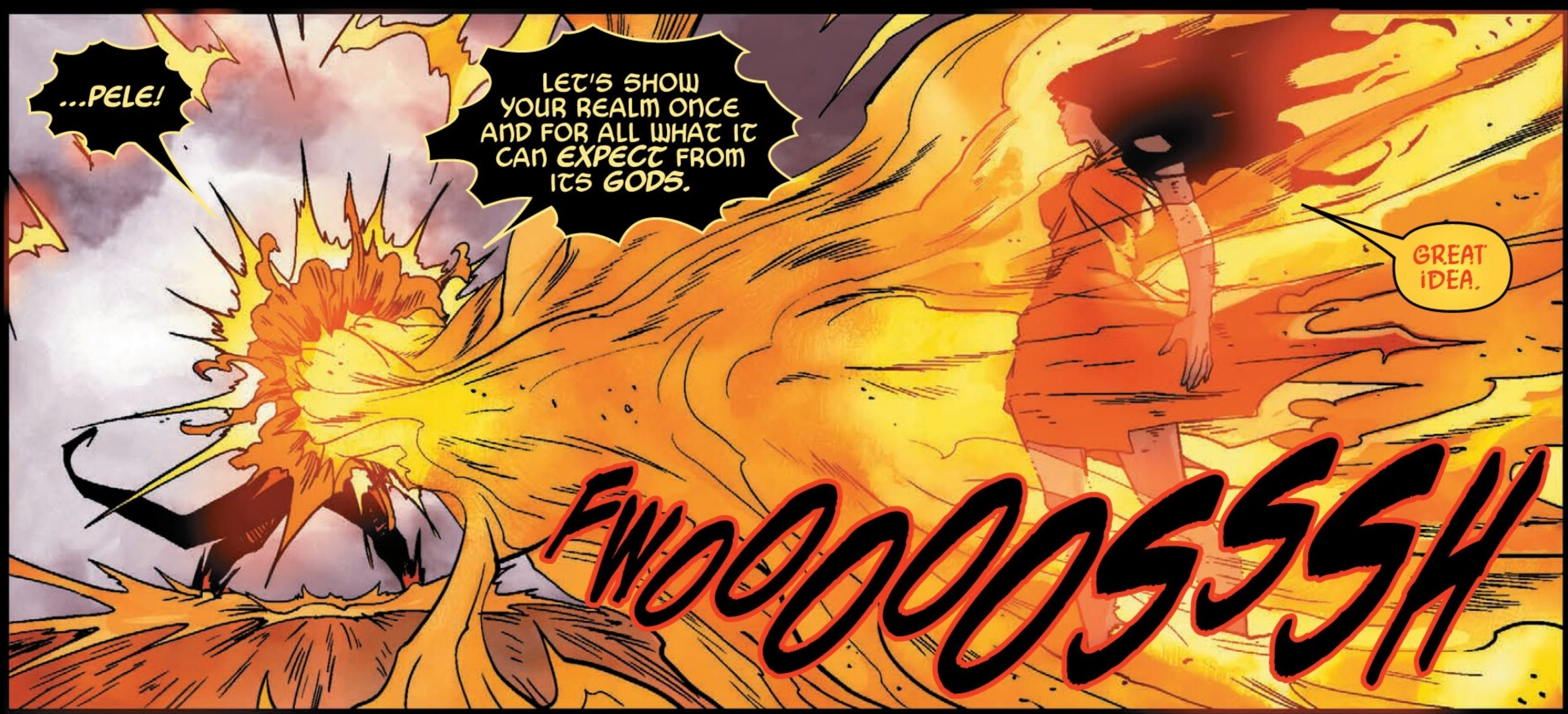

FTOOOM
HA HA!
STUPID GOBLINS!
BRING ME A NEW DRAGON!
AW, SINDR, DON'T LEAVE SO SOON...

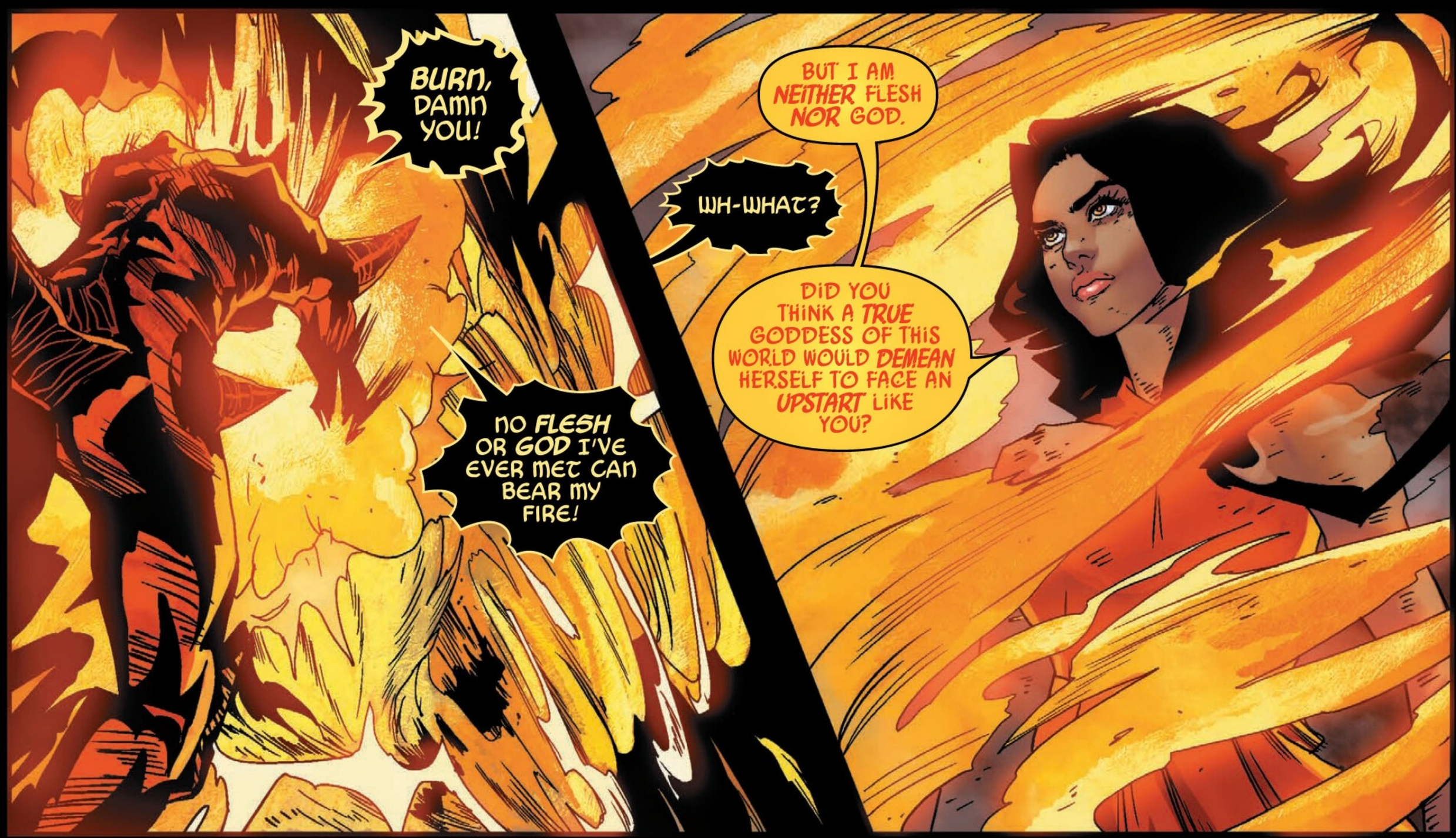
SKRAKOOOOM
GRRRAAAA!
SWORD MASTER, A.K.A. LIN LIE.
...WE HAVEN'T KILLED YOU YET!
MONKEY KING, A.K.A. SUN WUKONG.
WHITE FOX, A.K.A. AMI HAN.
SHANG-CHI, MASTER OF KUNG FU.
CRESCENT, A.K.A. DAN BI.
IO, THE MAGIC BEAR SUMMONED BY CRESCENT'S MASK.

HRRRAAAAA!
I'M THE DAUGHTER OF SURTUR!
FIERY QUEEN OF THE GREATEST OF THE TEN REALMS!
YOUR LITTLE MAGICS CAN'T HURT ME!

FWOOOOSH
WHA--
MAYBE THIS CAN.

AH...
...FINALLY...


...PELE!
LET'S SHOW YOUR REALM ONCE AND FOR ALL WHAT IT CAN EXPECT FROM ITS GODS.
GREAT IDEA.
FWOOOOSSSH


BURN, DAMN YOU!
NO FLESH OR GOD I'VE EVER MET CAN BEAR MY FIRE!
WH-WHAT?
BUT I AM NEITHER FLESH NOR GOD.
DID YOU THINK A TRUE GODDESS OF THIS WORLD WOULD DEMEAN HERSELF TO FACE AN UPSTART LIKE YOU?

THE GREAT TŪTŪ PELE SLEEPS IN HER SACRED VOLCANO.
THE LIKES OF YOU COULD NEVER TROUBLE HER DREAMS.
BUT NOW YOU'VE WASTED ALL YOUR STRENGTH, BECAUSE YOU THOUGHT WERE FACING HER...

...INSTEAD OF AN ATLAS M41 ZU SPECIALLY EQUIPPED WITH REVERSE-ENGINEERED HORTONTECH PYROKINETIC POWERS...
...AND A SPECIALIZED CONDENSER UNIT CAPABLE OF DRAINING AND CONTAINING UP TO 445,000 HERCS OF MYSTIC ENERGY.
WHA--
GOODBYE, SINDR...
...AND GOOD RIDDANCE.
JIMMY WOO, LEADER OF ATLAS.
SHAAKOOOOM

WH-WHAT THE *HELL*, JIMMY?!
THAT WASN'T REALLY *PELE?!*
YOU-- YOU KEPT THIS SECRET *ALL ALONG?!*
I'M A *SECRET AGENT*, KIDS. SECRETS ARE MY *BUSINESS.*

BUT-- BUT--
AMADEUS.
FOCUS.

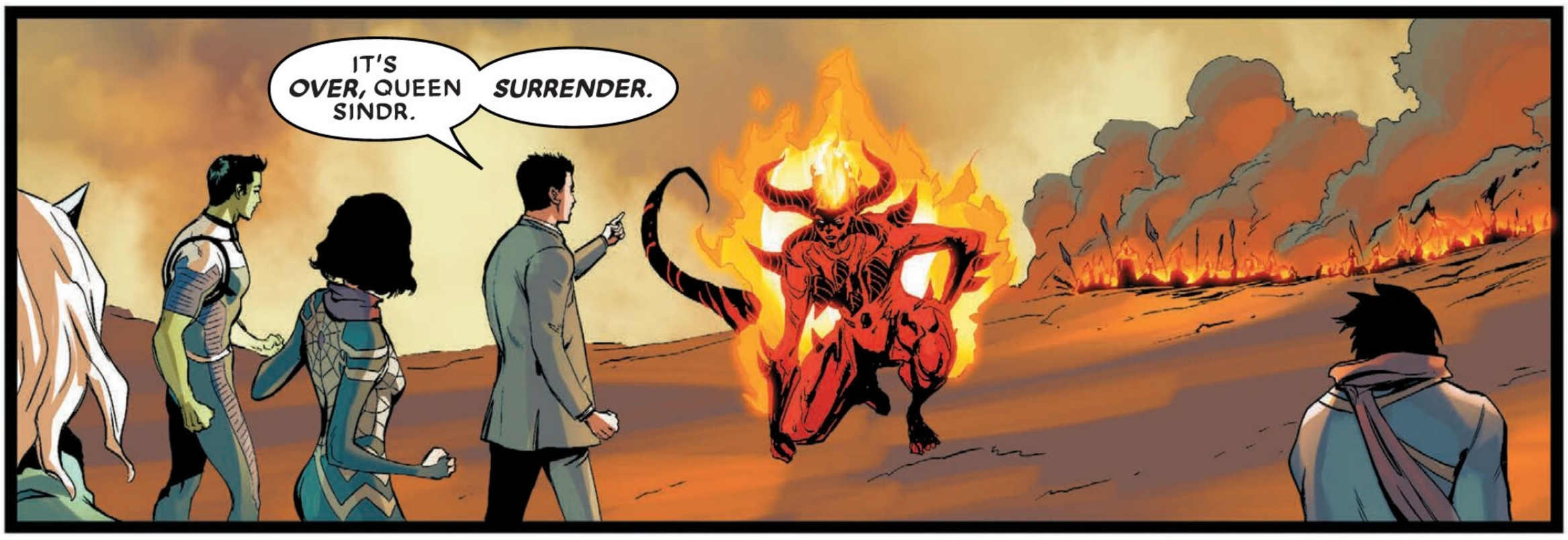
FIGHT THE *FIRE QUEEN.*
RRRRRAAA!
GRRAAAA!
IT WAS A *GOOD TRICK*, JIMMY WOO...
...AND I GOTTA THANK YOU ON A *PERSONAL LEVEL...*

...BECAUSE IF A REAL GODDESS WERE AROUND...
...I MIGHT NOT GET MY MOMENT OF GLORY!
GAAAAH!
NNNGH!
SKUUUK
BEHOLD, THE GREAT MONKEY KING, SUN WUKONG!
I'LL SAVE THIS WORLD--
FWOOOSH
--AND I'LL SEE YOU IN THE NEXT!
HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA!

HA HA HA HA HA HA!
SUN WUKONG!
HE'S GONE...
...BUT HE'S GIVEN US OUR CHANCE.
ALL OF YOU! JUST AS WE TRAINED--
HRRRRRN!
--NOW!
HNNNHH!
KRAK

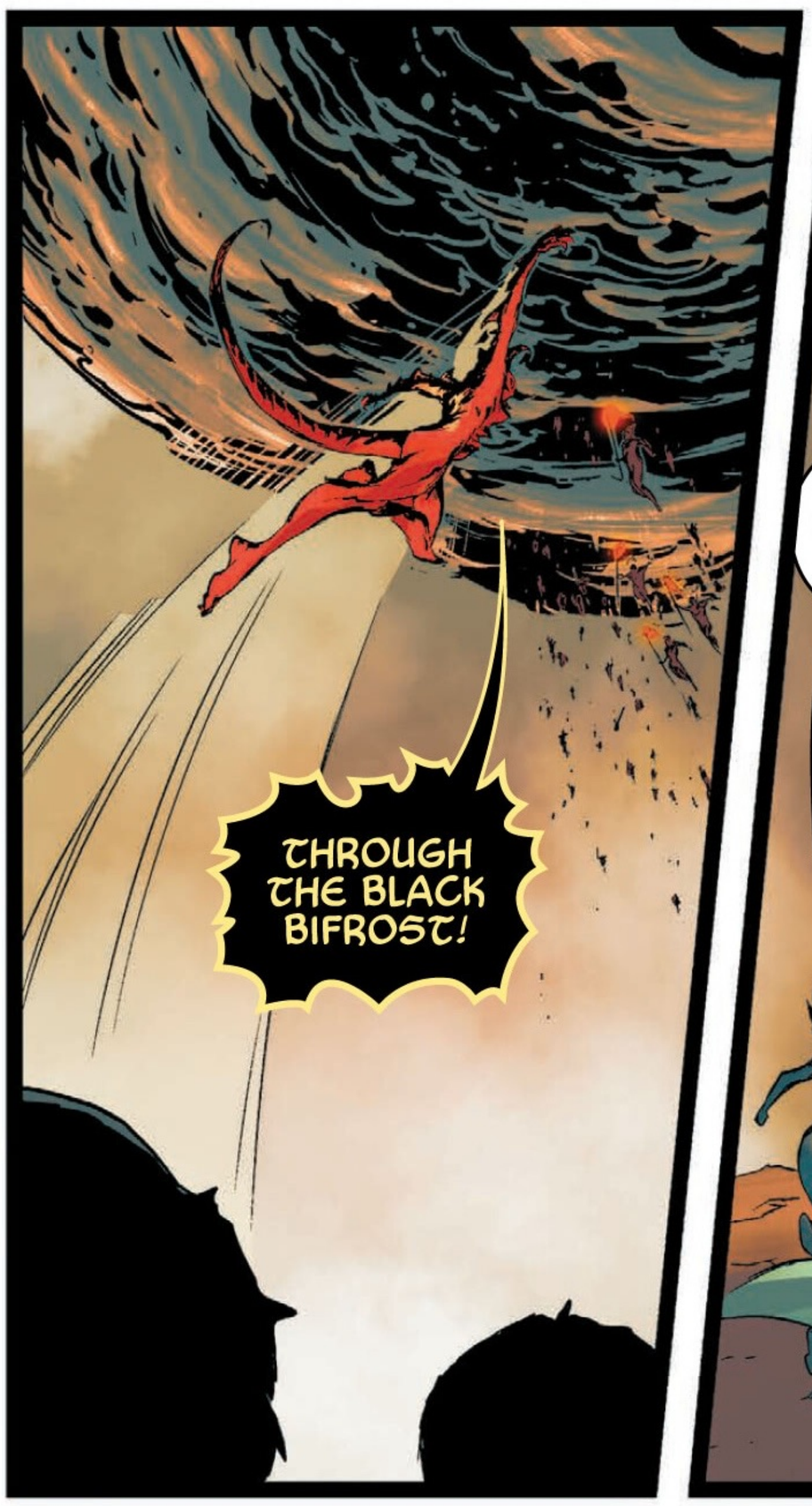
SSHAAANG
THAT'S IT! THE MONSTER'S LOST ITS FIRE!
AND THE WATER'S FREEZING AGAIN!
<COME ON, UNCLE, LEMME HELP YOU OUT OF THERE.>
<NAH, LOOK!>
<THE WATER'S STOPPED RISING!>
<YEAH, BUT IT COULD START UP AGAIN ANY MINUTE-->

<NOT WITH MY GIRL ON THE JOB.>


IT'S OVER, QUEEN SINDR.
SURRENDER.

IF I CAN'T HAVE THIS REALM...
...NEITHER WILL YOU.

GO, MY GOBLINS!
WHOOOOSH


THROUGH THE BLACK BIFROST!

WHA-- HOW-- HOW CAN WE FOLLOW HER?
YOUR TELEPORTER, AMADEUS!
WE DON'T KNOW WHERE SHE'S GOING-- WE'D HAVE TO TRY A DOZEN SITES-- WE DON'T HAVE ENOUGH POWER FOR THAT--

ACTUALLY, THANKS TO M41...
...WE JUST MIGHT.

FORTY-SIX MILES NORTH OF BEIJING.
HA HA HA HA HA!
BURRRRRRRN IT AAAAALLLL!
THE DEVIL REVEALED
GAAH!
VOOOOP
EH?

RUN, MY QUEEN!
SORRY, SPARKY...
NO!!!

"...IT'S OVER."

SHANGHAI.
AFTER THE FALL OF MALEKITH AND HIS FORCES.

THAT'S RIGHT, KEEP IT MOVING, GOBLINS! THROUGH THE RAINBOW BRIDGE! BACK TO MUSPELHEIM YOU GO!

YAAAAAAH!

GRRRR...

HMPH.

JIMMY.

AMADEUS.

THIS WHOLE *ANDROID* THING. WE COULD HAVE DEPLOYED IT *EARLIER,* WHEN SINDR ATTACKED *SEOUL--*

I DIDN'T KNOW HOW BIG THE *EXPLOSION* WOULD BE. HAD TO PICK A BATTLEFIELD WITHOUT *CIVILIANS.*

BUT WHY-- WHY DID YOU *LIE* TO US?

TO MAKE SURE THE *ENEMY* NEVER *GUESSED...*

...AND TO KEEP YOU *TOGETHER.*

YOU WERE *SCARED* TO LEAD FOR A WHILE, AMADEUS. NEEDED A LITTLE *HELP,* AS I RECALL.

SO IN SEOUL, YOUR *TEAMMATES* LISTENED TO A *GODDESS* WHEN THEY WOULDN'T LISTEN TO *YOU.*

NONE OF THIS...NONE OF THIS IS *RIGHT,* JIMMY.

FIRST OFF, YOU *IMPERSONATED* A *DEITY.*

I'VE BEEN AROUND ENOUGH *GODS* TO KNOW THAT KIND OF THING *NEVER* ENDS WELL.

SECOND OFF...

...NONE OF US CAN REALLY *TRUST* ANYTHING YOU'VE EVER TOLD US NOW.

BUT YOU TRUST *EACH OTHER,* DON'T YOU?

YOU ALL RIGHT?
YEAH, WE'RE FINE.
HOW 'BOUT YOU?
ALL GOOD HERE...

"...LET'S CHECK ON THE OTHERS...

"...AND GET BACK TO WORK."

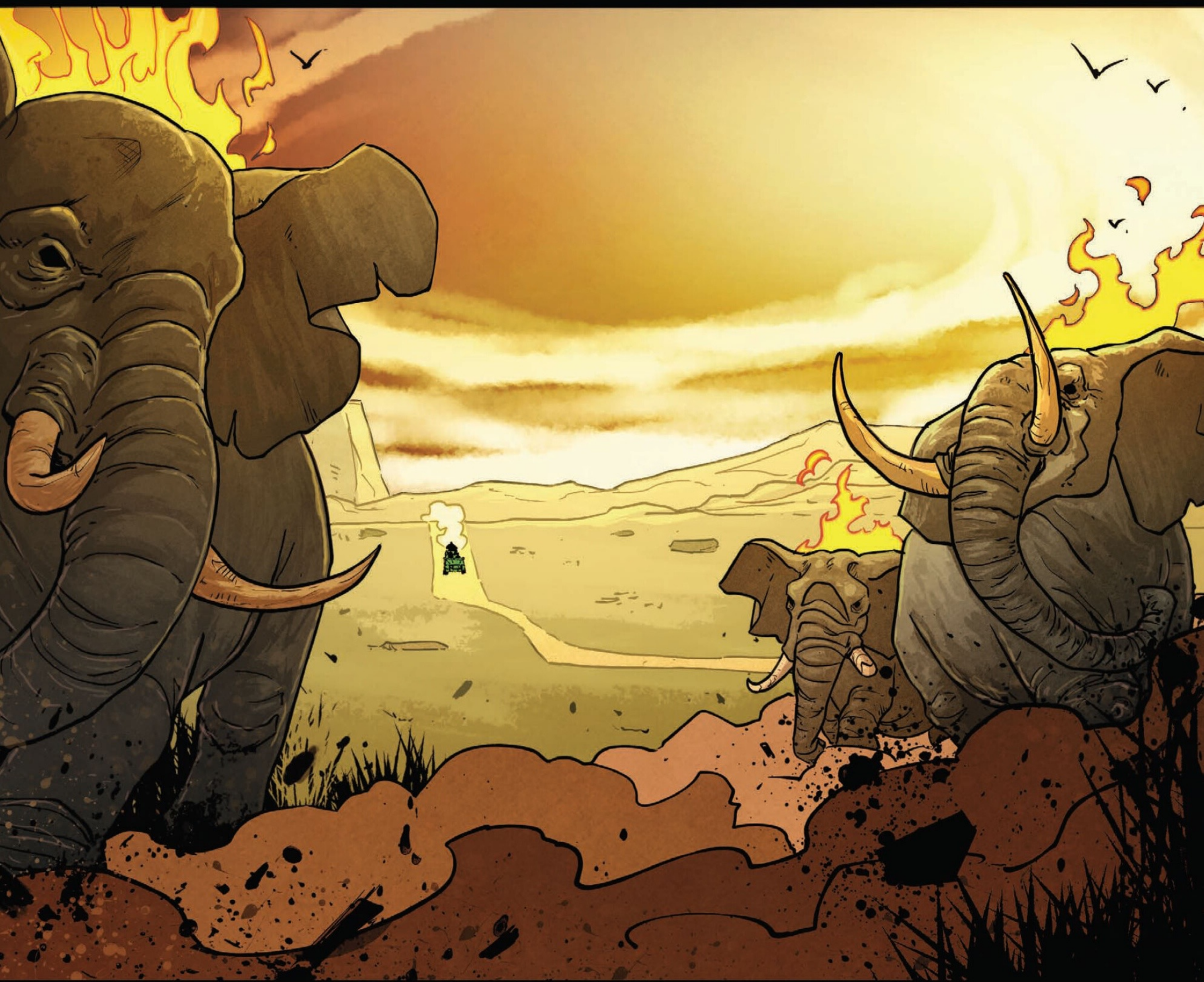
CARRY ON, THEN...

"...AGENTS OF ATLAS."

SPIDER-MAN & THE LEAGUE OF REALMS #1

Why We Fight Part 1

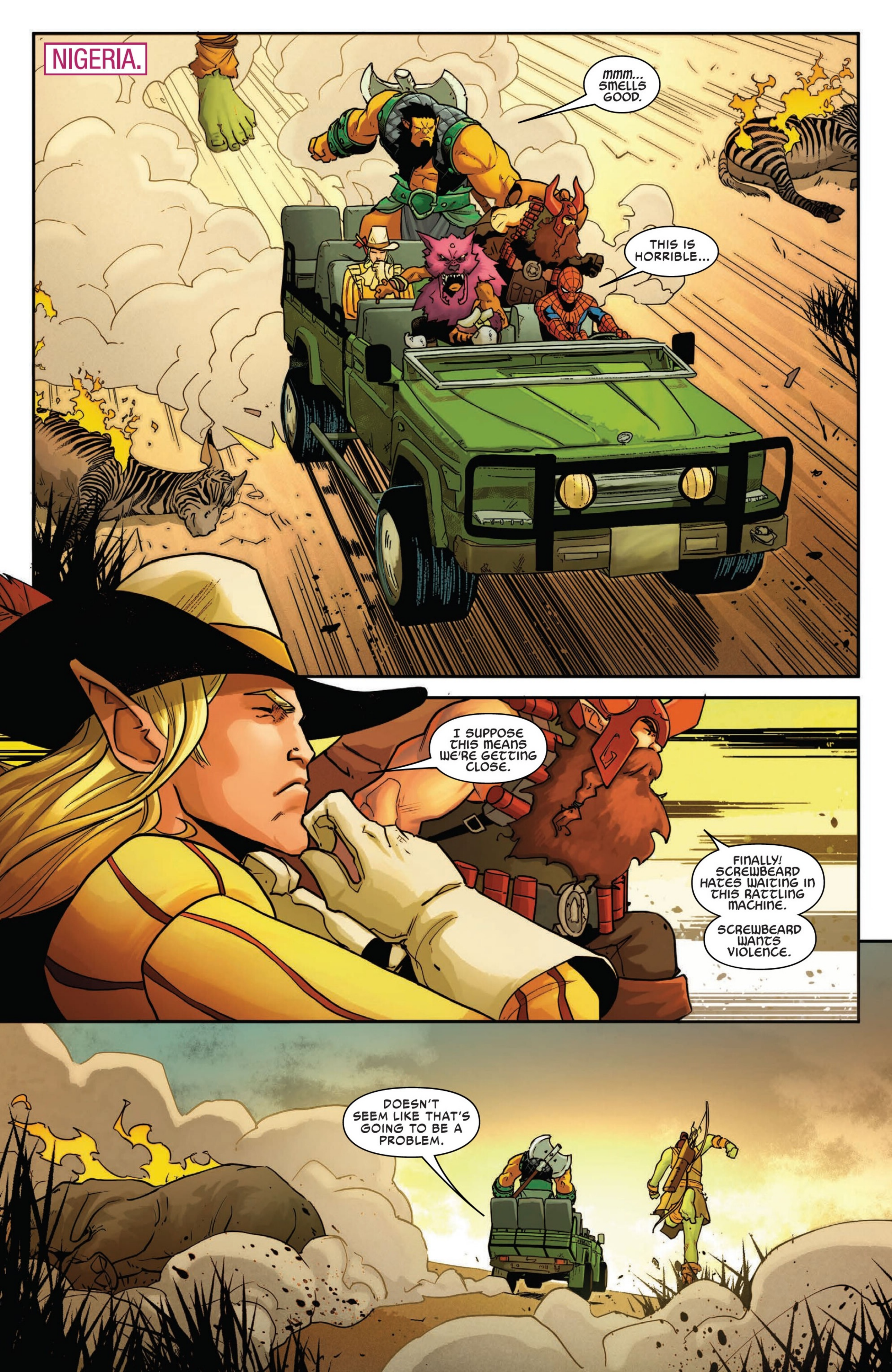
When an enemy arose who threatened all nine of the extraterrestrial realms, the League of Realms was formed to join their strengths and bridge their ancient antagonisms. It wasn't easy: the League would have failed and splintered without the leadership of a true hero: THOR! ...Wait, did you think we meant--



Spider-Man and the League of Realms:

"WHY WE FIGHT"

Part 1 of 3

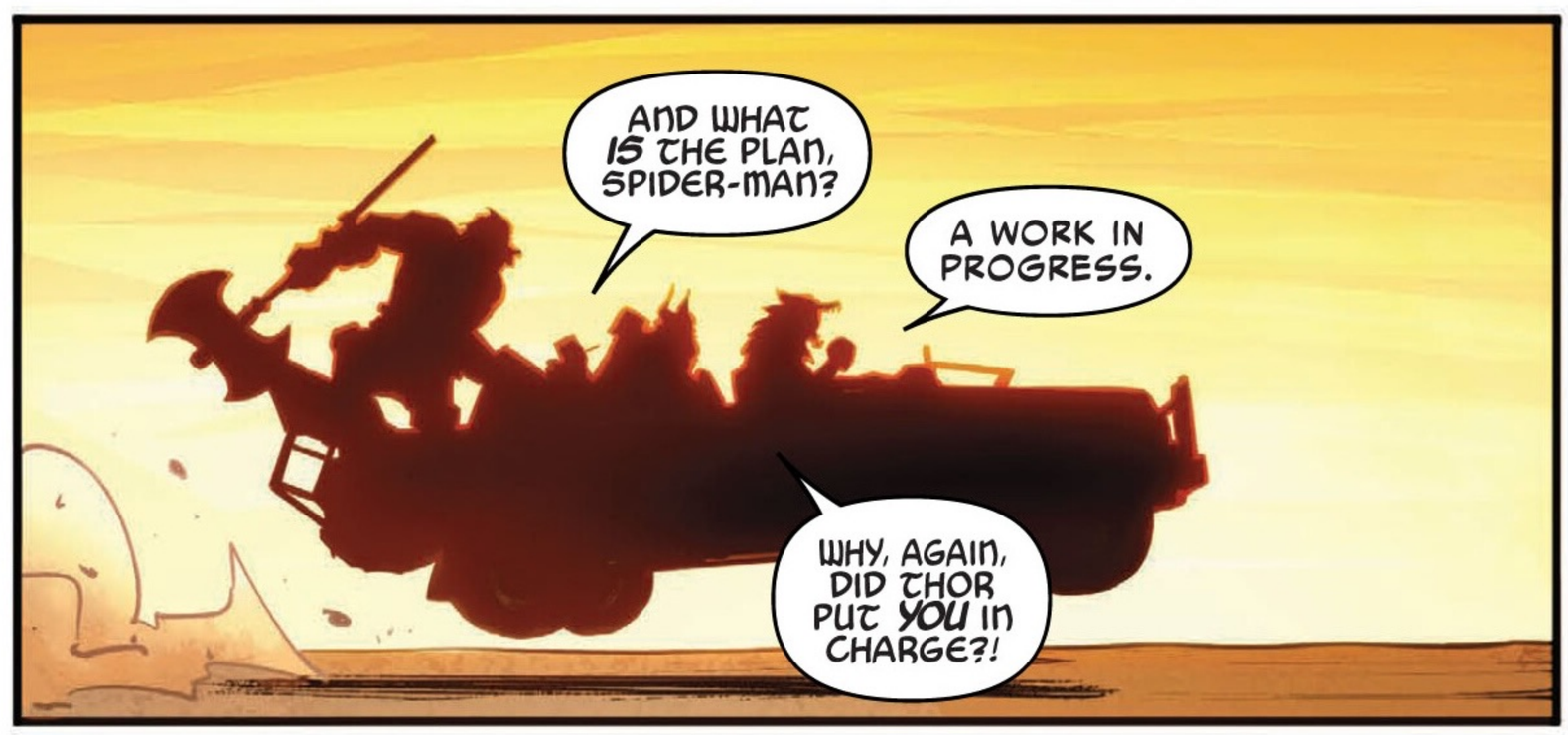

NIGERIA.
mmm... SMELLS GOOD.
THIS IS HORRIBLE...
I SUPPOSE THIS MEANS WE'RE GETTING CLOSE.
FINALLY! SCREWBEARD HATES WAITING IN THIS RATTLING MACHINE.
SCREWBEARD WANTS VIOLENCE.
DOESN'T SEEM LIKE THAT'S GOING TO BE A PROBLEM.

HEY, UM... UH...
I'M SO SORRY--WHAT'S YOUR NAME AGAIN?
I'VE MET A LOT OF NEW PEOPLE IN THE LAST FEW DAYS.

RO. RO BLOODROOT. THE WOOD WIZARD OF VANAHEIM.
RO BLOODROOT. OF COURSE. HOW COULD I FORGET?
SO, RO, THAT STEALTH ENCHANTMENT YOU DID EARLIER, HOW LONG WILL THAT LAST?

IT WILL ALLOW US TO ENTER THE CITY UNDETECTED.
UNLESS THE ANGELS WERE GIVEN SPELLS BY THE DARK ELVES TO COUNTER MY MAGIC.
AND WHAT ARE THE ODDS OF THAT?

WE DON'T NEED TO HIDE FROM THESE ANGELS. LET THEM SEE US COMING!
I'M NOT SO SURE THAT'S THE BEST PLAN, TROLL-GUY.


AND WHAT IS THE PLAN, SPIDER-MAN?
A WORK IN PROGRESS.
WHY, AGAIN, DID THOR PUT YOU IN CHARGE?!

NOW THAT'S A GOOD QUESTION.

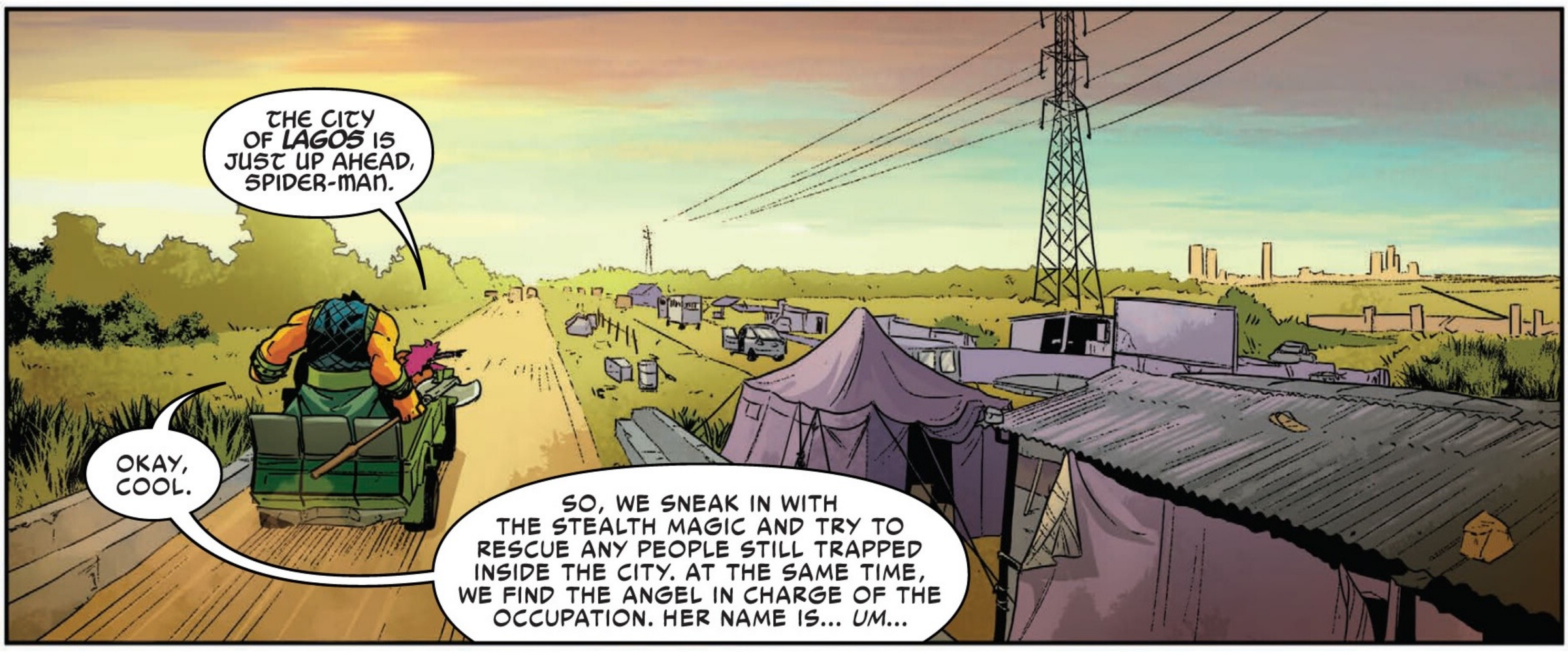
THOR, I'M SORRY, BUT I DON'T GET IT. WHY ME?

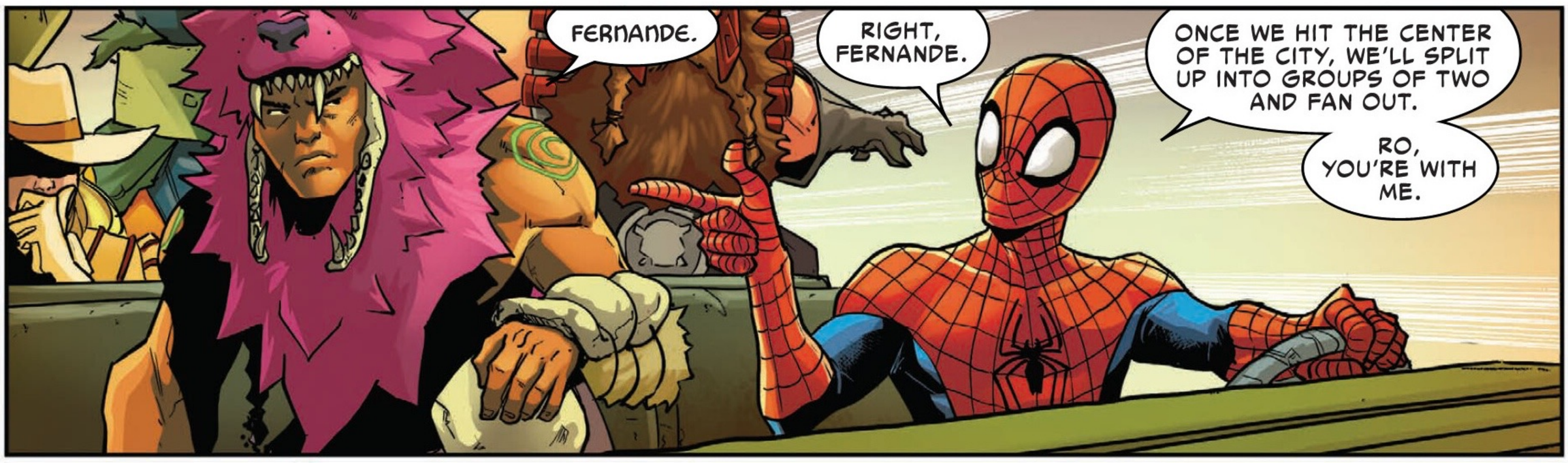
THE LEAGUE OF REALMS HAS ALWAYS BEEN A GROUP MADE UP OF WARRIORS FROM NUMEROUS REALMS. AND WITH THIS WAR BEING ON MIDGARD, THEY NEED SOMEONE FROM MIDGARD TO LEAD THEM.
AND YOU ARE THE MOST MIDGARDIAN MAN I KNOW.
THANKS...?

TRUST ME, SPIDER-MAN. IT IS THE HIGHEST OF COMPLIMENTS.

NOW I MUST SAY GOODBYE. WE ALL HAVE IMPORTANT PARTS TO PLAY IN THIS WAR.
I TRUST THAT YOU AND THE LEAGUE CAN INFILTRATE ONE OF THE ANGELS' STRONGHOLDS IN AFRICA AND START TURNING THE TIDE EVER SO SLIGHTLY IN THIS WAR.
GOT IT, YEAH. BUT, SERIOUSLY, ARE YOU *SURE* YOU'RE SURE ABOUT THIS?
I KNOW I CAN HANDLE MYSELF IN A FIGHT, LIKE BACK IN JOTUNHEIM,* BUT WHAT YOU'RE ASKING ME TO DO...
I'M NOT A WARRIOR. I'M THE *FRIENDLY* NEIGHBORHOOD SPIDER-MAN.
I KNOW.
*WAR OF THE REALMS #3-4.

THAT IS WHY YOU ARE *PERFECT* FOR THIS.


THE CITY OF LAGOS IS JUST UP AHEAD, SPIDER-MAN.
OKAY, COOL.
SO, WE SNEAK IN WITH THE STEALTH MAGIC AND TRY TO RESCUE ANY PEOPLE STILL TRAPPED INSIDE THE CITY. AT THE SAME TIME, WE FIND THE ANGEL IN CHARGE OF THE OCCUPATION. HER NAME IS... UM...

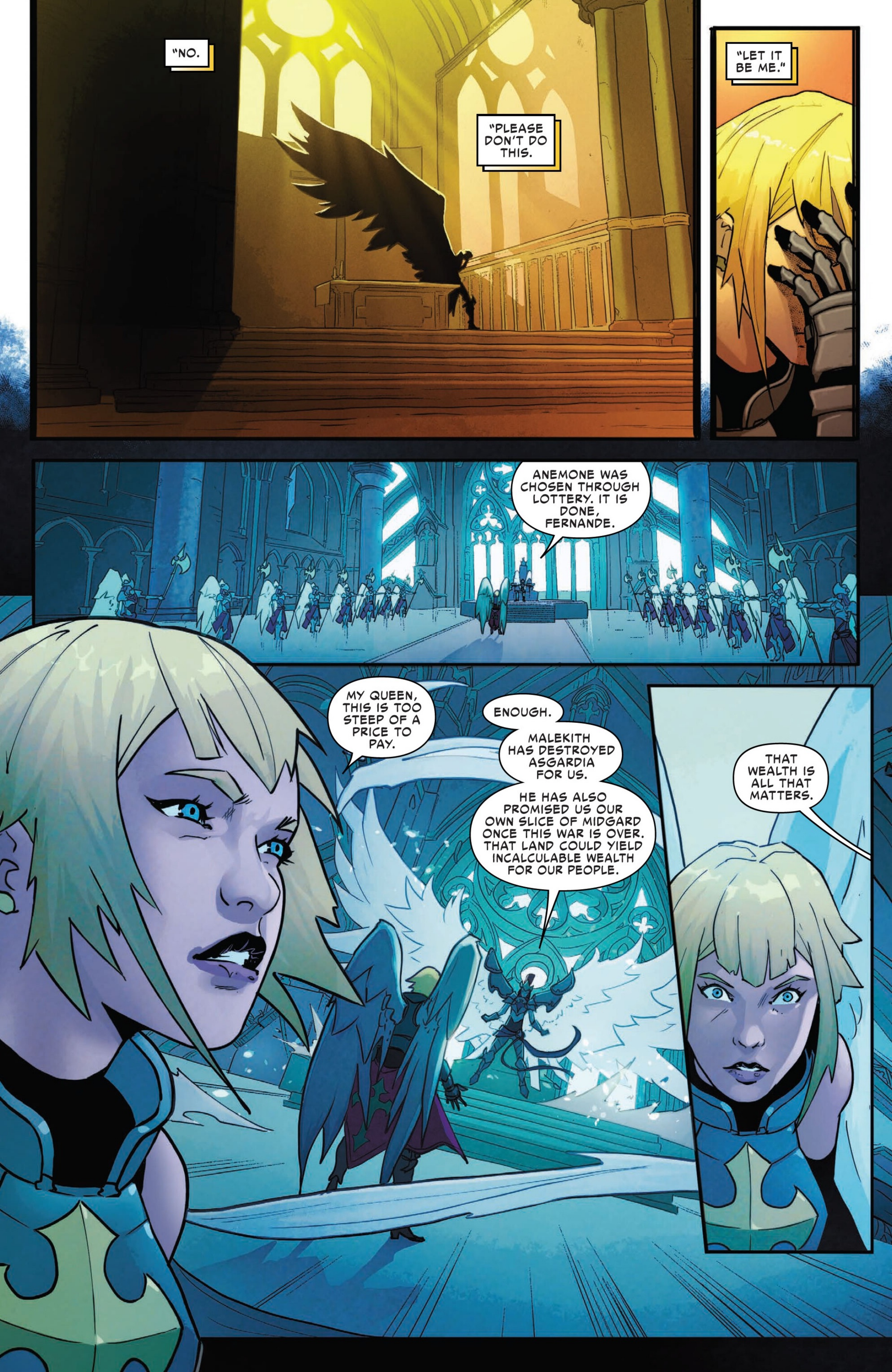

FERNANDE.
RIGHT, FERNANDE.
ONCE WE HIT THE CENTER OF THE CITY, WE'LL SPLIT UP INTO GROUPS OF TWO AND FAN OUT.
RO, YOU'RE WITH ME.

ELF-MAN...
MY NAME IS SIR IVORY HONEYSHOT OF ALFHEIM.
HONEYSPOT, GOT IT, YOU'RE WITH DWARF-PERSON.
IT'S SCREWBEARD OF NIDAVELLIR, SON OF NO-EARS, SON OF HEADWOUND--

AND FINALLY, TROLL-GUY--
UD.
EXCUSE YOU.
MY NAME IS UD.
OH. OKAY. UD. YOU'RE WITH GIANT-LADY.

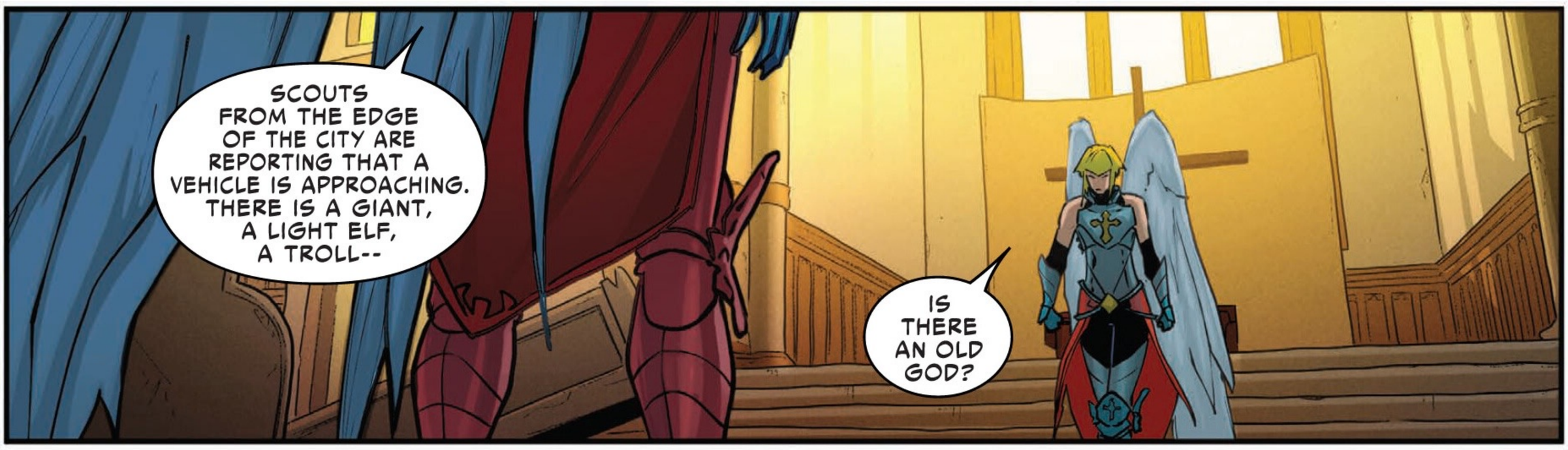
THE GIANT-LADY IS TITANYA VAETILDA VINNSUVIUS OF THE MOUNTAIN GIANTS OF JOTUNHEIM.
SO, GIANT-LADY IT IS.
NOW, LET'S TRY TO REMEMBER THE PLAN. WE GO IN UNDETECTED. THIS SHOULD BE A SIMPLE IN AND OUT.
THERE SHOULDN'T BE ANY NEED TO HURT ANYONE.

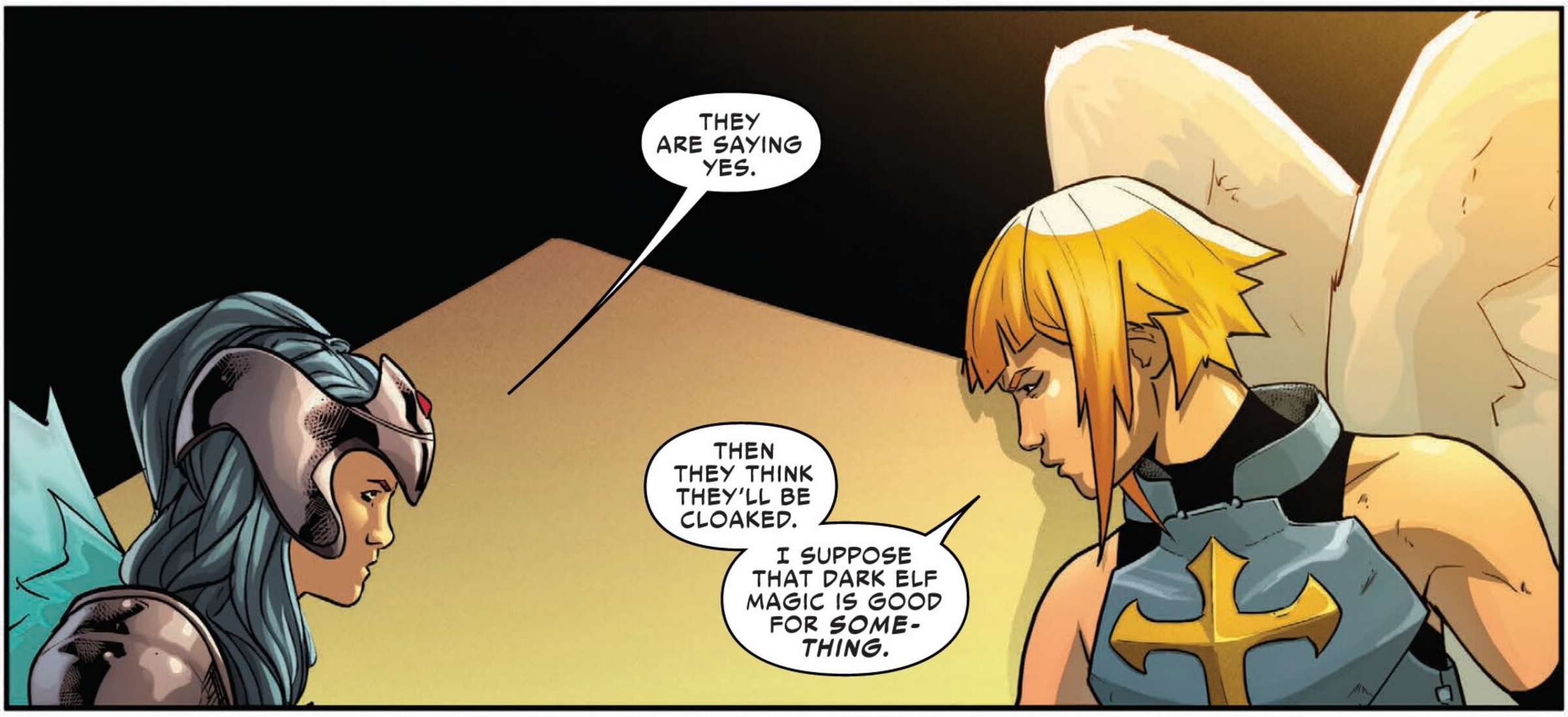
THAT IS NO BATTLE PLAN! WE SHOULD INSTEAD SLAUGHTER EVERY LAST ONE OF THESE VILE ANGELS.
YOU SAW WHAT THEY DID TO THOSE ELEPHANTS. WE SHOULDN'T TUSSLE WITH THESE ANGELS UNLESS WE HAVE TO.
THE PRIORITIES ARE SAVING THE PEOPLE AND FINDING THIS FERNANDE.


"NO.
"PLEASE DON'T DO THIS.
"LET IT BE ME."
ANEMONE WAS CHOSEN THROUGH LOTTERY. IT IS DONE, FERNANDE.
MY QUEEN, THIS IS TOO STEEP OF A PRICE TO PAY.
ENOUGH.
MALEKITH HAS DESTROYED ASGARDIA FOR US.
HE HAS ALSO PROMISED US OUR OWN SLICE OF MIDGARD ONCE THIS WAR IS OVER. THAT LAND COULD YIELD INCALCULABLE WEALTH FOR OUR PEOPLE.
THAT WEALTH IS ALL THAT MATTERS.

"BECAUSE..."

IT'S NOT FAIR.


SCOUTS FROM THE EDGE OF THE CITY ARE REPORTING THAT A VEHICLE IS APPROACHING. THERE IS A GIANT, A LIGHT ELF, A TROLL--
IS THERE AN OLD GOD?

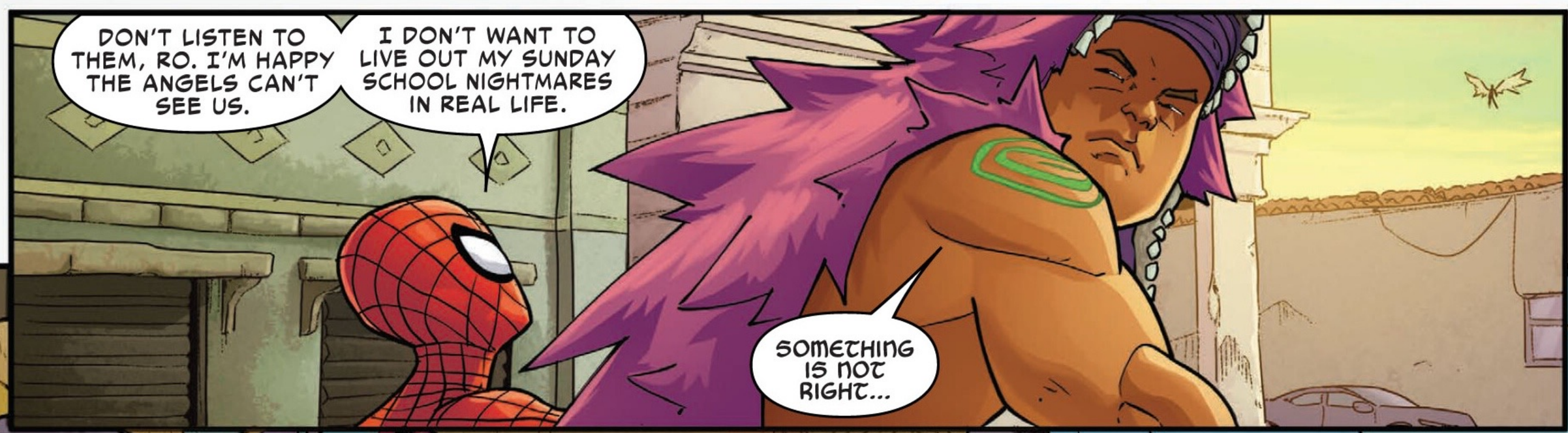

THEY ARE SAYING YES.
THEN THEY THINK THEY'LL BE CLOAKED.
I SUPPOSE THAT DARK ELF MAGIC IS GOOD FOR SOME-THING.

LET THEM THINK THEIR TRICK IS WORKING. ALLOW THEM INTO THE CITY.
AND JUST AS THEY FEEL SAFE AND WE HAVE THEM SURROUNDED...
...RIP THEIR HEARTS OUT.

THE QUIET. IT'S UNSETTLING.

IT IS ANNOYING.

THESE BIRDS ARE JUST SITTING THERE, RIPE FOR PLUCKING!


DON'T LISTEN TO THEM, RO. I'M HAPPY THE ANGELS CAN'T SEE US.
I DON'T WANT TO LIVE OUT MY SUNDAY SCHOOL NIGHTMARES IN REAL LIFE.
SOMETHING IS NOT RIGHT...

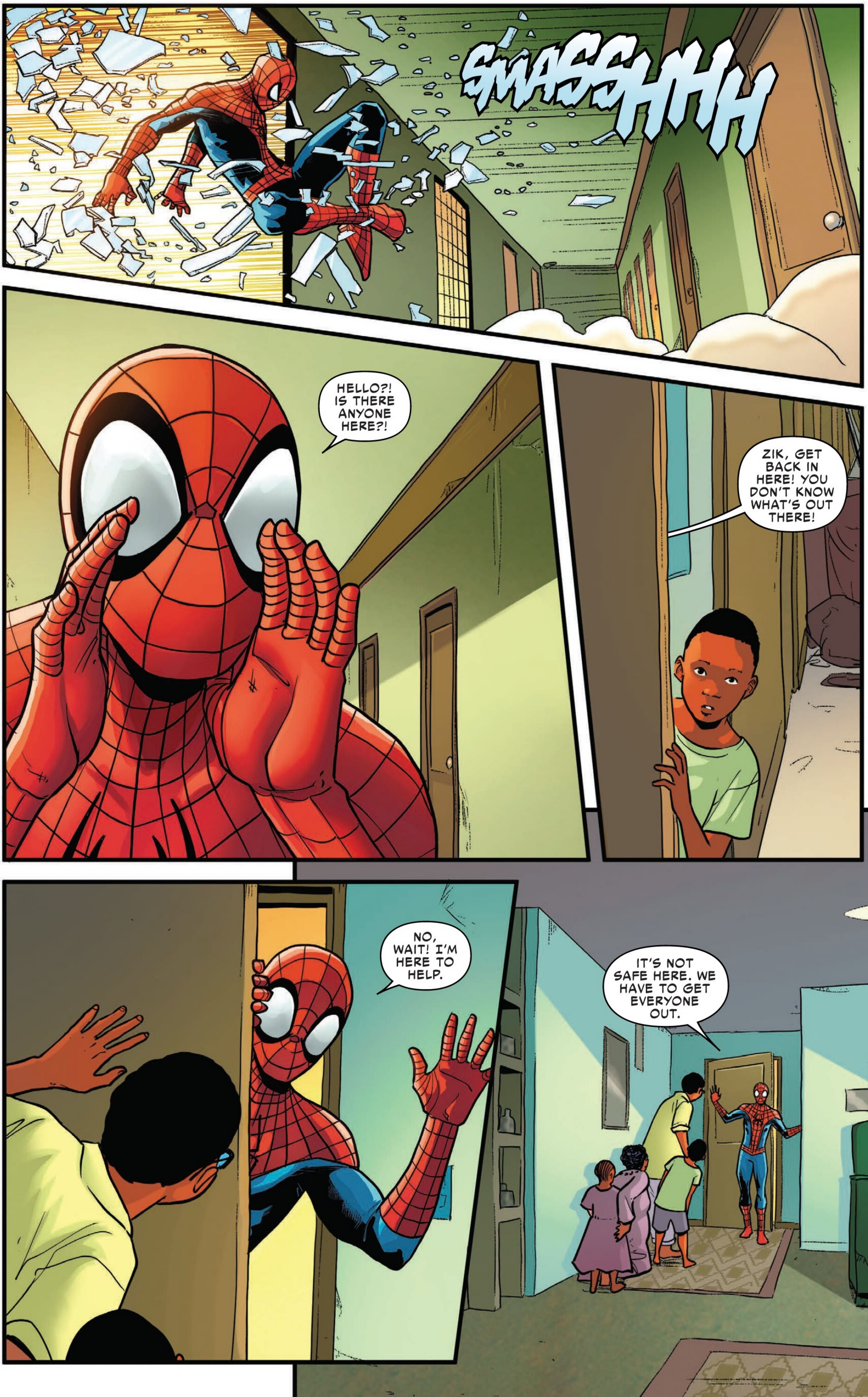
THEY CAN SEE US.

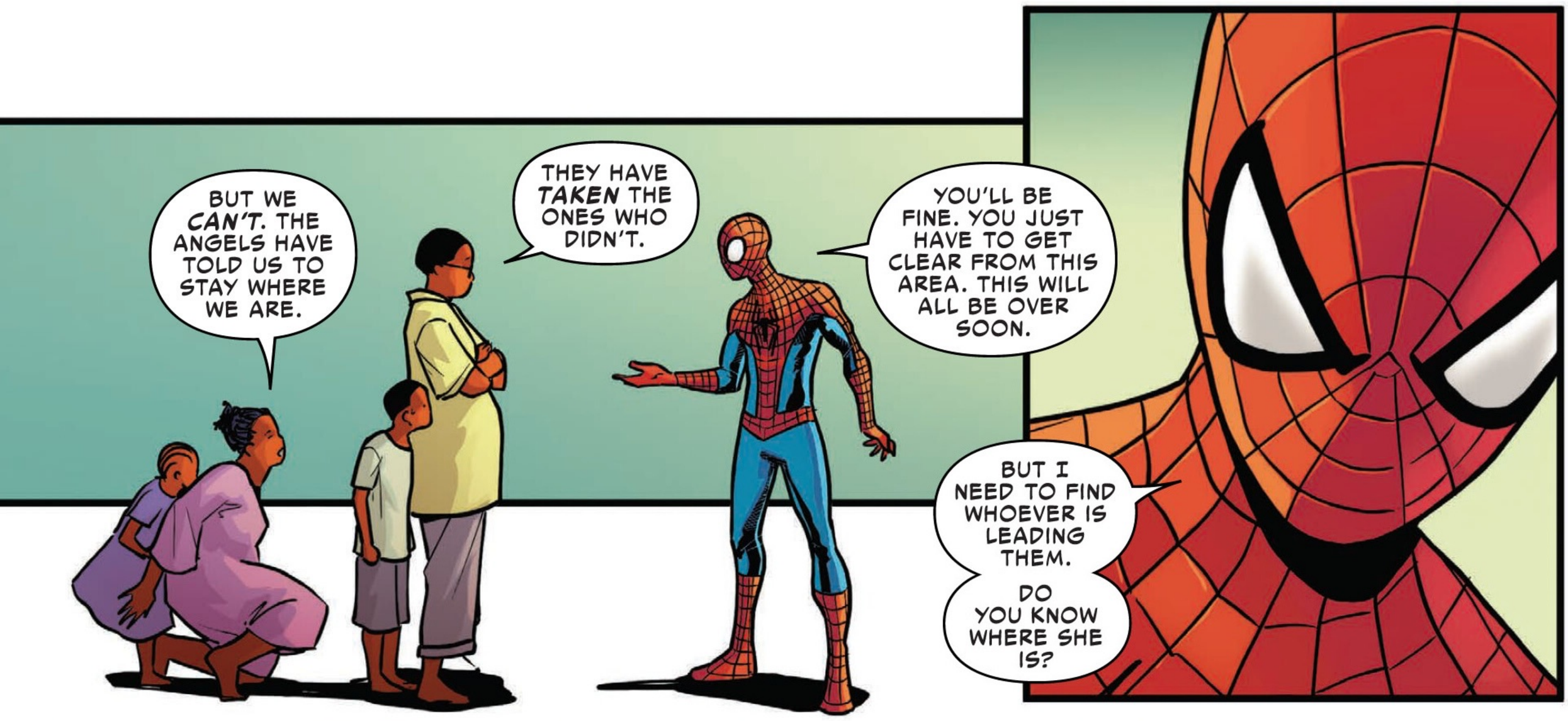
FINALLY!
WE NEED TO GO!
VRRRMMMM
RETREAT IF YOU MUST, SPIDER-MAN.
WE WILL STAY AND DO THE FIGHTING FOR YOU.
GUYS, NO!
WE CANNOT RUN FROM THIS, SPIDER-MAN.

WELL, TECHNICALLY, I WAS GOING TO BE DRIVING FROM THIS...
BUT OKAY, FINE. LET'S DO BATTLE, I GUESS.
THWUP
THE WHITE LICORICE YOU FIRE FROM YOUR WRISTS DOESN'T APPEAR TO BE KILLING ANY OF THEM, SPIDER-MAN.
THWUP
YEAH, I KNOW. I'M NOT TRYING TO KILL THEM.

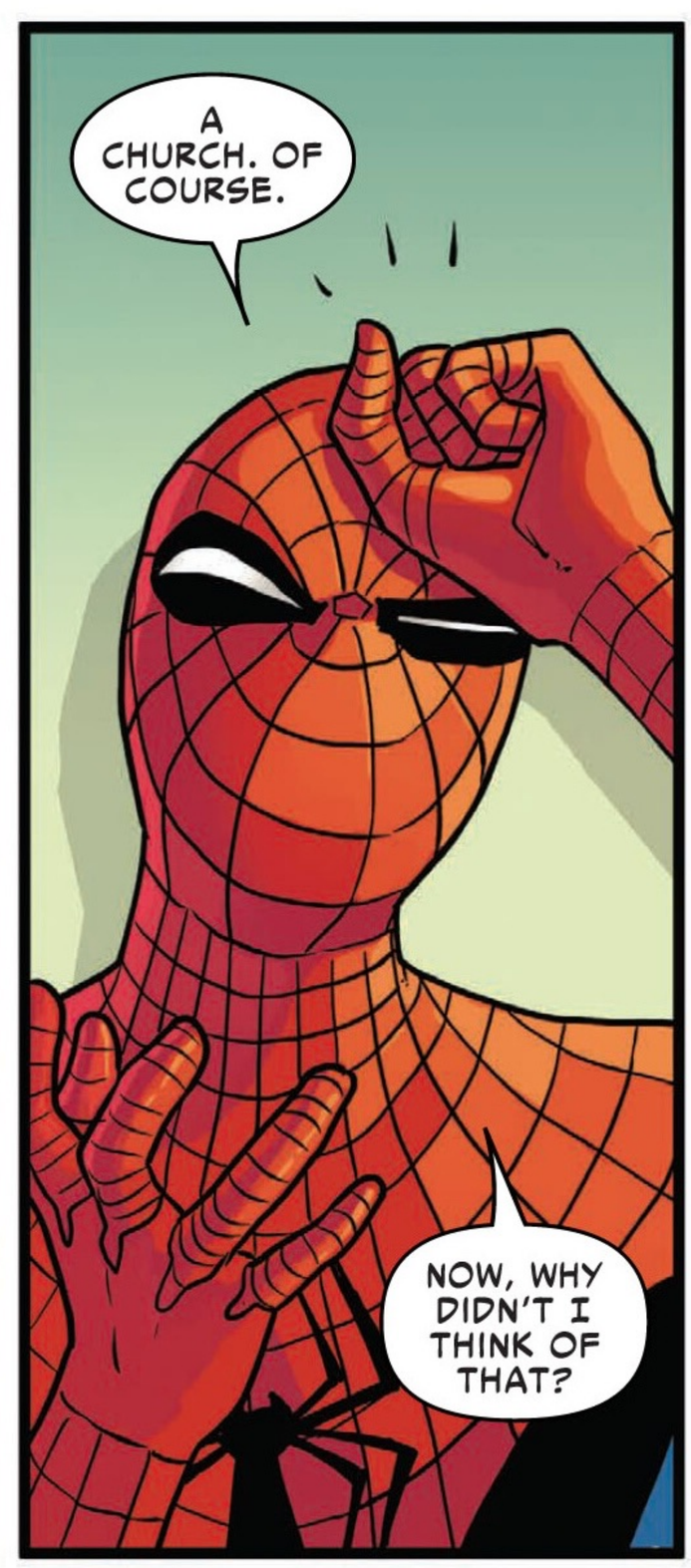
TRAITOR!
NO! I JUST...
I DON'T KILL PEOPLE.
THEN WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
YES, GET OUT OF OUR WAY!
NNF.

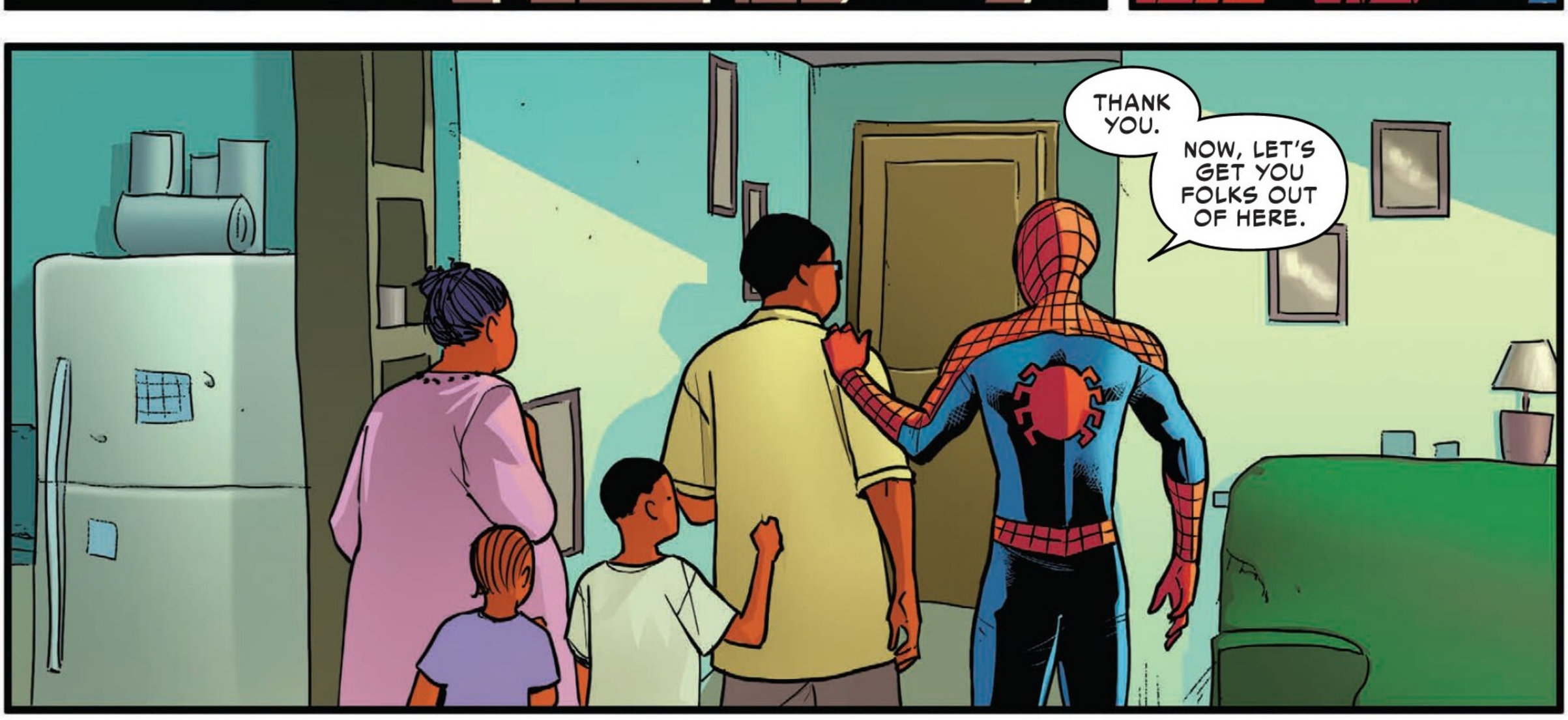
'SPLODE!
NO! THERE MIGHT BE PEOPLE IN THERE!
BOOM!
IDIOTS!
OUT OF MY WAY!

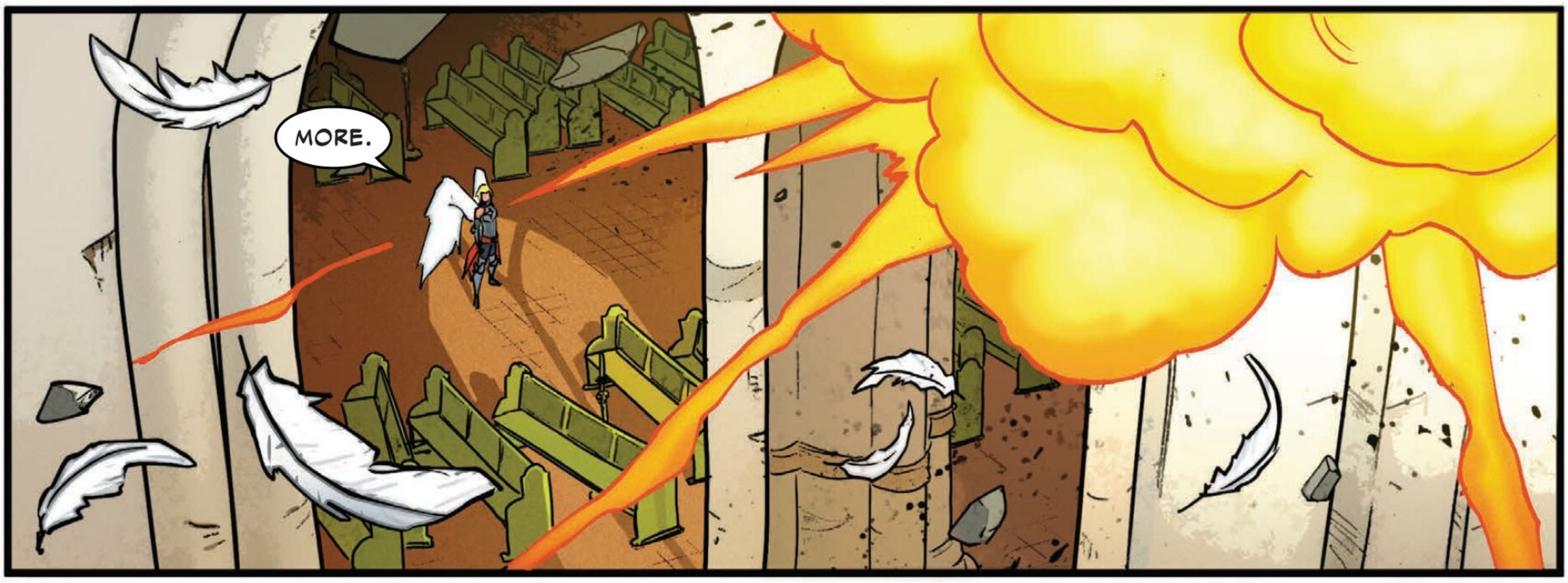

SMASHHH
HELLO?! IS THERE ANYONE HERE?!
ZIK, GET BACK IN HERE! YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT'S OUT THERE!
NO, WAIT! I'M HERE TO HELP.
IT'S NOT SAFE HERE. WE HAVE TO GET EVERYONE OUT.


BUT WE CAN'T. THE ANGELS HAVE TOLD US TO STAY WHERE WE ARE.
THEY HAVE TAKEN THE ONES WHO DIDN'T.
YOU'LL BE FINE. YOU JUST HAVE TO GET CLEAR FROM THIS AREA. THIS WILL ALL BE OVER SOON.
BUT I NEED TO FIND WHOEVER IS LEADING THEM.
DO YOU KNOW WHERE SHE IS?

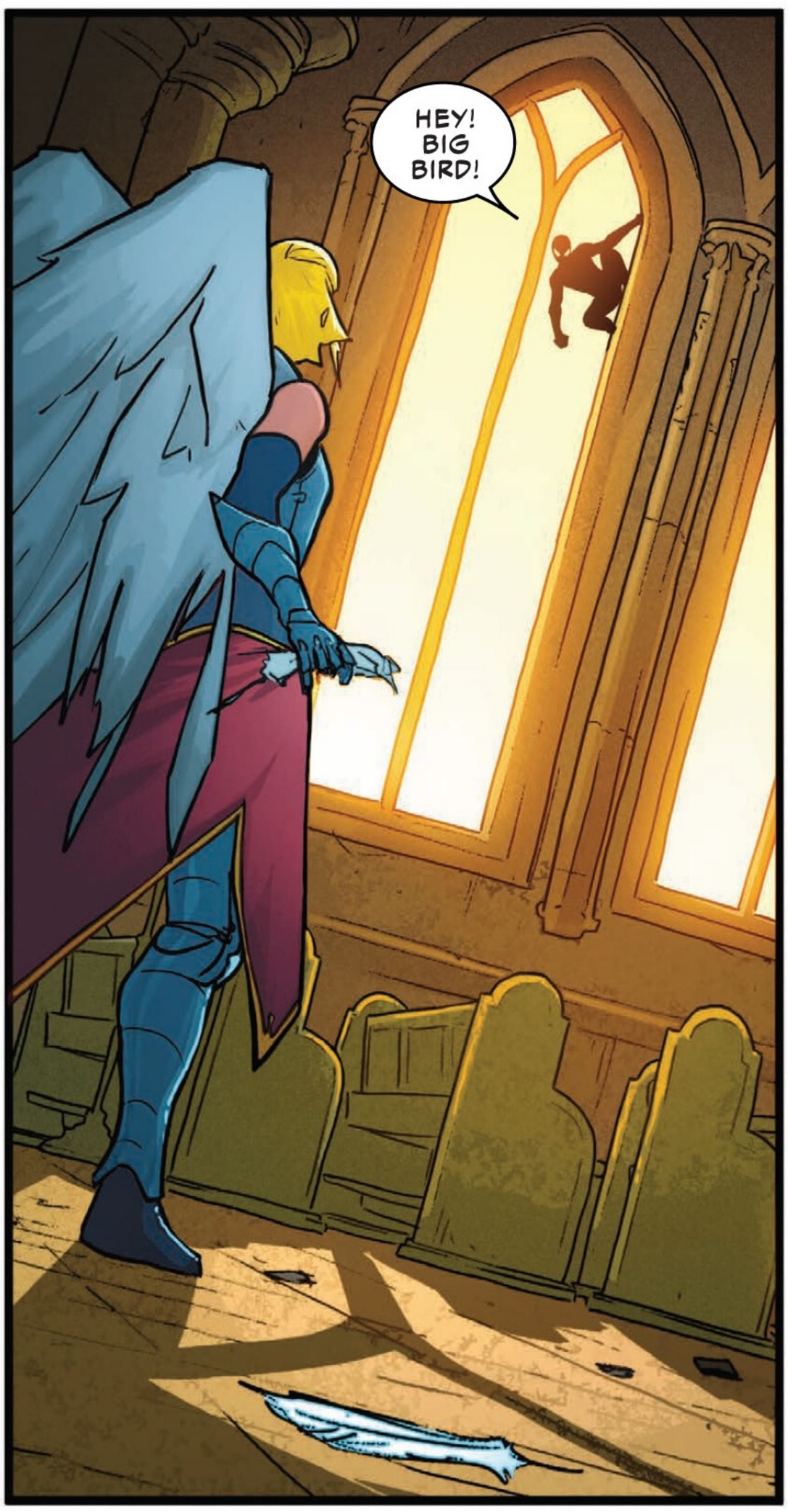
THERE.


A CHURCH. OF COURSE.
NOW, WHY DIDN'T I THINK OF THAT?


THANK YOU.
NOW, LET'S GET YOU FOLKS OUT OF HERE.


MORE.

MORE BLOOD-DRENCHED FEATHERS.
AND FOR WHAT?


HEY! BIG BIRD!

WHAT ARE YOU?
I'M HERE TO STOP THIS.

STOP? YOU THINK YOU CAN STOP THIS?
STOP ME?

I AM FERNANDE, THE HIGH POLEMARCH, SERVING AT THE PLEASURE OF MY QUEEN, THE QUEEN OF THE *WARRIOR ANGELS OF HEVEN.*

I HAVE BEEN BRED SINCE BIRTH TO BE THE ULTIMATE SOLIDER.

FORGED IN THE FIRES OF WARFARE TO BE A PERFECT WEAPON.

CONDITIONED TO RELISH CONFLICT, PAIN AND BLOODSHED.

KRNCH

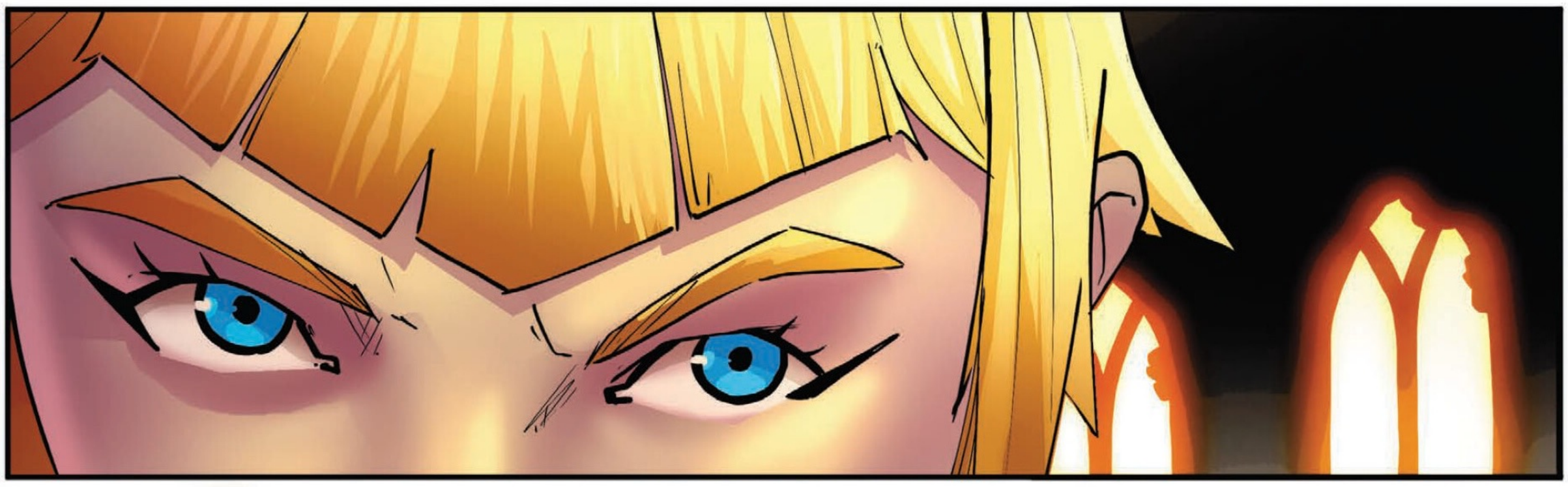
I AM THE LIVING EMBODIMENT OF DEATH.

I CAN NEVER STOP.

I'M... I'M SO SORRY.

WHAT?
I'M SORRY.
THAT ALL SOUNDS HORRIBLE.

DON'T YOU EVER WISH YOU COULD STOP?
I KNOW I DO.



HOW?

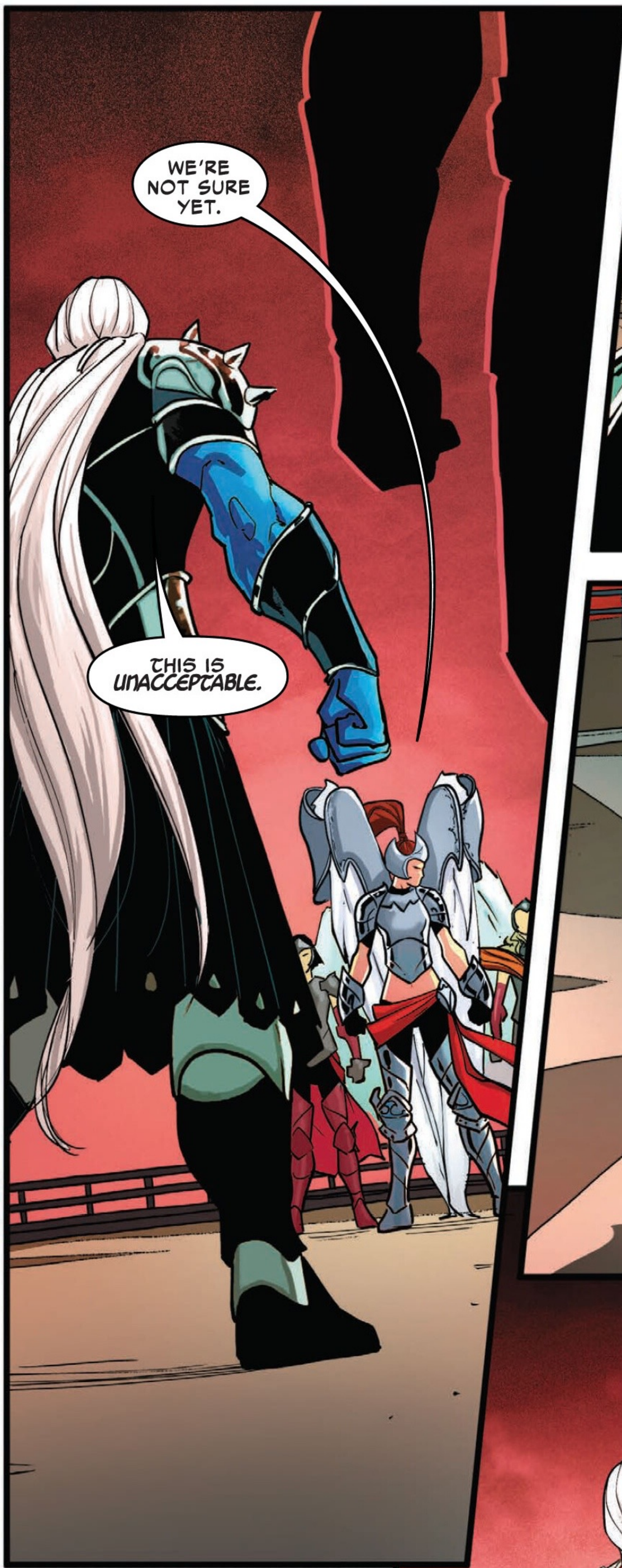
WELL, THE FIRST STEP IS, YOU COULD HELP ME UP.

STAND DOWN!

WHAT?

NAIROBI.
I DO NOT LIKE THIS.

DO WE KNOW WHY THIS ANGEL BETRAYED US?


WE'RE NOT SURE YET.
THIS IS UNACCEPTABLE.

WE WILL HUNT THIS TRAITOR DOWN, DISCOVER HER REASONS AND THEN PUNISH HER IN THE WAYS ONLY WE ANGELS CAN.
NO, QUEEN, YOU HAVE FAR MORE IMPORTANT MATTERS TO DEAL WITH.*
*SEE ASGARDIANS OF THE GALAXY #10!

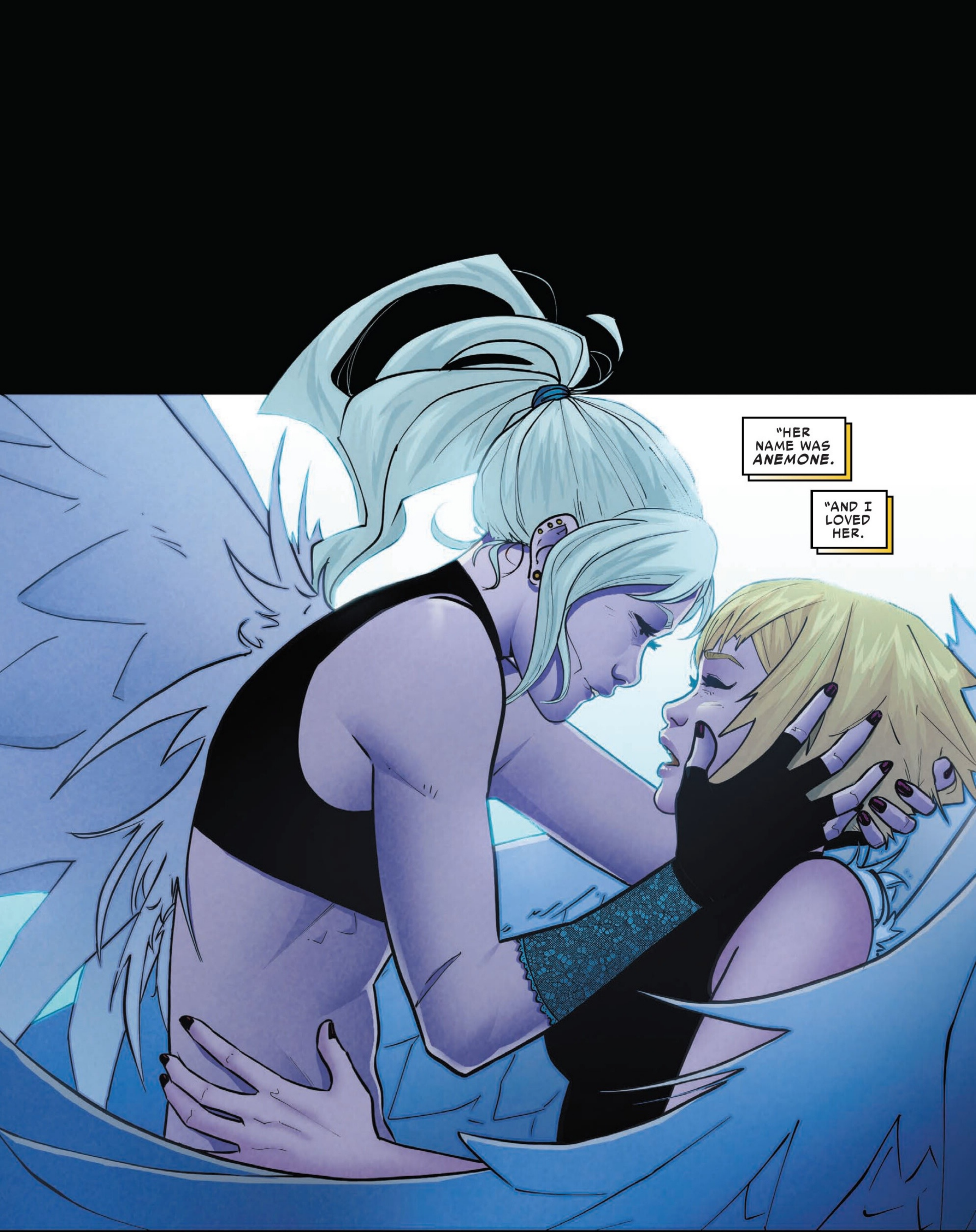
CERTAINLY WE CAN HANDLE BOTH--
PLEASE, I GAVE YOU ONE OF MY MOST TRUSTED LIEUTENANTS FOR A REASON.
LET HER HELP YOU.

FOR SHE IS A BLESSING...

...AND A KURSE.

SPIDER-MAN & THE LEAGUE OF REALMS #2

Why We Fight Part 2

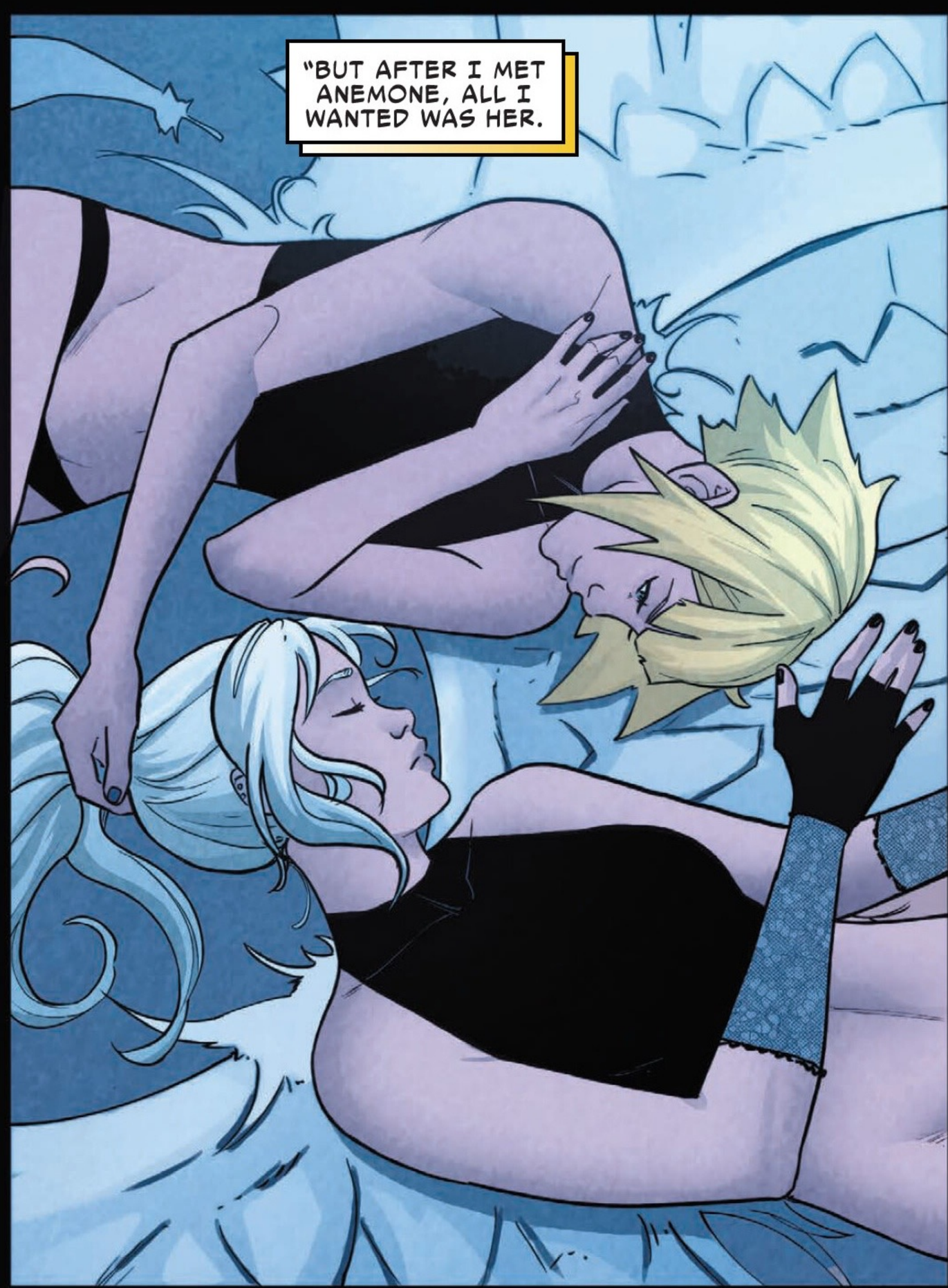


Spider-Man and the League of Realms: "WHY WE FIGHT"

Part 2 of 3

"ANGELS DON'T FALL IN LOVE.
"IT'S NOT ALLOWED, AND IT IS NEARLY BIOLOGICALLY IMPOSSIBLE.

"WE'RE SUPPOSED TO ONLY WANT WAR AND THE SPOILS THAT COME FROM IT.


"BUT AFTER I MET ANEMONE, ALL I WANTED WAS HER.

"WE WERE HAPPY WITH OUR BIG SECRET.
"THEN MALEKITH CAME.

"HE MADE HIS DEAL WITH OUR QUEEN:

"HE WOULD DESTROY ASGARD FOR US, AND THEN WE'D HELP HIM WITH HIS WAR ON MIDGARD.

"THE QUEEN WAS SO THANKFUL FOR ASGARD'S DESTRUCTION THAT SHE DID NOT EVEN THINK TWICE ABOUT GIVING HIM HIS ONLY OTHER DEMAND.

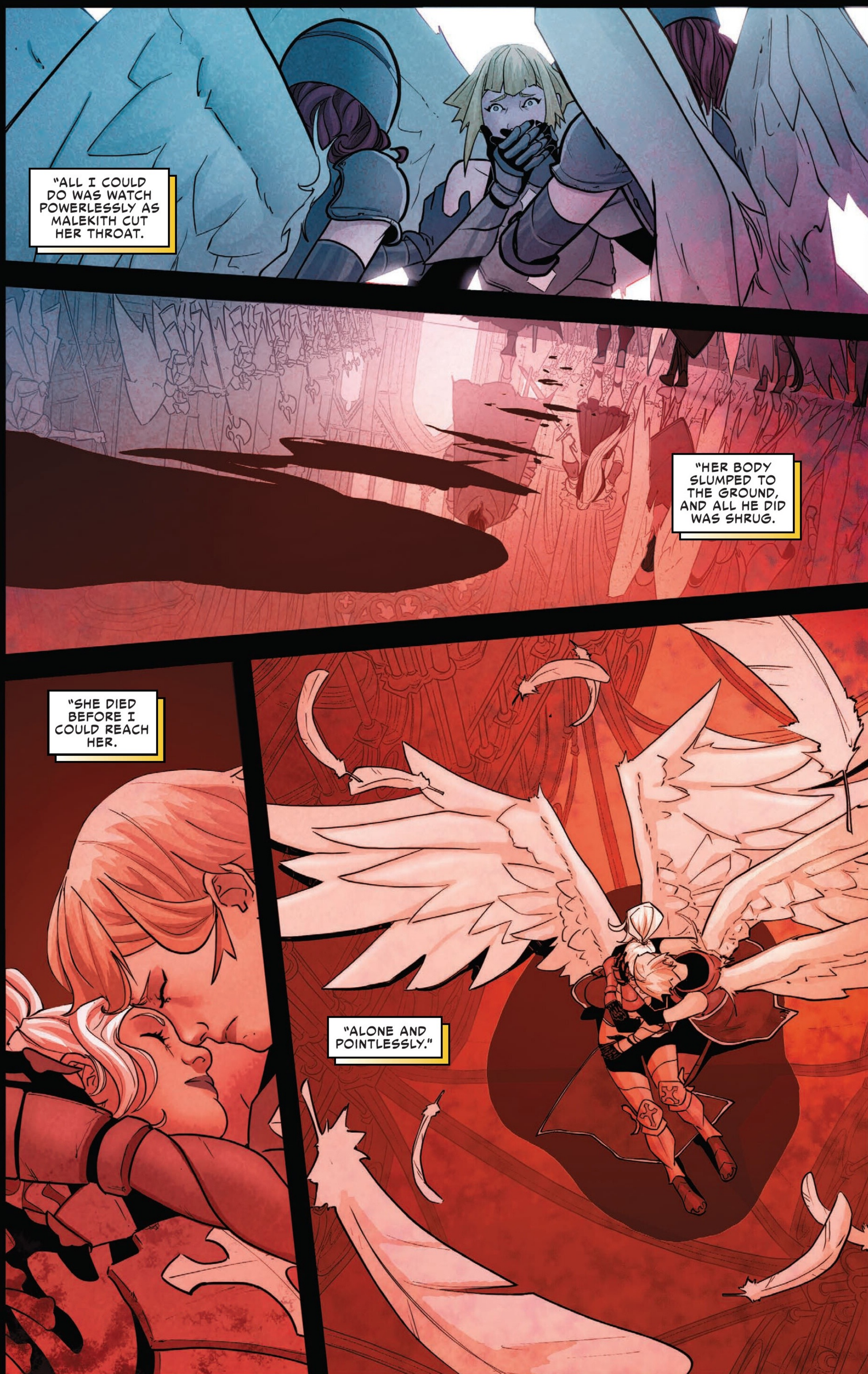
"MALEKITH HAD NEVER SLAIN AN ANGEL.

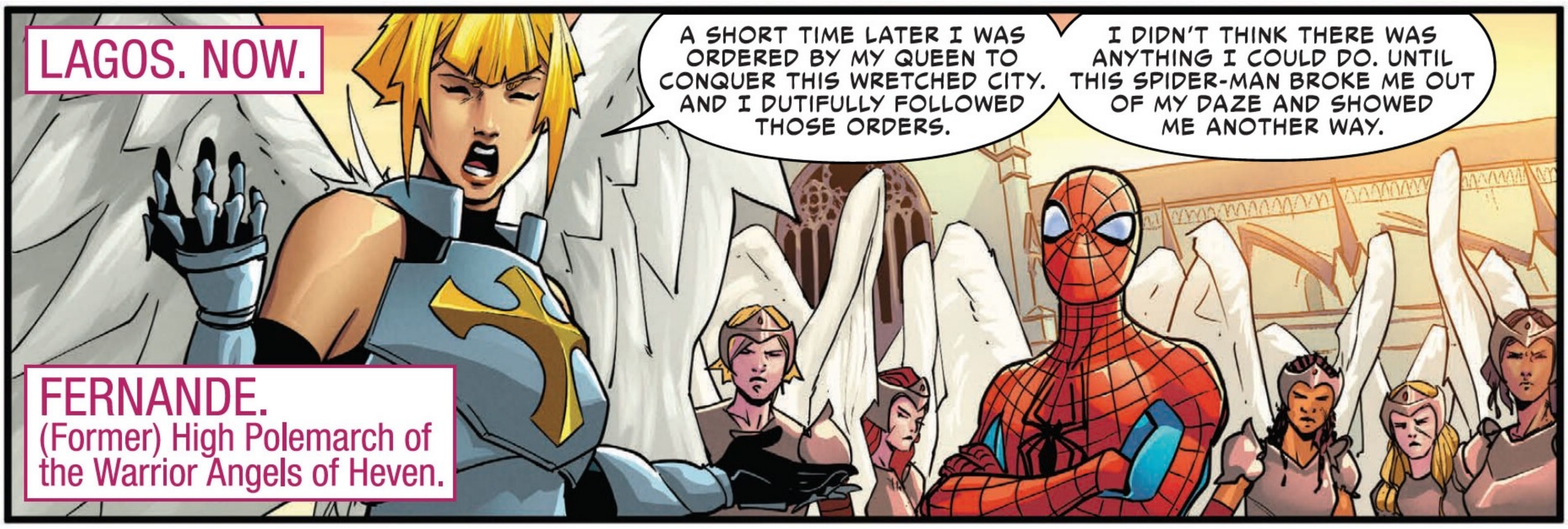
"HE WISHED TO KNOW WHAT IT FELT LIKE.

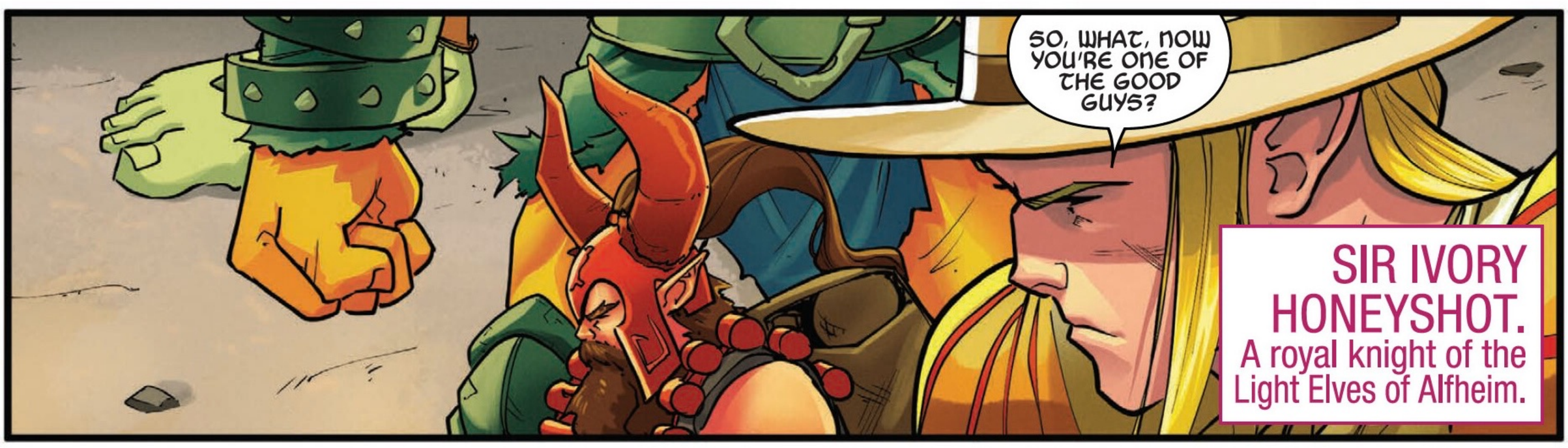
"OUR QUEEN CHOSE ONE OF US AT RANDOM, AND IT WAS ANEMONE'S NAME THAT WAS CALLED.

"I PLEADED WITH OUR QUEEN TO RECONSIDER ALL OF THIS, BUT THE PROMISES OF REVENGE AND FUTURE RICHES FROM MALEKITH'S WAR BLINDED HER.

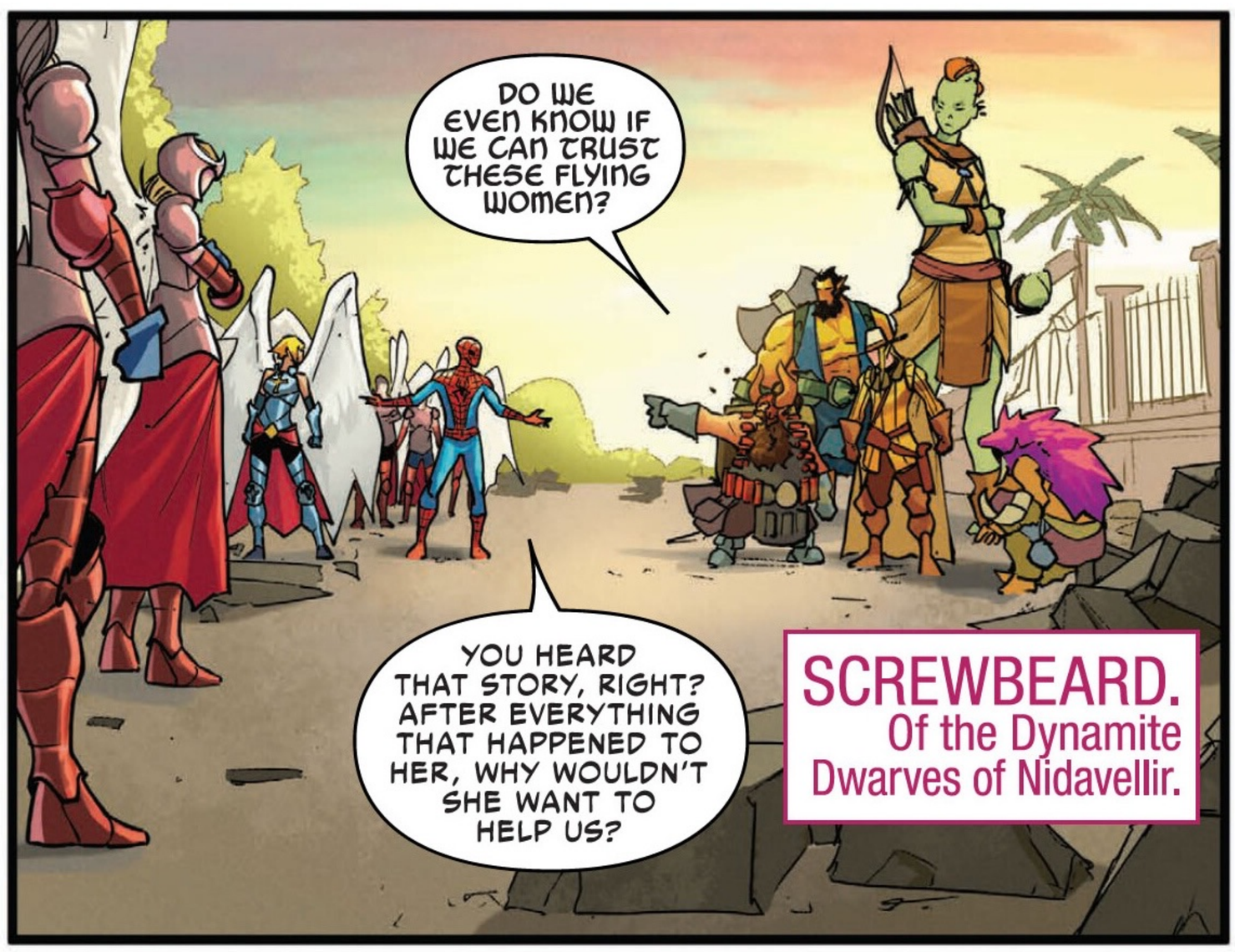
"I WENT TO ANEMONE THINKING MAYBE WE COULD ESCAPE, BUT I WAS TOO LATE. THEY HAD ALREADY TAKEN HER.


"ALL I COULD DO WAS WATCH POWERLESSLY AS MALEKITH CUT HER THROAT.
"HER BODY SLUMPED TO THE GROUND, AND ALL HE DID WAS SHRUG.
"SHE DIED BEFORE I COULD REACH HER.
"ALONE AND POINTLESSLY."

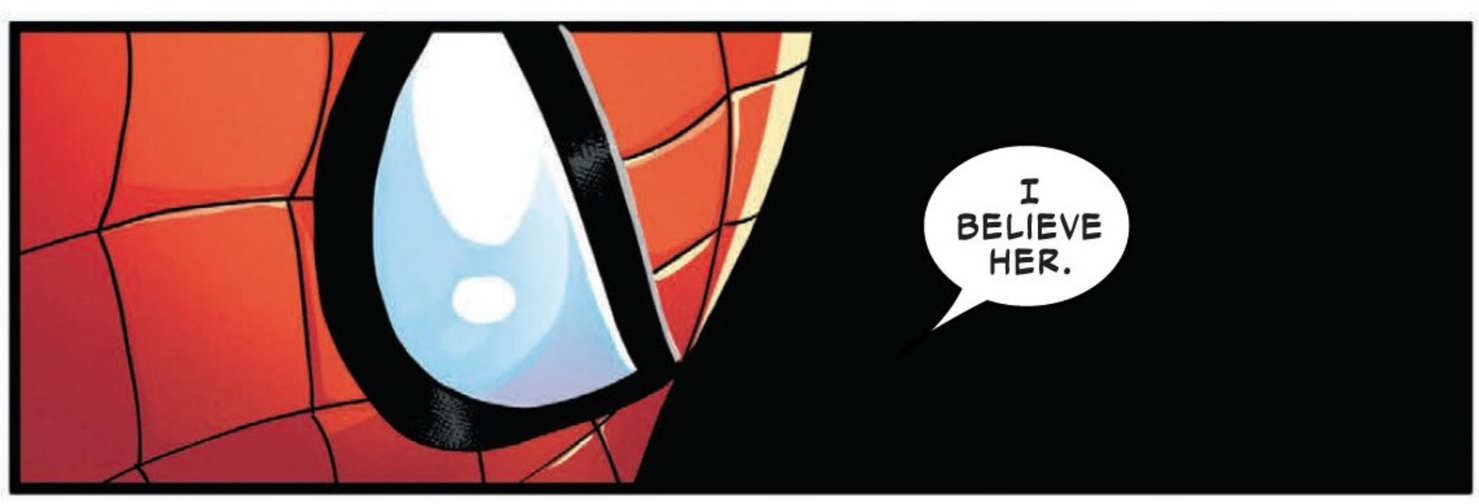

LAGOS. NOW.
A SHORT TIME LATER I WAS ORDERED BY MY QUEEN TO CONQUER THIS WRETCHED CITY. AND I DUTIFULLY FOLLOWED THOSE ORDERS.
I DIDN'T THINK THERE WAS ANYTHING I COULD DO. UNTIL THIS SPIDER-MAN BROKE ME OUT OF MY DAZE AND SHOWED ME ANOTHER WAY.
FERNANDE.
(Former) High Polemarch of the Warrior Angels of Heven.

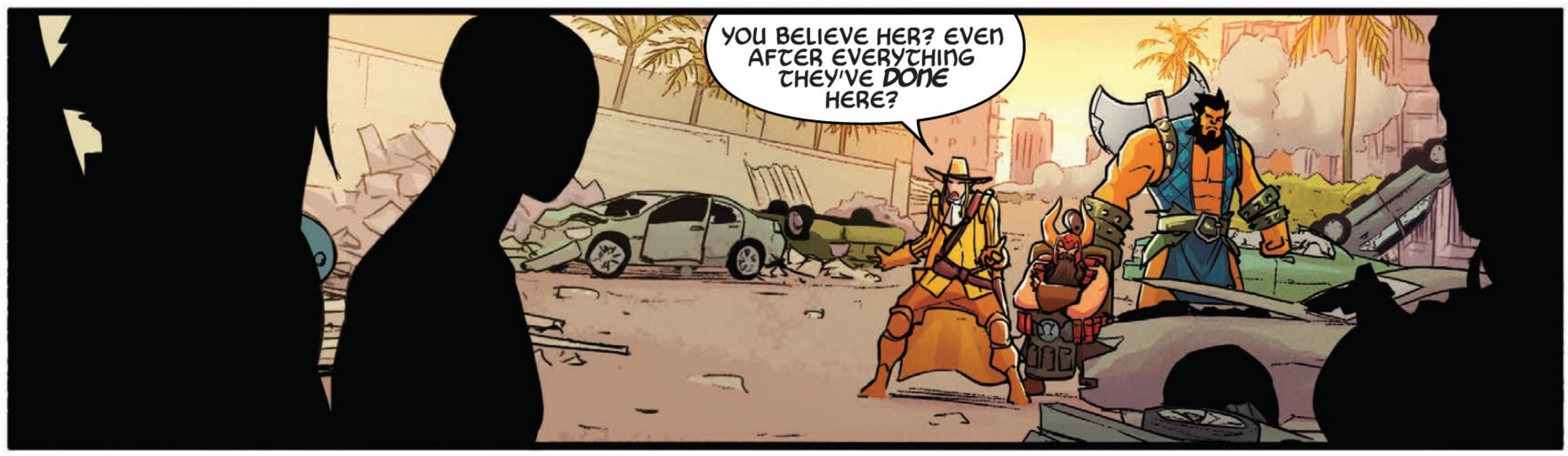

SO, WHAT, NOW YOU'RE ONE OF THE GOOD GUYS?
SIR IVORY HONEYSHOT.
A royal knight of the Light Elves of Alfheim.

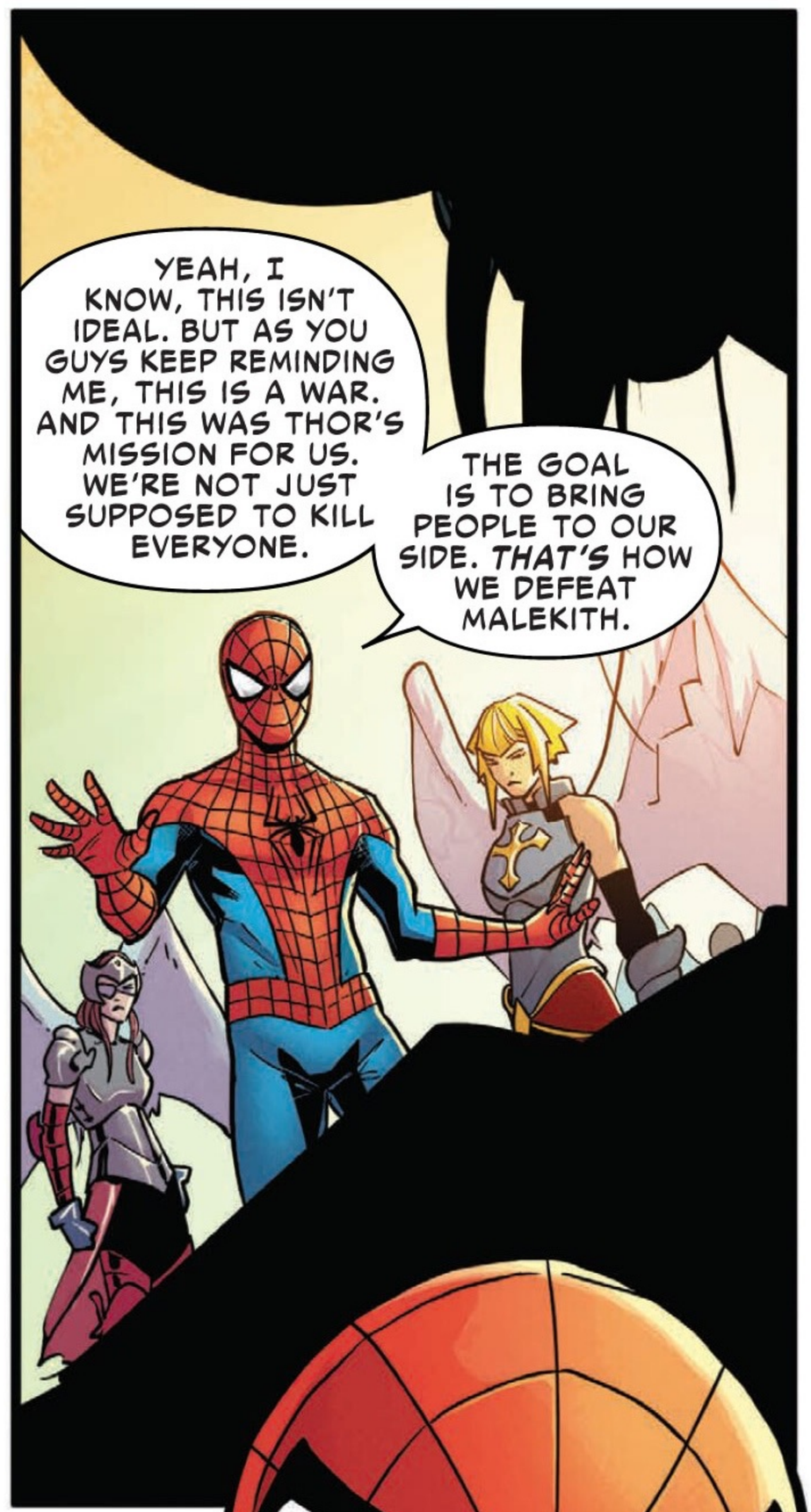
I OWE SPIDER-MAN AND MY ANGELS OWE ME. I'M FIGHTING FOR THEM.
OUR QUEEN IS NOT FIT TO LEAD IF SHE CAN JOIN FORCES WITH SOMEONE LIKE MALEKITH AND SO CAVALIERLY SACRIFICE ONE OF OUR OWN.


DO WE EVEN KNOW IF WE CAN TRUST THESE FLYING WOMEN?
YOU HEARD THAT STORY, RIGHT? AFTER EVERYTHING THAT HAPPENED TO HER, WHY WOULDN'T SHE WANT TO HELP US?
SCREWBEARD.
Of the Dynamite Dwarves of Nidavellir.

ANGELS ARE SLIPPERY LIARS. THEY WILL SAY ANYTHING TO GET WHAT THEY WANT.
UD THE TROLL.

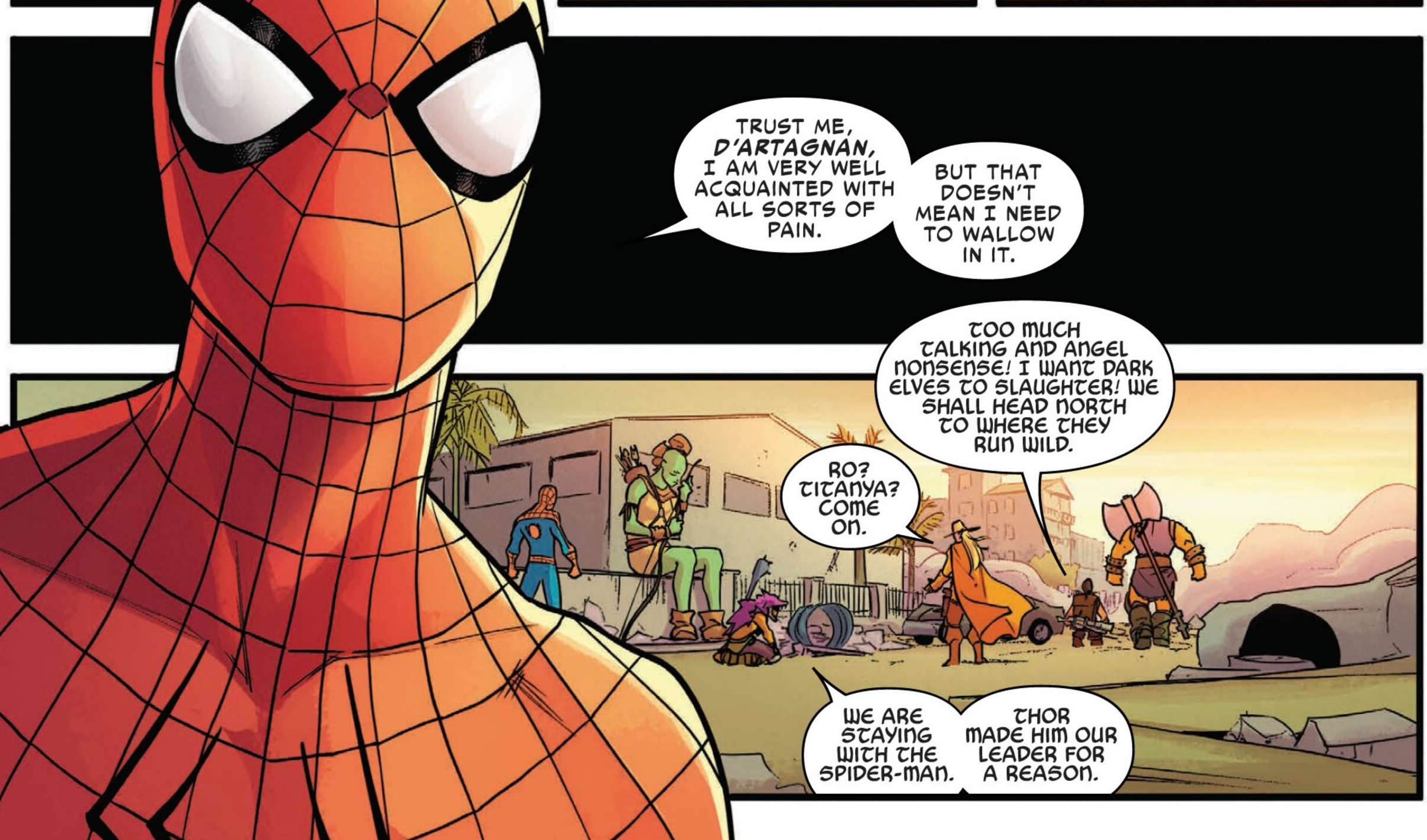

I BELIEVE HER.

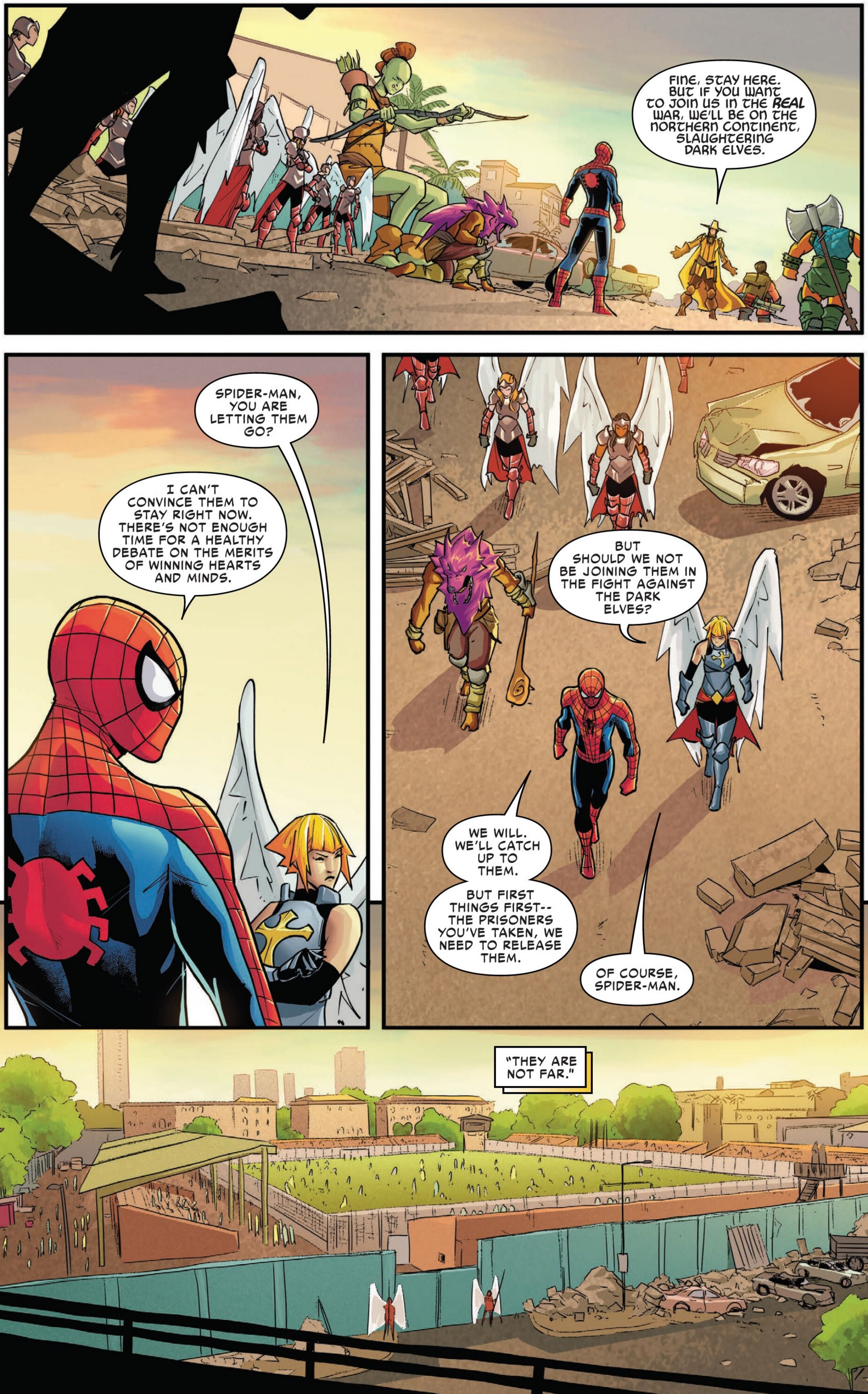

YOU BELIEVE HER? EVEN AFTER EVERYTHING THEY'VE DONE HERE?


YEAH, I KNOW, THIS ISN'T IDEAL. BUT AS YOU GUYS KEEP REMINDING ME, THIS IS A WAR. AND THIS WAS THOR'S MISSION FOR US. WE'RE NOT JUST SUPPOSED TO KILL EVERYONE.
THE GOAL IS TO BRING PEOPLE TO OUR SIDE. THAT'S HOW WE DEFEAT MALEKITH.

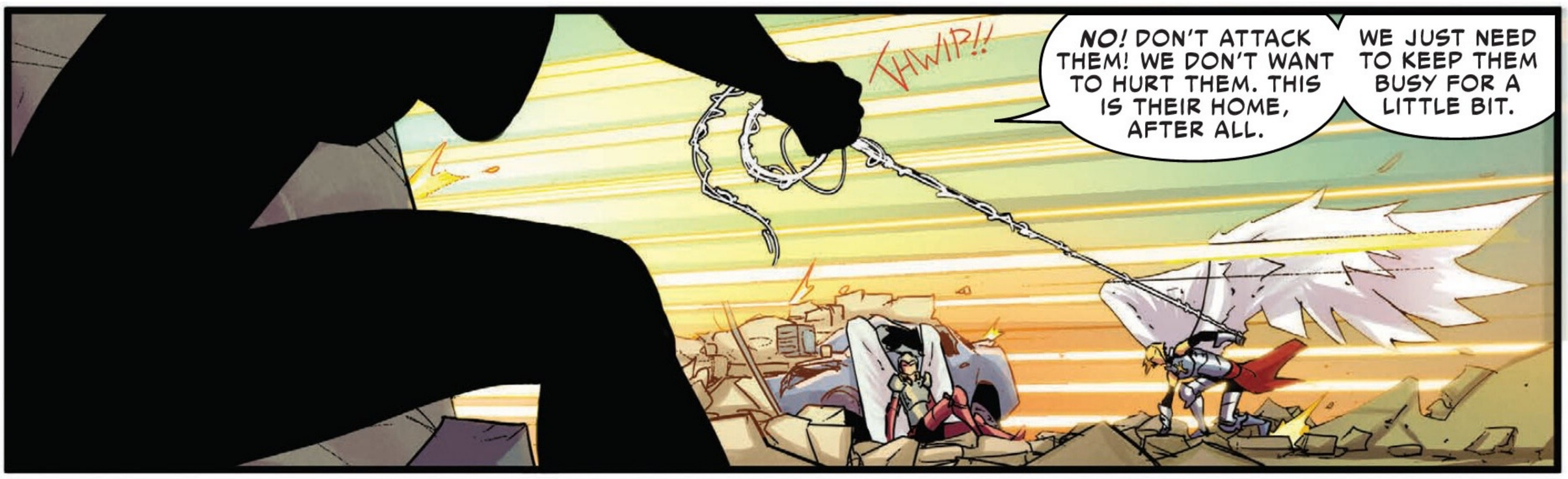
WARS ARE NOT WON BY HOLDING HANDS. THEY ARE WON BY CUTTING THEM OFF.
LOOK, I KNOW YOU'RE ANGRY BECAUSE OF WHAT MALEKITH HAS DONE, BUT WE NEED TO BE SMART ABOUT THIS.

HOW COULD YOU POSSIBLY UNDERSTAND THE PAIN THAT MALEKITH HAS CAUSED US?


TRUST ME, D'ARTAGNAN, I AM VERY WELL ACQUAINTED WITH ALL SORTS OF PAIN.
BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN I NEED TO WALLOW IN IT.
TOO MUCH TALKING AND ANGEL NONSENSE! I WANT DARK ELVES TO SLAUGHTER! WE SHALL HEAD NORTH TO WHERE THEY RUN WILD.
RO? TITANYA? COME ON.
WE ARE STAYING WITH THE SPIDER-MAN.
THOR MADE HIM OUR LEADER FOR A REASON.


FINE, STAY HERE. BUT IF YOU WANT TO JOIN US IN THE REAL WAR, WE'LL BE ON THE NORTHERN CONTINENT, SLAUGHTERING DARK ELVES.
SPIDER-MAN, YOU ARE LETTING THEM GO?
I CAN'T CONVINCE THEM TO STAY RIGHT NOW. THERE'S NOT ENOUGH TIME FOR A HEALTHY DEBATE ON THE MERITS OF WINNING HEARTS AND MINDS.
BUT SHOULD WE NOT BE JOINING THEM IN THE FIGHT AGAINST THE DARK ELVES?
WE WILL. WE'LL CATCH UP TO THEM.
BUT FIRST THINGS FIRST-- THE PRISONERS YOU'VE TAKEN, WE NEED TO RELEASE THEM.
OF COURSE, SPIDER-MAN.
"THEY ARE NOT FAR."

ALL RIGHT, LET'S OPEN THIS PLACE UP AND GET THESE PEOPLE OUT OF HERE.
INCOMING!
SCATTER!
TAKE COVER!
BOOOM
OH GOOD, BULLETS.
IT IS THE HUMAN ARMY. THEY MUST HAVE SEEN THAT OUR PERIMETER IS DOWN.
DON'T WORRY, WE WILL SILENCE THEIR WEAPONS.


KHWIP!!
NO! DON'T ATTACK THEM! WE DON'T WANT TO HURT THEM. THIS IS THEIR HOME, AFTER ALL.
WE JUST NEED TO KEEP THEM BUSY FOR A LITTLE BIT.

RO, IS THERE ANYTHING YOU CAN DO TO KEEP THEM BACK WITHOUT HURTING ANYONE?
I CAN THINK OF SOMETHING.

AWESOME. TITANYA, YOU'RE WITH ME ON DOOR DUTY.
TITANYA VAETILDA VINNSUVIUS.
Of the Mountain Giants of Jotunheim.

FERNANDE, MAKE SURE YOUR FOLKS STAY SAFE AND OUT OF THE FIGHT.

LET'S GO.

WE SHOULD FIGHT. THIS IS INSULTING.
NO. WAIT.

RO BLOODROOT.
The Wood Wizard of Vanaheim.

BLAM
BLAM
BLAM
PLIP
PLIP
PLEEP
PLORP
SHOOOSH

BOOM
THIS IS MADNESS!

KEEP FIRING!
NO, WAIT!

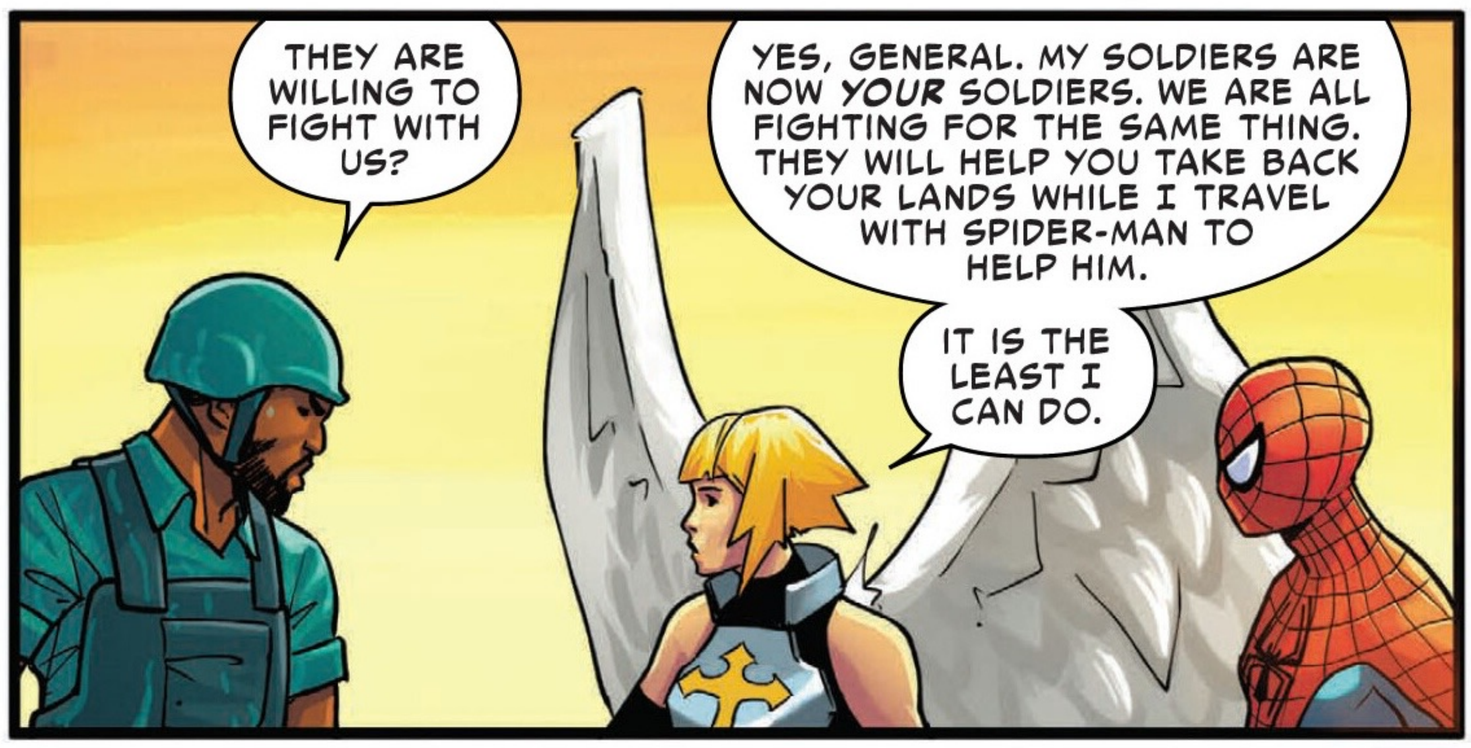
LOOK!
IT'S THE PRISONERS! THEY'RE FREE.

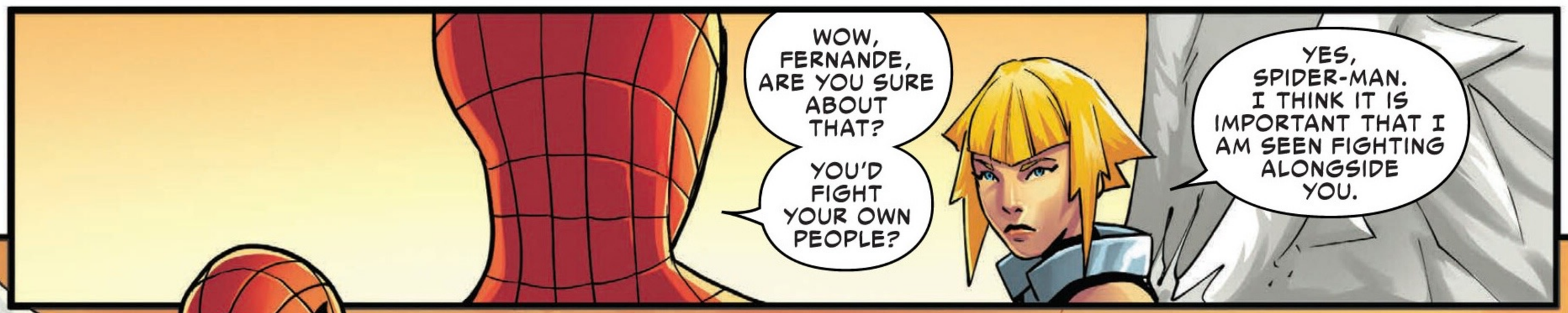
WHAT IS HAPPENING?
HI...

...I CAN EXPLAIN.

WHOA! WHOA! SAME SIDE! SAME SIDE!

WHAT IS GOING ON HERE?
A LOT.





THAT IS, IF YOU WILL HAVE ME IN YOUR LEAGUE OF REALMS?

WELL...

THE VATICAN.

"...YOU'RE WELCOME IN WHATEVER'S LEFT OF IT."

NOW THIS IS WAR!

NO MORE TALK. JUST SLAUGHTER.

BOOM

AND BOOMS!

SO MANY BOOMS!

AND RO AND TITANYA ARE MISSING ALL OF IT.

AT THE RATE WE'RE GOING, WE'LL BE FINISHED WITH THIS WAR BY TOMORROW MORNING.

WELL, OKAY, MAKE THAT TOMORROW AFTERNOON AT THE LATEST.
THERE ARE SO MANY.
WHERE DO THEY ALL COME FROM?
WHO CARES.
I KNOW WHERE I WILL BE SENDING THEM.
WHAT? THEY STOP?
THEY RETREAT?
OF COURSE THEY DID. THEY SMELLED THE STENCH OF THEIR COMRADES' VISCERA PAINTED ON THE WALLS.
UH...

...OR NOT.

FINALLY, A FAIR FIGHT.
'SPLODE HIM!
WAIT!
I WAIT FOR--
CLANG
MMF!
SMASH

DIE, FOUL BEAST!
AHH!
NO!
KRRSSHHH

NOW, THERE, KURSE, PERHAPS WE COULD TALK ABOUT ALL THIS...
...BUT YOU DO NOT REALLY SEEM LIKE THE TALKING TYPE.
BANG BANG
CLANG
CLANG
ARRHHH!
BANG
CLANG

PLEASE...
WHAT...?
KILL ME.
SOMEBODY.
KILL ME.

SPIDER-MAN & THE LEAGUE OF REALMS #3

Why We Fight Part 3

Spider-Man and the League of Realms: "WHY WE FIGHT"

Conclusion

...BEFORE I AGREED TO BE MALEKITH'S PROXY IN NASTROND PRISON.
I HAD HOPED IT WOULD UNITE MY PEOPLE AND SAVE THEM FROM FURTHER BLOODSHED.
I WAS RESIGNED TO MY FATE. A THOUSAND YEARS IN AN ICY HOLE GUARDED BY THE HIDEOUS SPIDERS OF HEL.
I ASSUMED IT COULD NOT GET ANY WORSE.
I UNDERESTIMATED HOW MONSTROUS MALEKITH'S MIND TRULY IS.
HE FREED ME AND FORCED ALGRIM THE STRONG TO TAKE MY PLACE.
ALGRIM USED TO POSSESS THE POWER OF KURSE, BUT NO LONGER.
MALEKITH ROBBED HIM OF IT...
...AND GAVE IT TO ME.

NOW I AM *KURSE.*

AND UNDER MALEKITH'S COMPLETE CONTROL.

THE ENCHANTED ARMOR I NOW BEAR IS FUSED TO MY SKIN, GRANTING ME OTHERWORLDLY STRENGTH.

THERE IS NOTHING WITHIN THE TEN REALMS THAT CAN KILL ME.

BUT OH, HOW I WISH THERE WAS.

THE PAIN I FEEL CONSTANTLY WHILE INSIDE THIS ARMOR IS DWARFED ONLY BY THE PAIN I CAUSE OUTSIDE IT.

ALGRIM TOLD ME TO KILL MYSELF AT THE VERY FIRST CHANCE I COULD GET.

BUT I CAN'T.

WHILE I DID JUST RECENTLY REGAIN MY OWN CONSCIOUSNESS INSIDE THIS PRISON, I REMAIN UNDER MALEKITH'S CONTROL.*

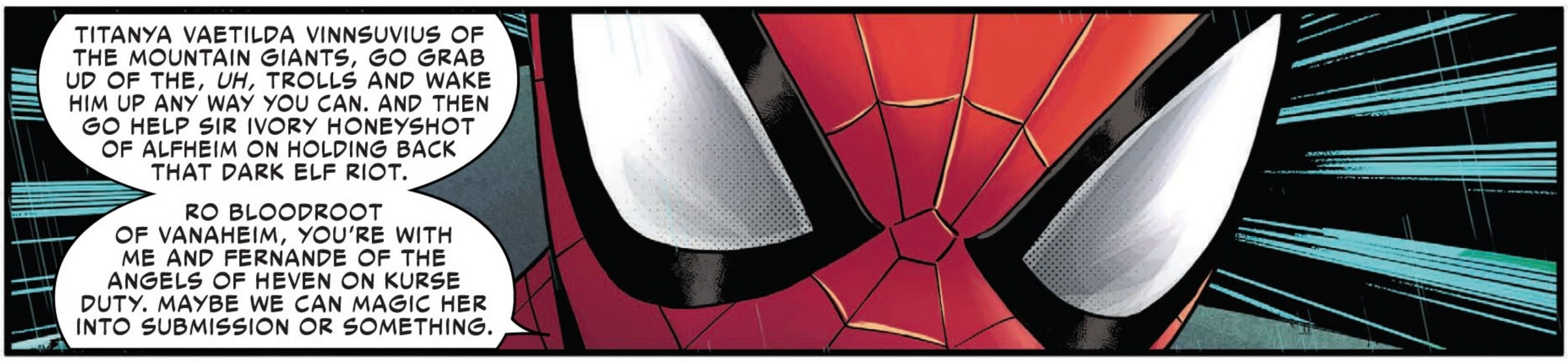
*SEE WOTR: WAR SCROLLS #3!

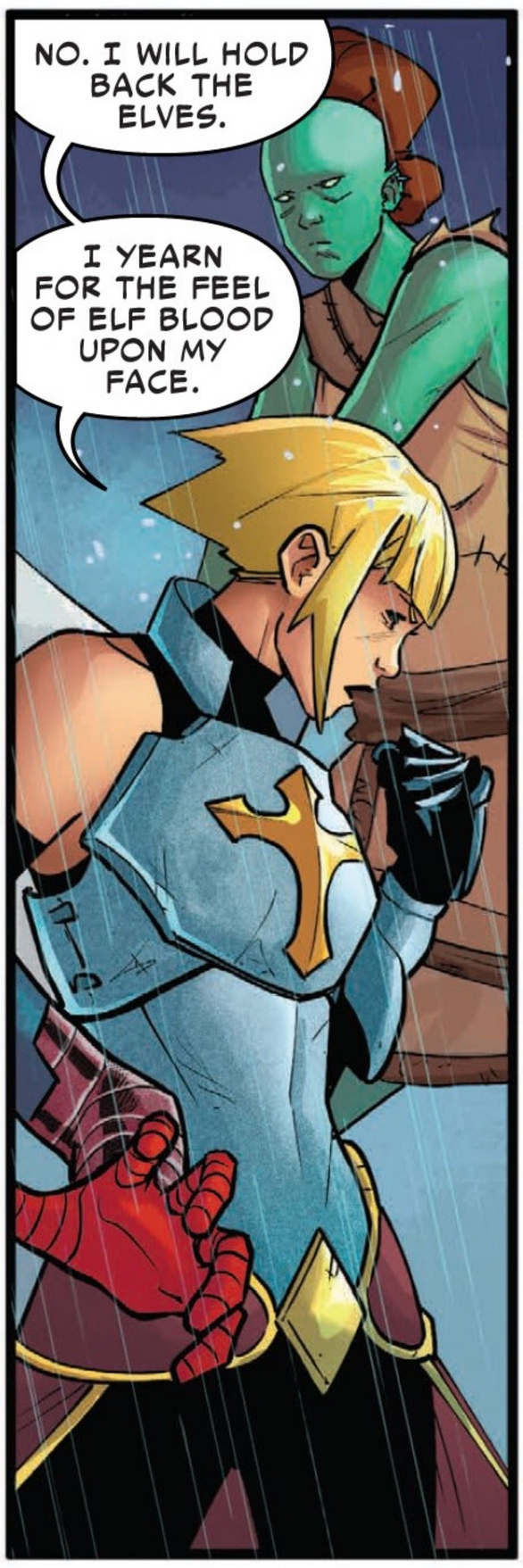
I NEED HELP...

...BUT MY FORMER TEAMMATES HAVE NO IDEA I'M IN HERE.
KILL ME.
KLAAAAANG
GLADLY!
AKKK!

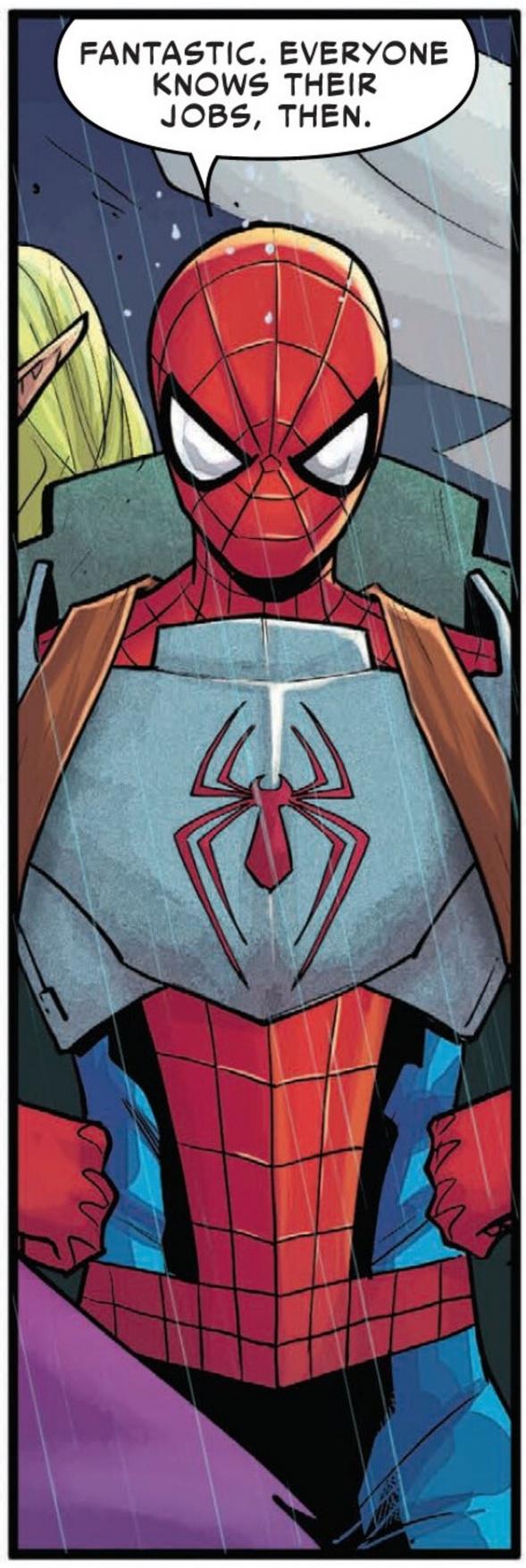
NEED TO REGROUP, FIGURE OUT A WAY TO--
GOING SOMEWHERE...
!
...SOLDIER?
NOW, WHAT IS THAT?
IT'S KURSE. WE'VE FOUGHT HER BEFORE.
SHE'S POWERFUL, THOUGH. VERY POWERFUL. SHE GAVE THOR A RUN FOR HER MONEY LAST TIME.
SO WHAT'S THE GOOD NEWS?
HER SHOWING UP DID SCARE AWAY THE HORDE OF DARK ELVES THAT WAS COMING AT US.
SPIDER-MAN? WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
SAVING THE DAY, OBVIOUSLY.
BUT IT APPEARS AS THOUGH THEY HAVE GOTTEN THEIR NERVE BACK.
I DON'T LIKE ANY OF THIS.

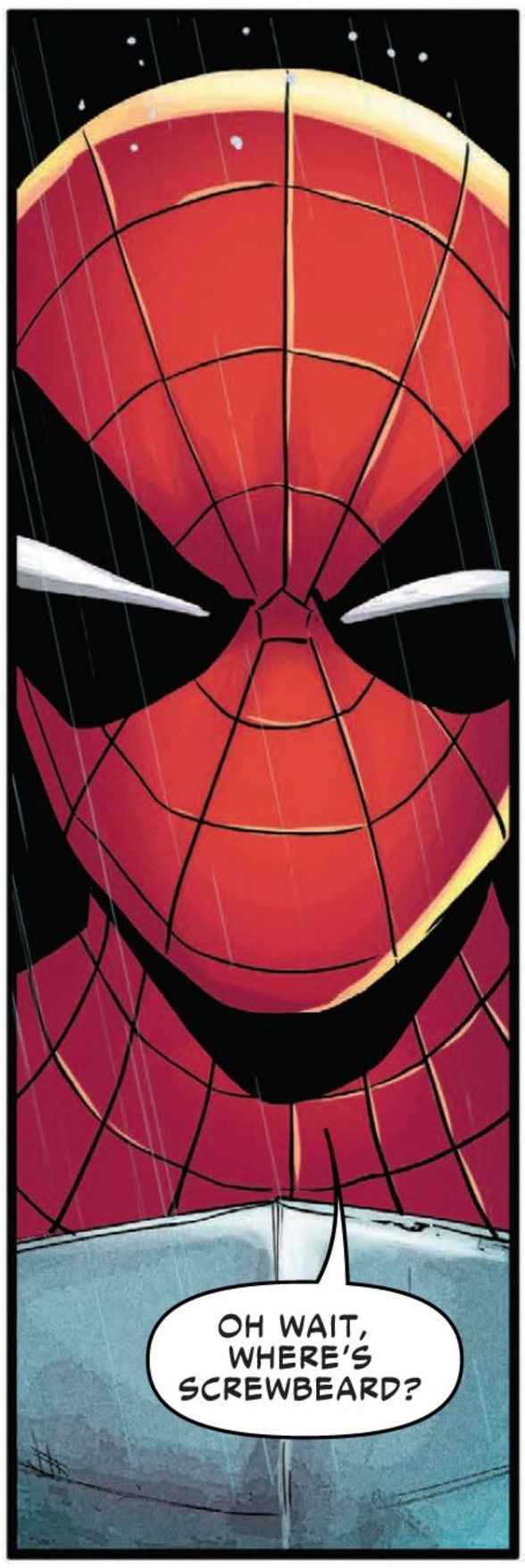
ALL RIGHT, LOOKS LIKE WE'RE GONNA HAVE TO SPLIT UP.


TITANYA VAETILDA VINNSUVIUS OF THE MOUNTAIN GIANTS, GO GRAB UD OF THE, *UH,* TROLLS AND WAKE HIM UP ANY WAY YOU CAN. AND THEN GO HELP SIR IVORY HONEYSHOT OF ALFHEIM ON HOLDING BACK THAT DARK ELF RIOT.
RO BLOODROOT OF VANAHEIM, YOU'RE WITH ME AND FERNANDE OF THE ANGELS OF HEVEN ON KURSE DUTY. MAYBE WE CAN MAGIC HER INTO SUBMISSION OR SOMETHING.


NO. I WILL HOLD BACK THE ELVES.
I YEARN FOR THE FEEL OF ELF BLOOD UPON MY FACE.

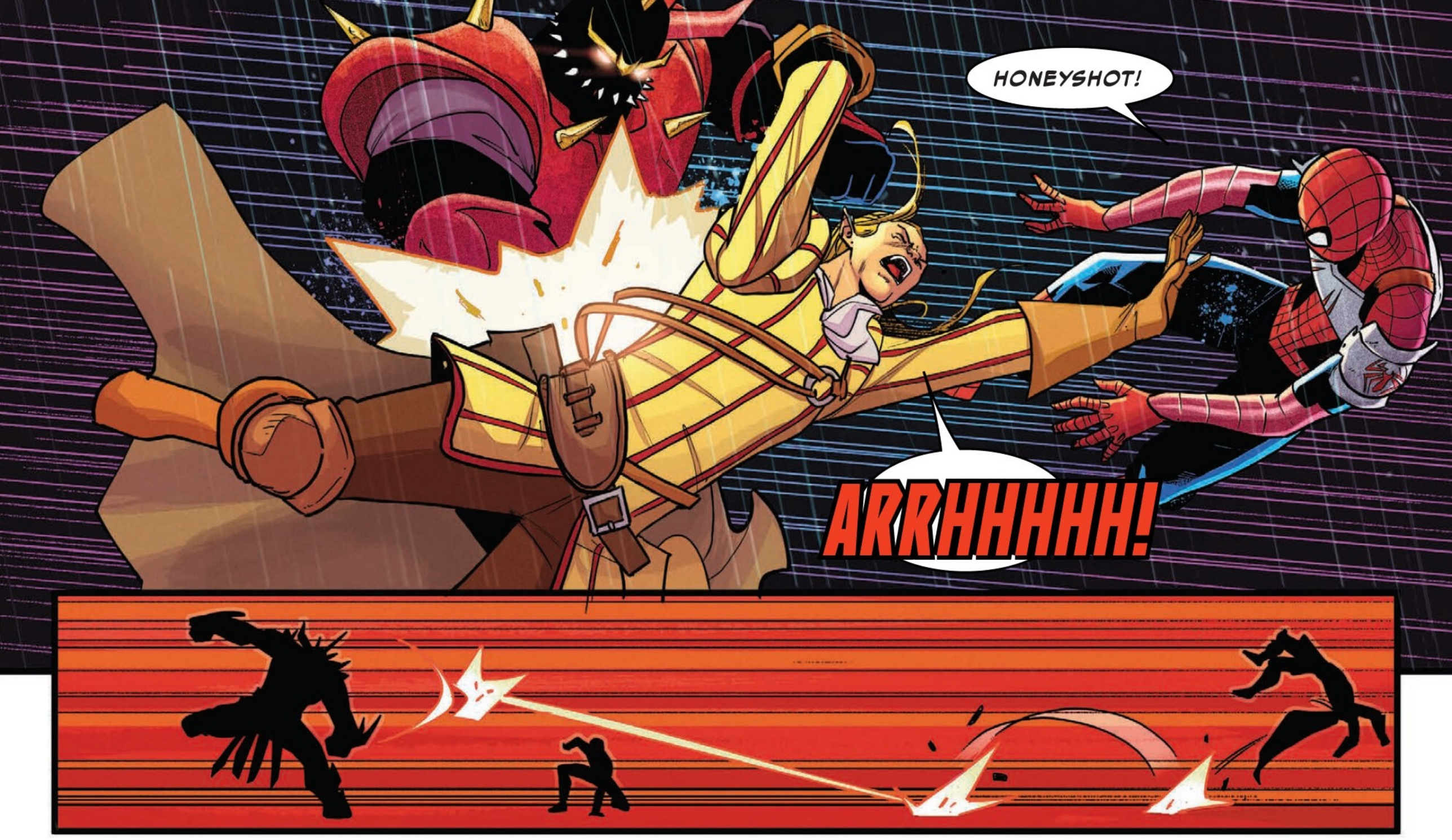
UH... SURE, OKAY.
AND I WILL HELP WITH KURSE.
THANKS, HONEYSHOT.


FANTASTIC. EVERYONE KNOWS THEIR JOBS, THEN.


OH WAIT, WHERE'S SCREWBEARD?

NEVER MIND, I SEE HIM.
DIE A THOUSAND DEATHS, YOU INFECTED GOAT RECTUM!
HE'S DISTRACTING KURSE. THAT SHOULD HELP US GET CLOSE.
TITANYA, HAVE SCREWBEARD HELP YOU WITH UD AND THEN THE DARK ELVES.
MEANWHILE, RO, SET UP SOMEWHERE NEARBY AND TRY PROBING THAT ARMOR WITH SOME MAGIC. SEE IF WE CAN'T SUSS OUT A WEAKNESS.
I WILL DO WHAT I CAN.
AND SO THEN IT'S JUST YOU AND ME AGAINST AN IMMENSELY POWERFUL BEING OF PURE HATE AND MALICE?
YEAH, I GUESS IT'S NOT EXACTLY A FAIR FIGHT.
THWIP
BUT THAT STILL DOESN'T MEAN WE SHOULD GO EASY ON HER.

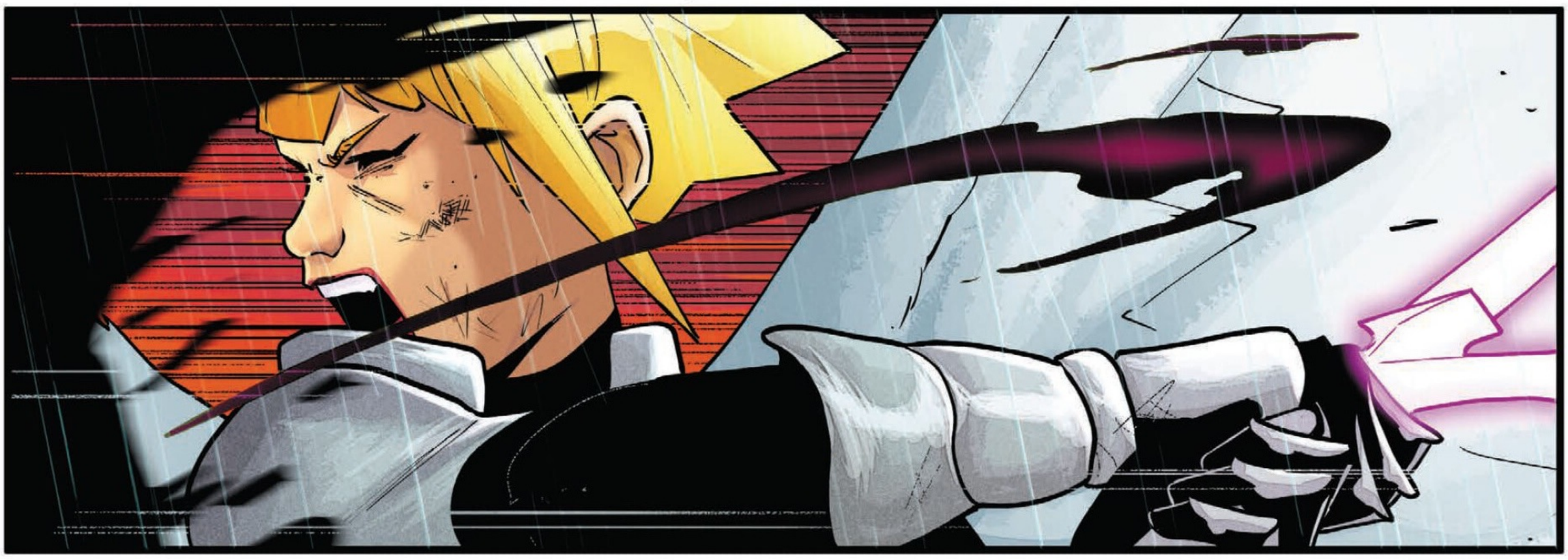
CHARGE TO YOUR SLAUGHTER, DARK ELVES.
PRAY THAT YOUR DEATHS WILL HONOR THE MEMORY OF MY ANEMONE.
NICE TRY, ANGEL.
YOU DON'T GET TO HOG ALL THE FUN.
YEAH. THAT'S SELFISH.
IT'S IMPORTANT TO WORK TOGETHER.
WHY IS SHE MAKING THIS SO HARD FOR US?
BEFORE YOU SHOWED UP, SHE ASKED ME TO KILL HER.
WHAT? REALLY?
THAT'S WEIRD...
SPIDER-MAN! LOOK OUT!


HONEYSHOT!
ARRHHHHH!

ARE YOU OKAY?
NO. MY BACK...
WELL, YOU SAVED MINE.
I OWE YOU ONE.

JUST STAY PUT.
I GOT THIS...
RO! ANYTHING!

SOMETHING IS...STRANGE.
THERE'S A LIFE...A SEPARATE LIFE INSIDE THAT ARMOR...
...FIGHTING BACK.



I'M TRYING TO REACH BEYOND THE ARMOR AND FIGURE OUT WHO IS TRAPPED INSIDE.

I'M NEARLY THERE...
THE ENERGY IS... LIKE A DARK ELF...

NO... IT CAN'T BE...

...WAZIRIA!

WHO?
ARGHH!

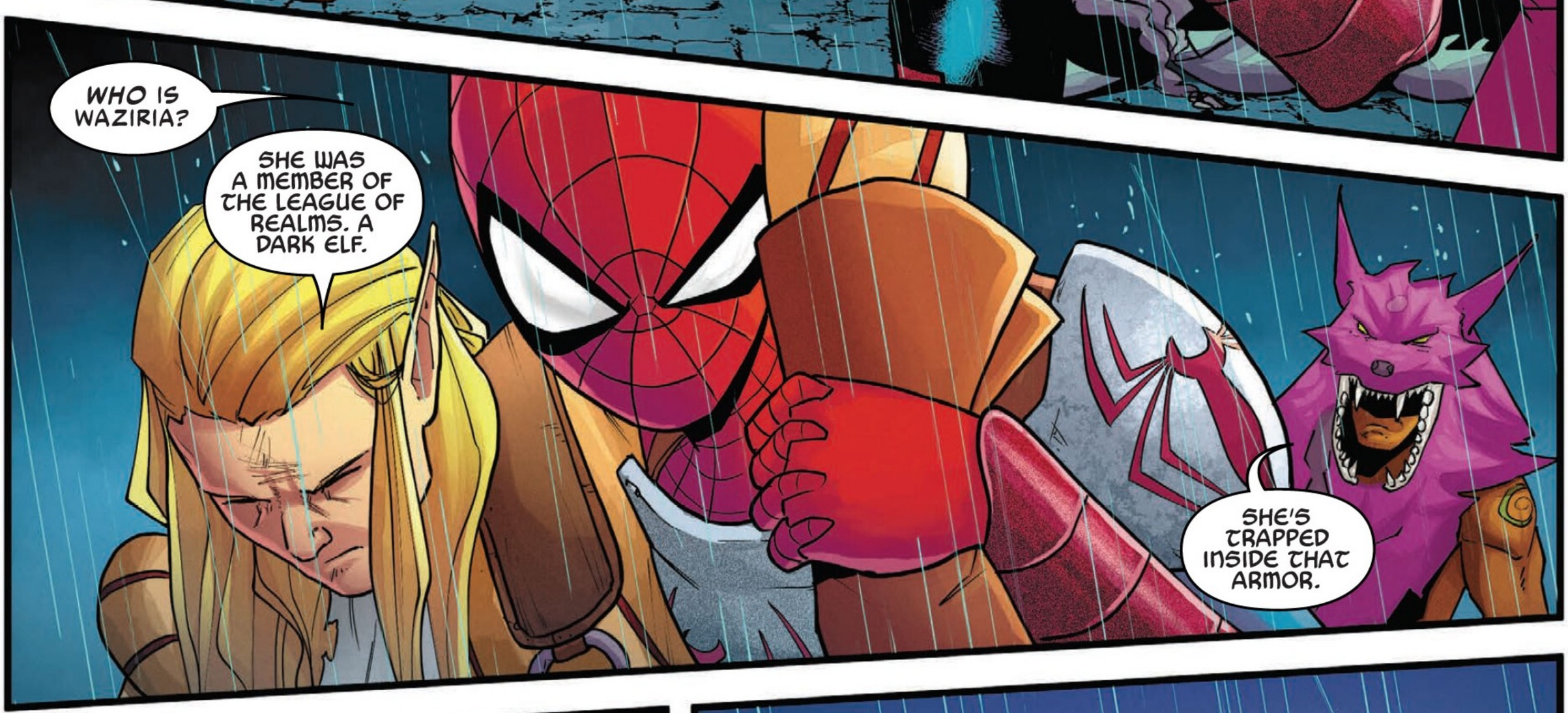
THIS ENDS NOW.

FERNANDE?! WHAT IS WRONG?!
EVERYTHING.

AND IT'S TIME TO STOP.

BOOM
KRAKAUUUM

GEEZ AND CRACKERS, WHAT WAS *THAT* ABOUT?
WAZIRIA IS IN THAT THING?

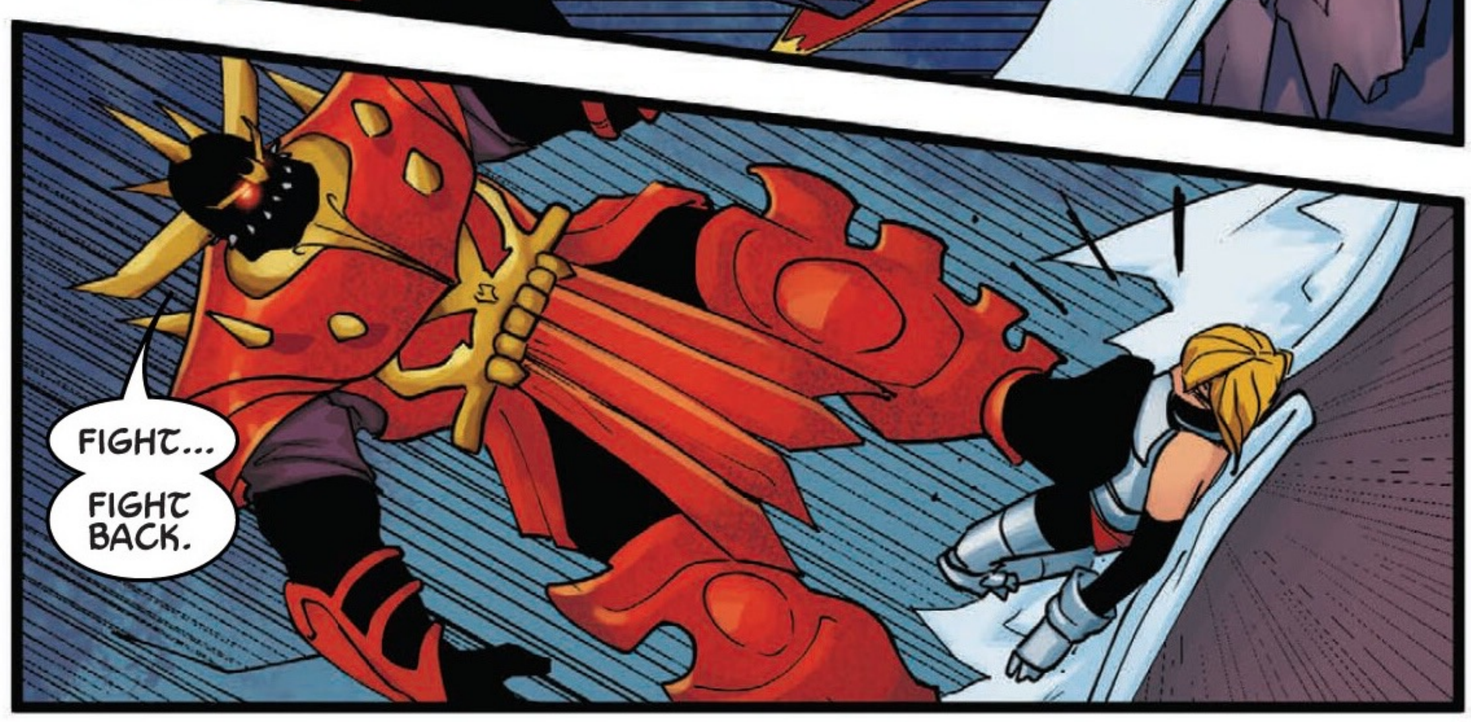

WHO IS WAZIRIA?
SHE WAS A MEMBER OF THE LEAGUE OF REALMS. A DARK ELF.
SHE'S TRAPPED INSIDE THAT ARMOR.

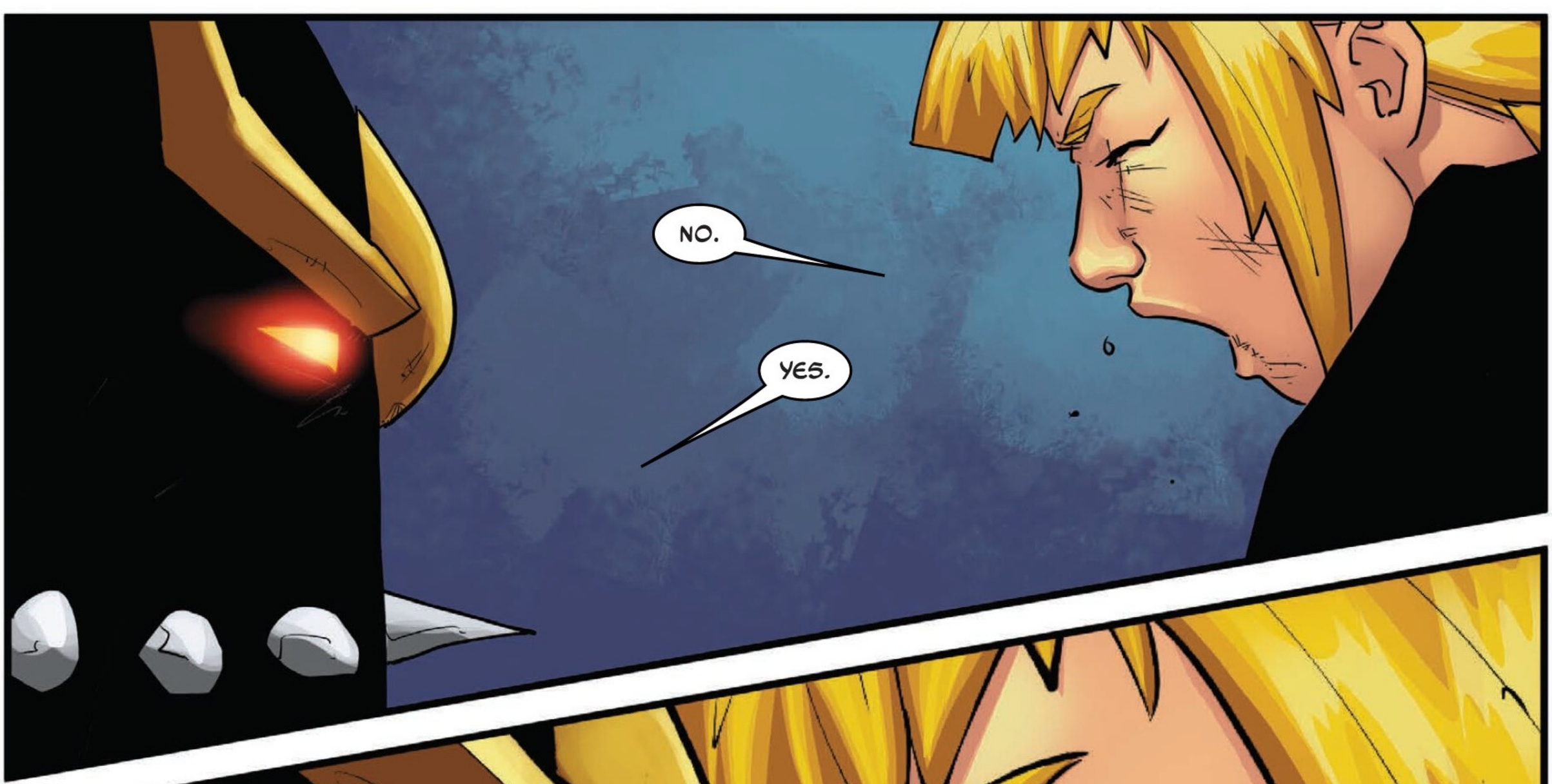
THAT MUST BE WHY SHE WANTED ME TO KILL HER. IT MUST BE TORTURE INSIDE.
RO, IS THERE A WAY TO MAGIC HER OUT?
MAYBE.

I'LL TAKE THAT AS A YES. COME ON.

YES.

NO.

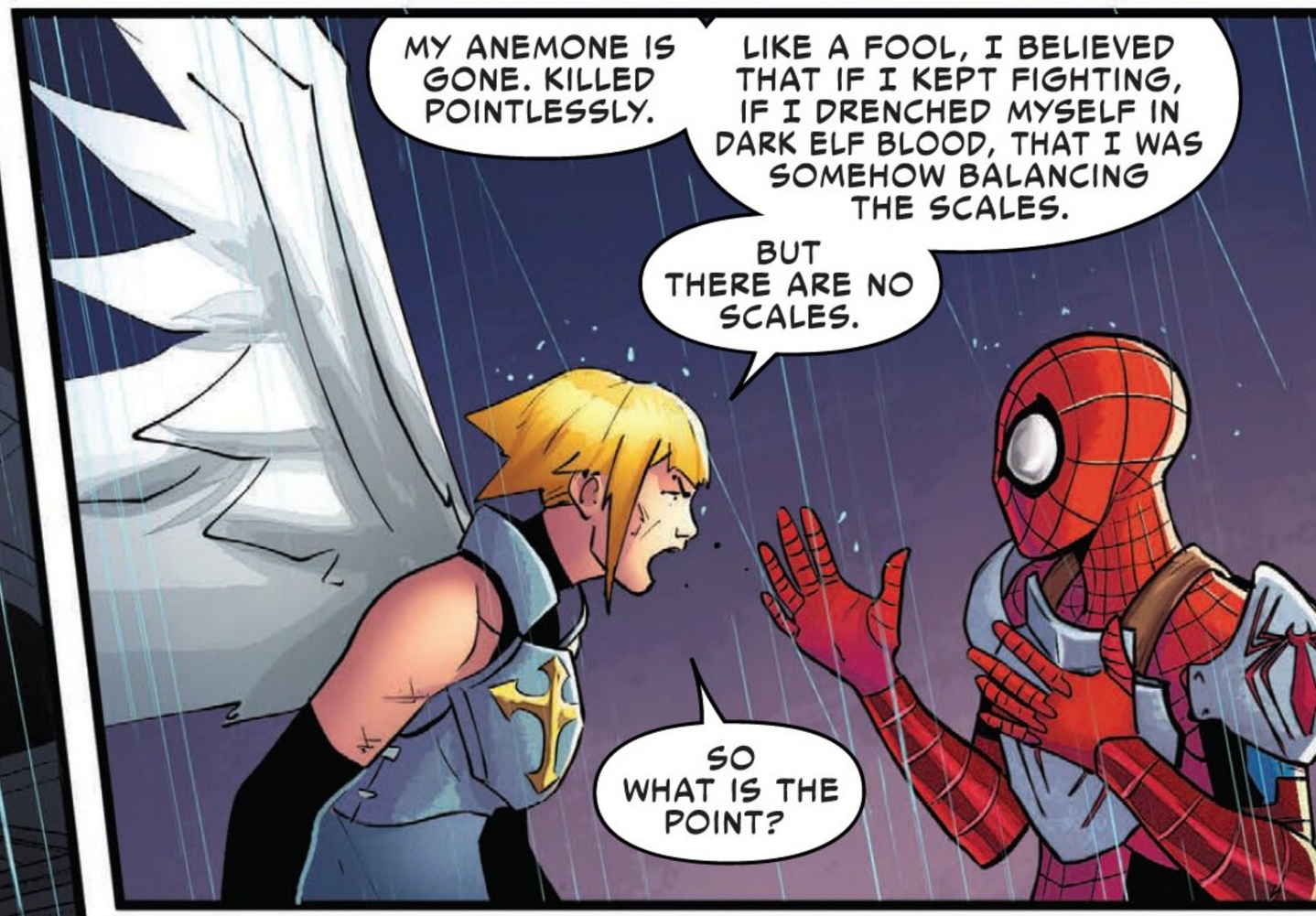

FIGHT...
FIGHT BACK.

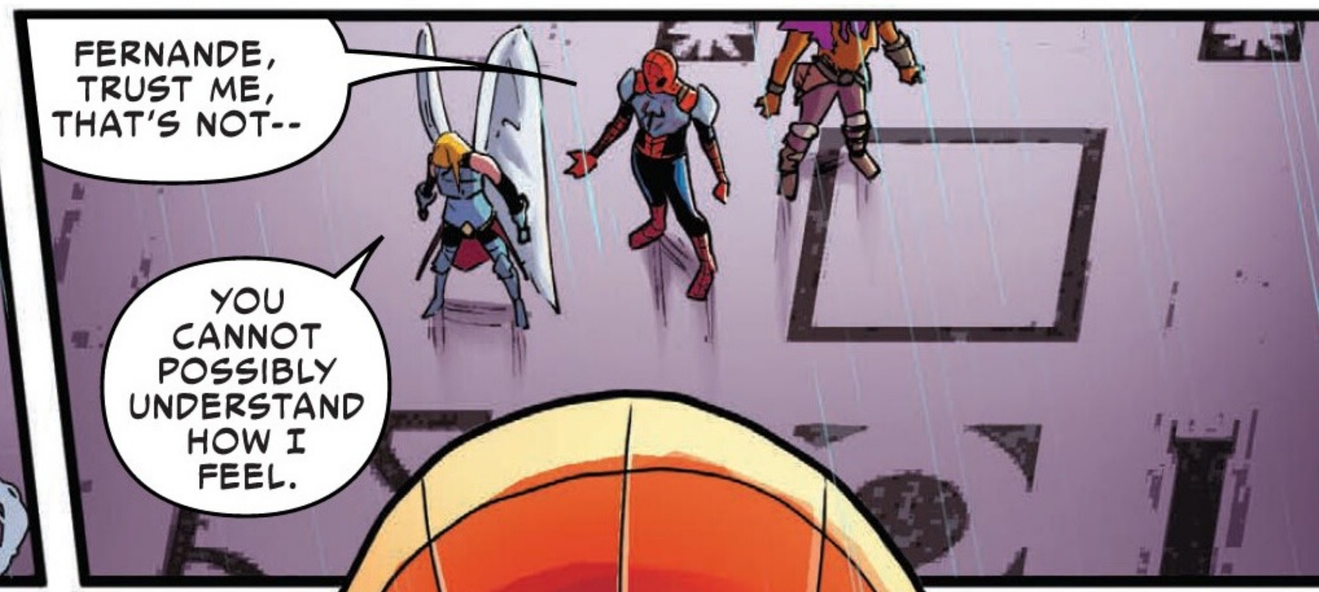

NO.
YES.

KILL ME.

MIND IF I CUT IN?

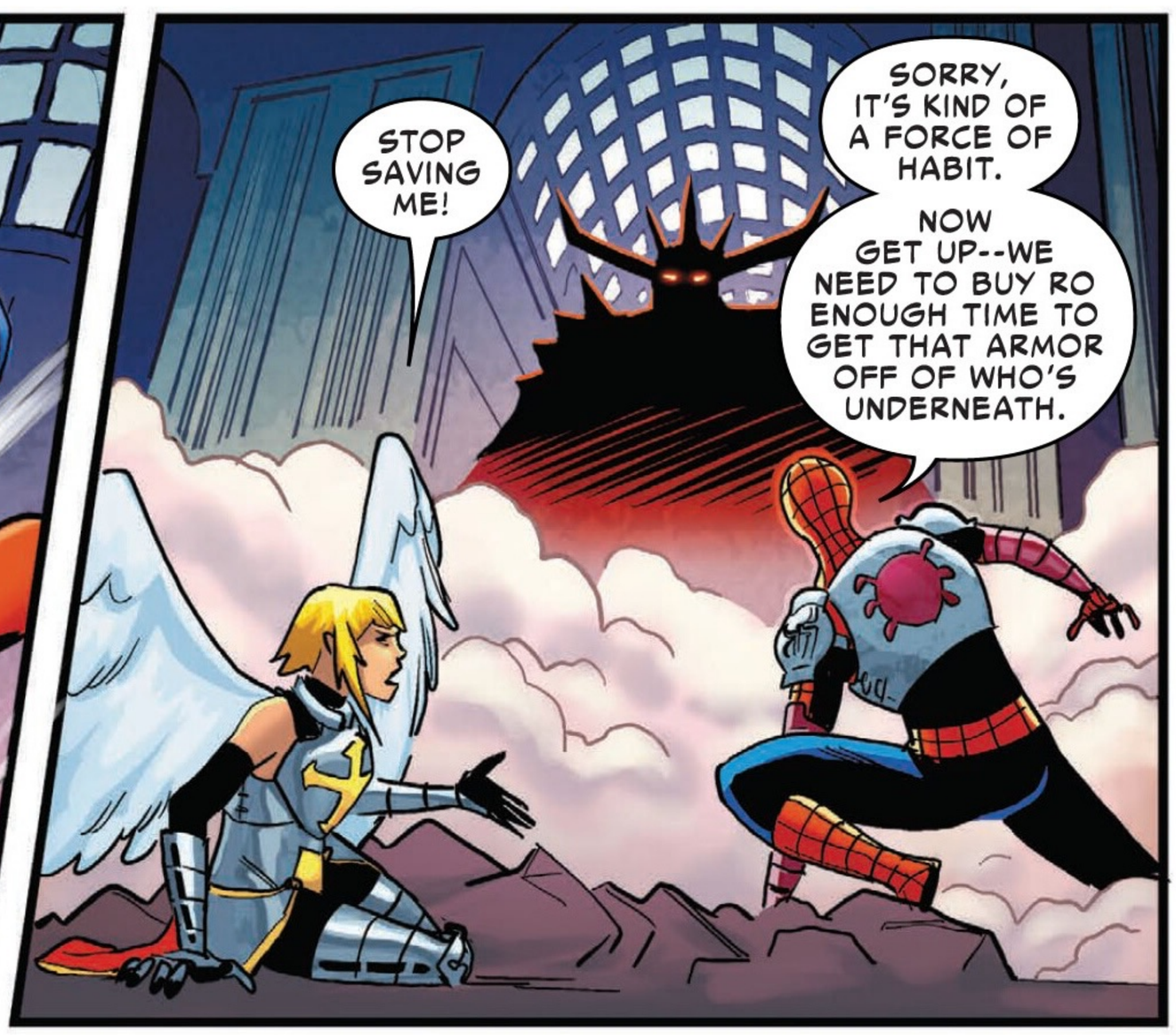
FERNANDE, WHAT IN THE HECK ARE YOU DOING?!
THE ONLY THING THAT MAKES SENSE!
WHAT?

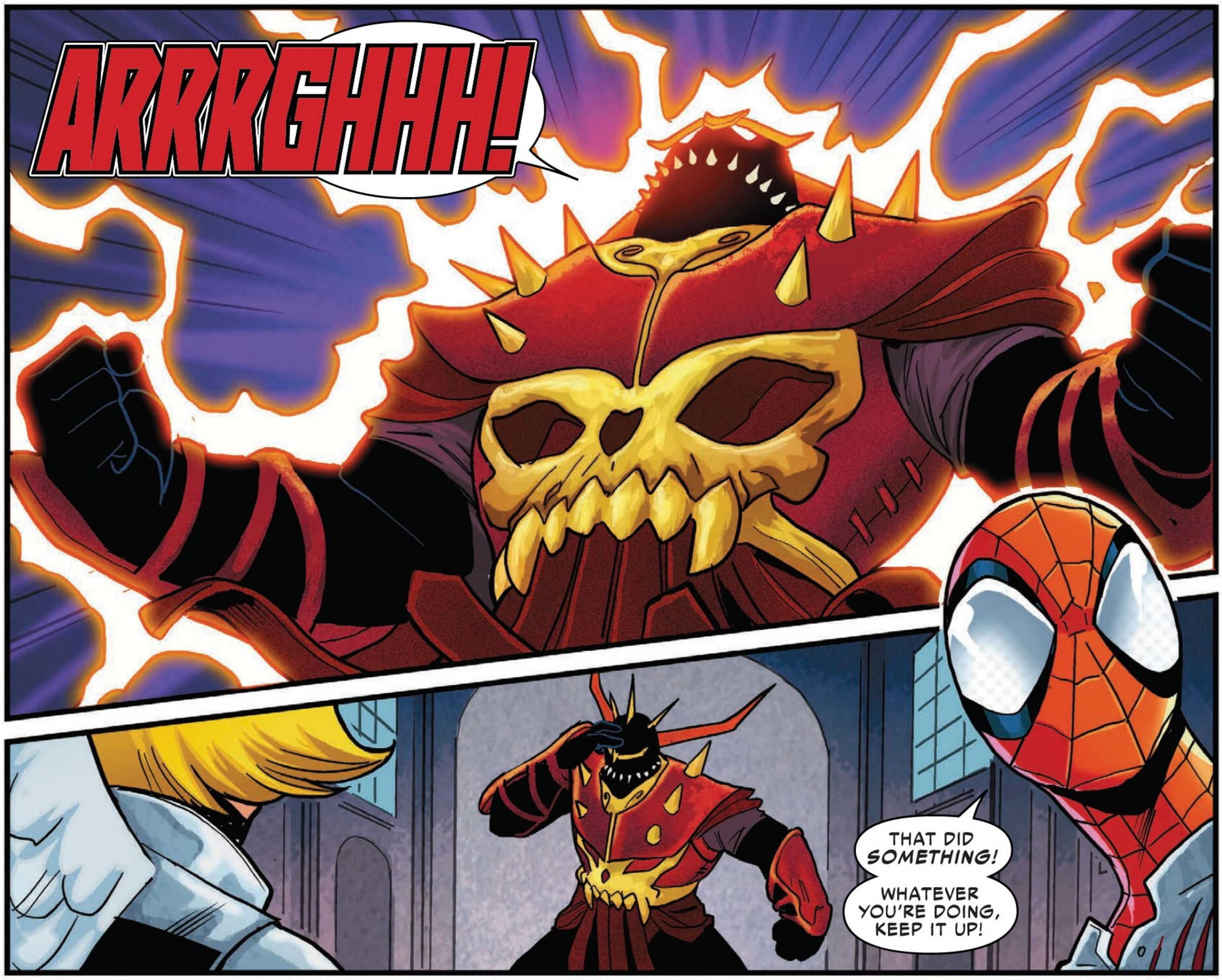

MY ANEMONE IS GONE. KILLED POINTLESSLY.
LIKE A FOOL, I BELIEVED THAT IF I KEPT FIGHTING, IF I DRENCHED MYSELF IN DARK ELF BLOOD, THAT I WAS SOMEHOW BALANCING THE SCALES.
BUT THERE ARE NO SCALES.
SO WHAT IS THE POINT?


FERNANDE, TRUST ME, THAT'S NOT--
YOU CANNOT POSSIBLY UNDERSTAND HOW I FEEL.

SERIOUSLY?!
LOSING A LOVED ONE TO A POINTLESS DEATH?!
I KNOW ABOUT THAT ALL TOO WELL!

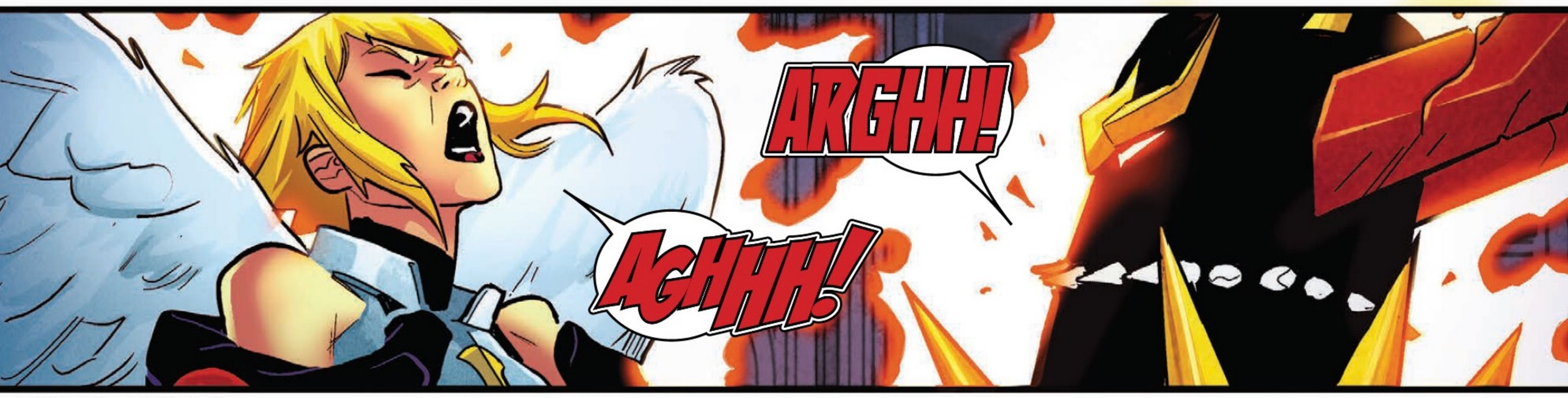
SO, I GET IT. I REALLY GET IT. IT SEEMS REAL DARK RIGHT NOW.
BUT IT'S NOT ABOUT US RIGHT NOW. IT'S ABOUT EVERYONE--

WATCH OUT!
KRAK
NO!

STOP SAVING ME!
SORRY, IT'S KIND OF A FORCE OF HABIT.
NOW GET UP--WE NEED TO BUY RO ENOUGH TIME TO GET THAT ARMOR OFF OF WHO'S UNDERNEATH.

THERE ARE TINY CRACKS IN THE ENERGY THAT IS FUSING THE ARMOR WITH WAZIRIA. I JUST NEED TO SNEAK INSIDE THEM AND APPLY LEVERAGE...

ARRRGHHH!
THAT DID SOMETHING!
WHATEVER YOU'RE DOING, KEEP IT UP!

ARGHH!

ERGHHHHHH!

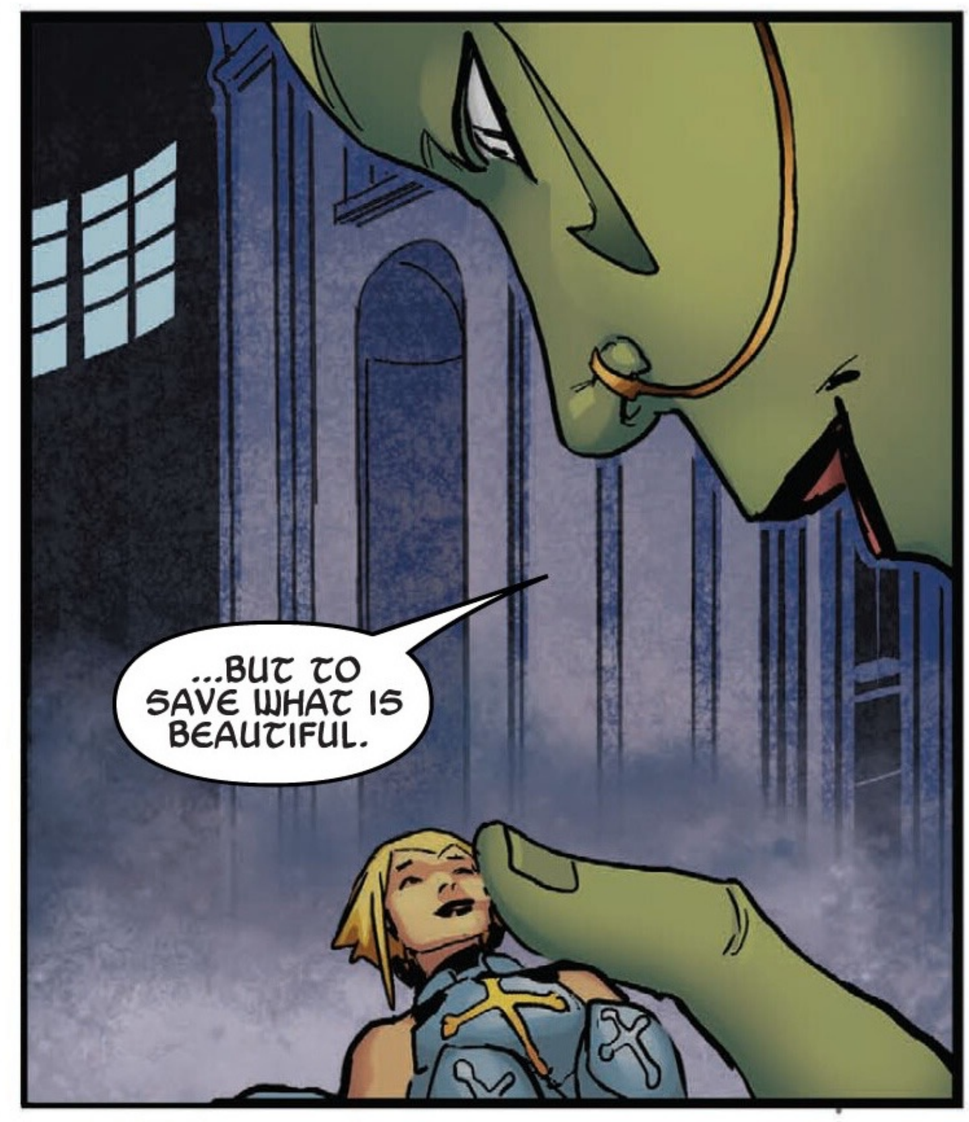

ARGHH!
AGHHH!

ALMOST THERE!
GET CLEAR! THE ENERGY ERUPTION FROM THE SEPARATION COULD BE DEVASTATING.

GOOD...

NO! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
I'M FREE...
I'M FREE...
I GOTCHA.
THANK YOU. THANK YOU. FOR EVERYTHING.

WHY? WHY DID YOU DO THAT?
BECAUSE...
BECAUSE WE ALL LOSE PEOPLE IMPORTANT TO US.
BUT WE KEEP FIGHTING.
NOT TO KILL WHAT IS UGLY...


...BUT TO SAVE WHAT IS BEAUTIFUL.

DO YOU NEED TO SIT DOWN OR ANYTHING?
NO. THE REST OF THE LEAGUE IS STILL OUT THERE. THEY NEED MY HELP.

SHE'S RIGHT. WE NEED TO MOVE.
FERNANDE? YOU OKAY? WHAT HAPPENED? WHY THE CHANGE OF HEART?
NOW I KNOW WHAT I'M FIGHTING FOR.

THERE ARE TOO MANY!
I MUST SAY, GENTLEMEN, IT WAS AN HONOR FIGHTING ALONGSIDE YOU BOTH.
DON'T SAY YOUR GOODBYES QUITE YET, HONEYSHOT.
THE LEAGUE OF REALMS IS JUST GETTING STARTED.

Superior Spider-Man #7

SAN FRANCISCO HAS SURVIVED MUCH, OVER THE YEARS. THE 1851 FIRE. THE EARTHQUAKES OF 1906 AND 1989.
NO! PLEASE!
DON'T DISINTEGRATE ME!
THE CITY AND ITS PEOPLE HAVE ALWAYS STOOD STRONG IN THE FACE OF ADVERSITY.
SILENCE, FOOL.
THIS IS FOR YOUR OWN GOOD.
TZUUU
AS ITS GUARDIAN, I CONSIDER IT MY SACRED DUTY TO ENSURE THEY WITHSTAND THIS AS WELL.
I AM A MAN OF SCIENCE. OF WILL. OF PERSEVERANCE.
WHEN THERE IS A CHALLENGE, I ANALYZE IT...FORM A PLAN...AND OVERCOME IT.
THERE IS NO QUESTION WITHOUT AN ANSWER. NO PROBLEM WITHOUT A SOLUTION.
BUT I CONFESS THAT THIS PARTICULAR SITUATION...

SAN FRANCISCO.
FROST GIANT-OCCUPIED TERRITORY.
...VEXES ME.
HRNH. THIS CITY IS BORING.
WHERE ARE THE PEOPLE? HAVE YOU EATEN THEM ALL YOURSELF, YOU FAT GLUTTON?
OF COURSE NOT. THEY MUST HAVE FLED. NOT VERY SPORTING OF THEM, BUT WHAT DO YOU EXPECT OF MORTALS?
THE GIANTS HAVE COME. I REMOVED THE LAST OF THE POPULACE JUST IN TIME.
BUT THIS SOLUTION IS TEMPORARY AT BEST. I MAY HAVE PLACED THE PEOPLE OF SAN FRANCISCO OUT OF PHASE WITH OUR REALITY...BEYOND THE REACH OF THE INVADERS...
...BUT THEY NOW EXIST IN A LIMBO STATE. LIKE GHOSTS, BARELY AWARE. AND I HAVE NO DATA AS TO THE EFFECTS OF LONG-TERM USE OF THIS EXPERIMENTAL TECHNOLOGY.
THERE MAY WELL COME A TIME WHEN I CAN NO LONGER RESTORE THE INHABITANTS OF THE CITY TO NORMAL. I MUST DEFEAT THIS MENACE, AND QUICKLY.

BROTHERS! I'VE FOUND ONE!
KRAMMM
AND YET...THESE MONSTERS ARE BUT THE SYMPTOM.
STAND STILL, MORSEL!
IF THEY WERE THE ONLY PROBLEM, I COULD SYSTEMATICALLY HUNT AND KILL THEM ALL.
THEY MAY BE GIANT, BUT THEY ARE BASICALLY HUMAN IN STRUCTURE...
...INCLUDING THE ACHILLES TENDON.
SHHKK
AAGHH!

MY GENIUS, AS EVER, WOULD WIN OUT.
BUT MY DILEMMA IS THAT I CAN TRIUMPH IN ONE, OR SIX DOZEN SUCH BATTLES, YET NOT EVEN BEGIN TO AFFECT THE LARGER WAR.
THE WAR OF THE REALMS
KRAK
THUNK
GODS AND MONSTERS GONE TO WAR, WITH EARTH AS THE BATTLEGROUND.
AND ITS INHABITANTS... COLLATERAL DAMAGE.

HORIZON UNIVERSITY.

AS BEST I CAN TELL, THE GIANTS ARE STREAMING IN THROUGH SOME SORT OF DIMENSIONAL GATEWAY. MAGIC, OF COURSE. HAVE I MENTIONED THAT I *LOATHE* MAGIC?

FORTUNATELY, I AM NOW...EVOLVED ENOUGH TO ACKNOWLEDGE THAT I REQUIRE *AID* WITH SUCH A THREAT.

AND YET, I CANNOT RAISE *DOCTOR STRANGE*. OR THE *AVENGERS*...WHOSE OAF OF A THUNDER GOD PROBABLY CAUSED THIS TO BEGIN WITH. OR EVEN PARKER.

SOME UNKNOWN SOURCE IS DISRUPTING COMMUNICATIONS... AND I HAVE NO TIME TO TRACE THE CAUSE.*

THE ONLY FEED CLOSE ENOUGH TO CAPTURE IS FROM SOME SORT OF RIDICULOUS *REALITY SHOW* ABOUT...

*BUT IF HE DID, HE'D FIND OUT IT'S ROXXON--SEE **WOTR #2!**

GWENDOLYN POOLE, A.K.A. GWENPOOL. MERCENARY WITH META-EXISTENTIAL AWARENESS.

QUENTIN QUIRE, A.K.A. KID OMEGA. OMEGA-LEVEL PSYCHIC POWERS.

RAMONE WATTS, A.K.A. ALLOY. SKIN FUSED WITH VIBRANIUM.

CLINT BARTON, A.K.A. HAWKEYE. WORLD'S SECOND-BEST ARCHER. AVENGER FROM WAY BACK.

JOHNNY WATTS, A.K.A. FUSE. CAN TRANSFORM HIS BODY INTO ANY MATERIAL HE TOUCHES.

...THEM.

West Coast AVENGERS

IDIOT CHILDREN. AND A GROWN MAN WHO SHOULD KNOW BETTER. I PITY YOU, LOS ANGELES, TO HAVE SUCH USELESS CHAMPIONS.

A PAST-HIS-PRIME HAWKEYE. A CASTOFF FROM THE X-MEN. IMITATIONS OF DEADPOOL AND THE ABSORBING MAN. AND...

...WAIT.

AMERICA CHAVEZ. POWERS AND ABILITIES: DIMENSIONAL TRAVERSAL.

WHAT THE HELL IS GOING ON? AREN'T WE SUPPOSED TO BE AVENGERS? WE SHOULD GET, LIKE, A TEXT ALERT!
IT'S SOME KIND OF WAR. THE BAD GUYS FROM NORSE MYTHOLOGY RUNNING WILD. THAT'S ALL I GOT BEFORE COMMS WENT OUT.
THAT'S ALL WE *NEED*. THEY'RE GIANTS. THEY'RE BAD. WE BEAT THEM DOWN. PRETTY CLEAR TO ME.
LOS ANGELES.
IS IT LIKE THIS ALL OVER THE WORLD? I'VE GOT FRIENDS IN PORTLAND. HOW DO I KNOW IF THEY'RE OKAY?
THANKS FOR THE FIRE, CLINT.
THIS MIGHT BE ANOTHER TUESDAY TO Y'ALL, BUT I AM TOTALLY FREAKING OUT.
GUYS, CHILL.
GET IT? CHILL? I'M HERE ALL WEEK.
THIS IS LOOKING MORE AND MORE LIKE AN *EVENT TIE-IN*. ALL WE NEED TO DO IS WAIT IT OUT, AND IT'LL BE LIKE IT NEVER HAPPENED!

QUIRE, COME GET YOUR GIRLFRIEND. SHE'S *EXTRA* DETACHED FROM REALITY TODAY.

ARRR!

WELL, AT LEAST IT'S MELTING! WE'RE DOING IT! WE'RE REALLY--

PTOO

SPLURB

AGGH! S-SO COLD--

HOLD ON! I'LL GET THE ICE OFF--

AH, CRAP.

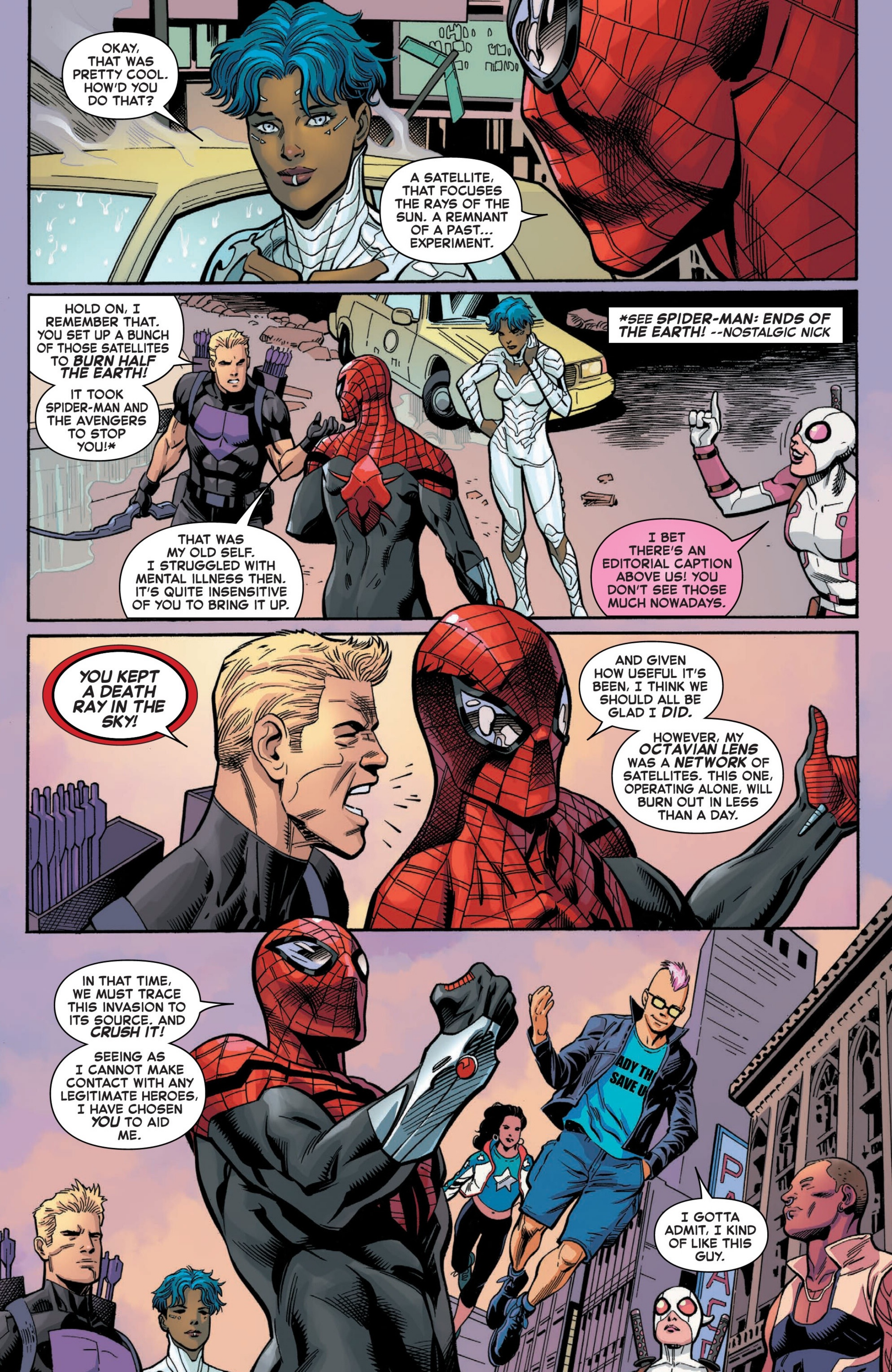
THWAP

THWAP

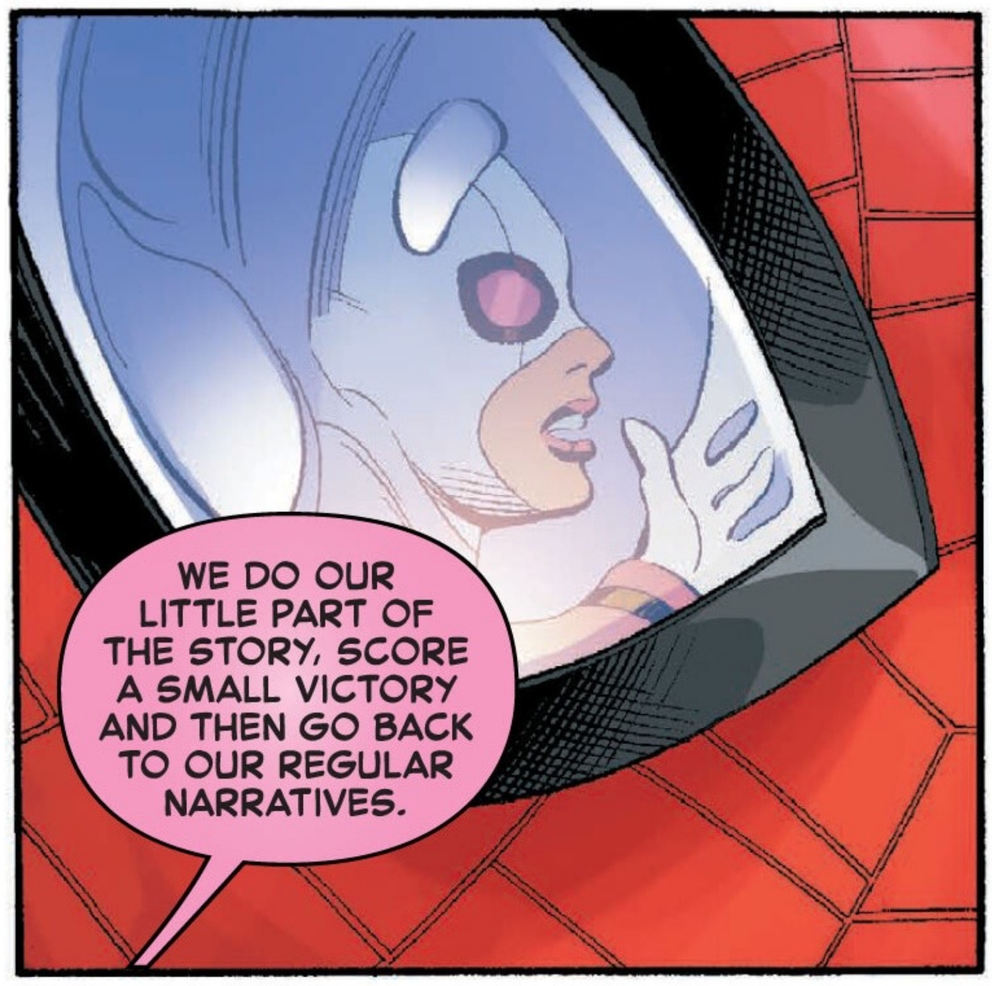
YOUR GENERATION. SO EASILY DISTRACTED.
I BLAME THE SMARTPHONES.
THOOOM
SPIDER-MAN? HOW'D *HE* GET HERE?
NOT *THE* SPIDER-MAN. I'M SCANNING HIS MIND--HE'S THE ONE FROM SAN FRANCISCO. USED TO BE *DOC OCK*, APPARENTLY. POSTHUMOUS SIX-PACK. RESPECT.
OCTAVIUS. WORD THROUGH THE GRAPEVINE IS WE'RE SUPPOSED TO GIVE YOU A CHANCE, EVEN THOUGH IT GOES AGAINST MY BETTER JUDGMENT.
CONSIDERING YOU BEGAN AS A CRIMINAL YOURSELF--TO SAY NOTHING OF YOUR HAIRCUT--I PUT LITTLE STOCK IN *YOUR* JUDGMENT.
BUSY YOURSELF DISPATCHING THESE GIANTS, SO THAT WE MAY CONSIDER A PROPER SOLUTION TO THIS INVASION.
UH, YEAH, GUYS...

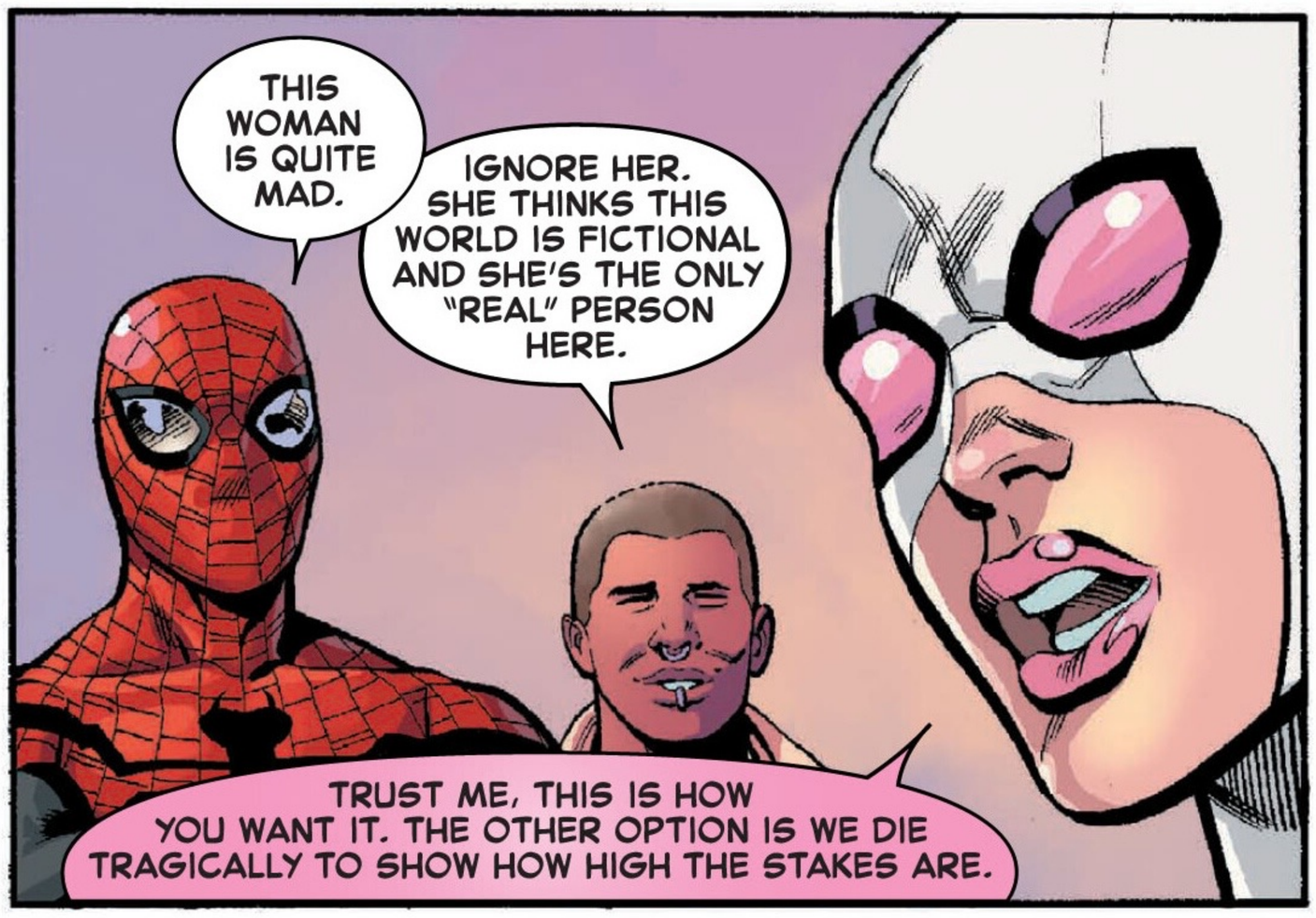
...I THINK THAT ORDER JUST GOT TALLER.
HAH! BACKUP'S ARRIVED! A FULL JOTUN BATTALION!
YOU MORTALS ARE DOOMED NOW. WE'LL USE YOUR SPINES AS TOOTHPICKS!
QUIRE. HOLD THEM OFF WITH A TELEKINETIC FORCE FIELD.
DUH. BUT EVEN I CAN'T MAINTAIN ONE THAT BIG FOR LONG.
ESPECIALLY WITH SERGEANT ICEBLOCK AND FREEZY COMPANY BEATING THE HELL OUT OF IT.
I DO NOT REQUIRE LONG.

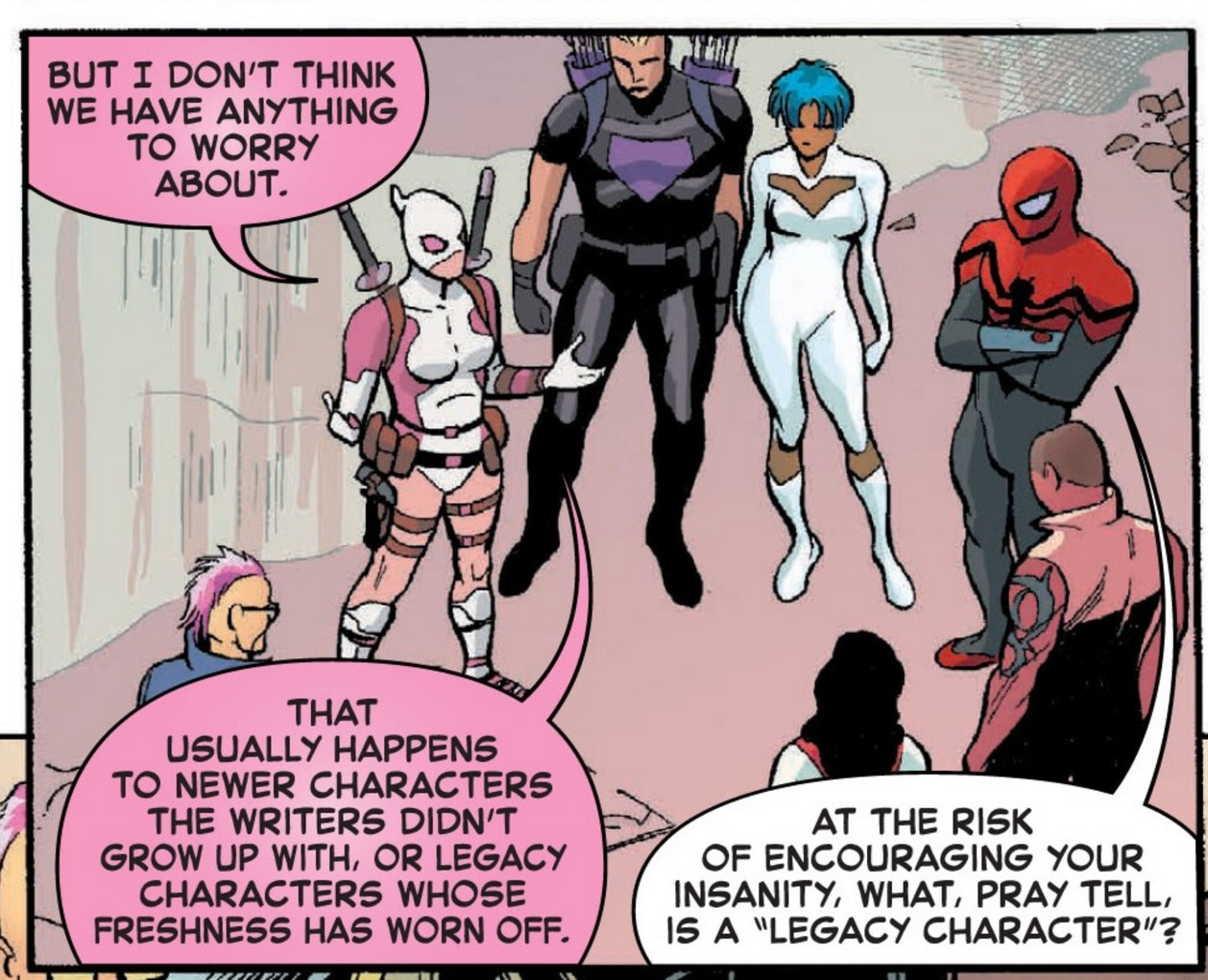
THE BARRIER WEAKENS! VICTORY IS NIGH!
HEY...IS IT ME, OR IS IT *HOT* ALL OF A SUDDEN?
WHAT SORCERY--?
THEY'VE TURNED BACK OUR *FIMBULWINTER!* BUT HOW?
I DON'T BLOODY CARE HOW! *FLEE,* BROTHERS!
RETREAT TO THE MOUNTAINS!
WHAT A WORLD, WHAT A WORLD...

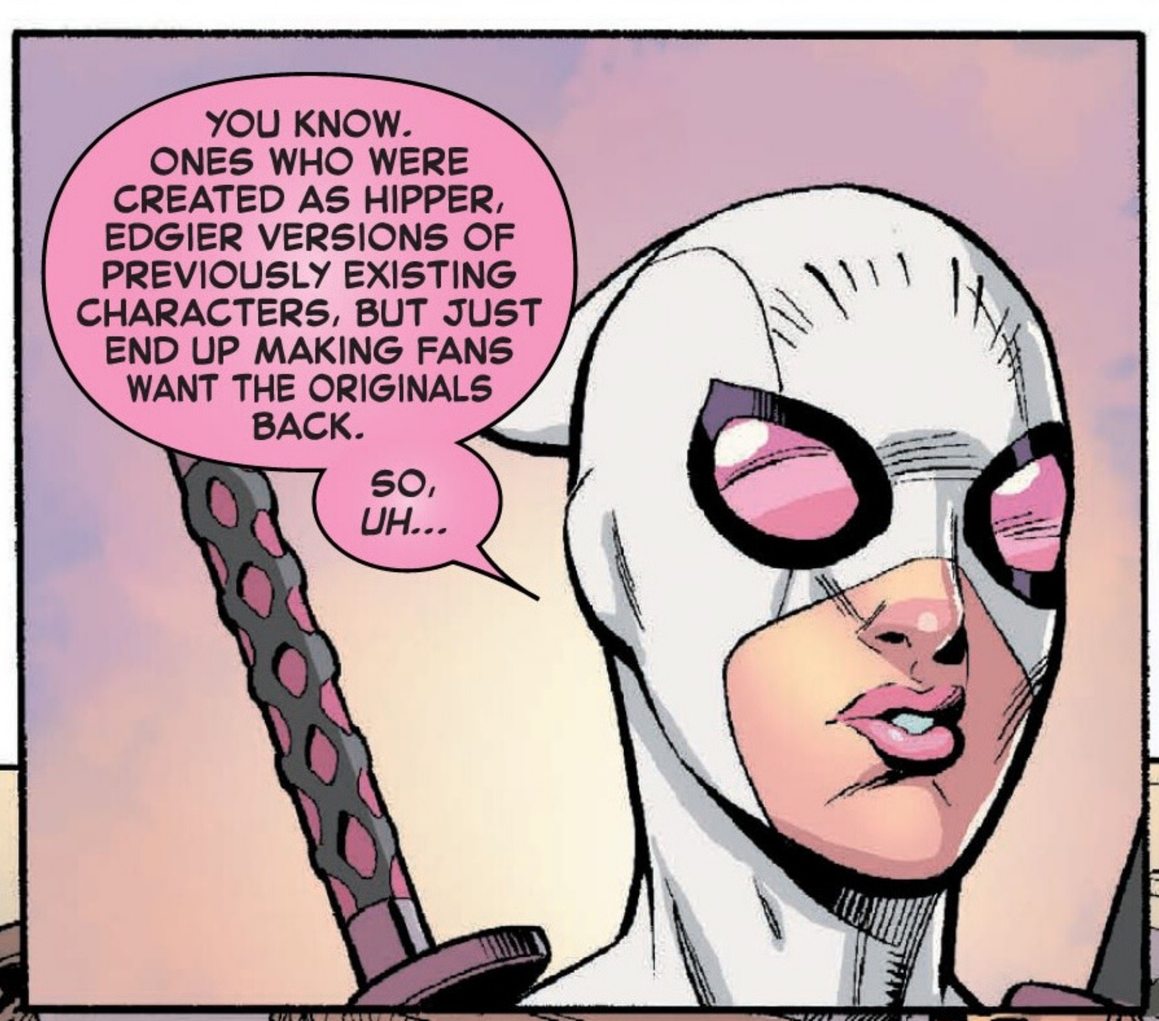

OKAY, THAT WAS PRETTY COOL. HOW'D YOU DO THAT?
A SATELLITE, THAT FOCUSES THE RAYS OF THE SUN. A REMNANT OF A PAST... EXPERIMENT.
HOLD ON, I REMEMBER THAT. YOU SET UP A BUNCH OF THOSE SATELLITES TO BURN HALF THE EARTH!
IT TOOK SPIDER-MAN AND THE AVENGERS TO STOP YOU!*
*SEE SPIDER-MAN: ENDS OF THE EARTH! --NOSTALGIC NICK
THAT WAS MY OLD SELF. I STRUGGLED WITH MENTAL ILLNESS THEN. IT'S QUITE INSENSITIVE OF YOU TO BRING IT UP.
I BET THERE'S AN EDITORIAL CAPTION ABOVE US! YOU DON'T SEE THOSE MUCH NOWADAYS.
YOU KEPT A DEATH RAY IN THE SKY!
AND GIVEN HOW USEFUL IT'S BEEN, I THINK WE SHOULD ALL BE GLAD I DID.
HOWEVER, MY OCTAVIAN LENS WAS A NETWORK OF SATELLITES. THIS ONE, OPERATING ALONE, WILL BURN OUT IN LESS THAN A DAY.
IN THAT TIME, WE MUST TRACE THIS INVASION TO ITS SOURCE. AND CRUSH IT!
SEEING AS I CANNOT MAKE CONTACT WITH ANY LEGITIMATE HEROES, I HAVE CHOSEN YOU TO AID ME.
I GOTTA ADMIT, I KIND OF LIKE THIS GUY.

WHOA, HOLD ON. THAT'S NOT HOW THIS WORKS.
IT'S A *CROSSOVER EVENT*. AND WE'RE AN ANCILLARY TIE-IN.


WE DO OUR LITTLE PART OF THE STORY, SCORE A SMALL VICTORY AND THEN GO BACK TO OUR REGULAR NARRATIVES.


THIS WOMAN IS QUITE MAD.
IGNORE HER. SHE THINKS THIS WORLD IS FICTIONAL AND SHE'S THE ONLY "REAL" PERSON HERE.
TRUST ME, THIS IS HOW YOU WANT IT. THE OTHER OPTION IS WE DIE TRAGICALLY TO SHOW HOW HIGH THE STAKES ARE.


BUT I DON'T THINK WE HAVE ANYTHING TO WORRY ABOUT.
THAT USUALLY HAPPENS TO NEWER CHARACTERS THE WRITERS DIDN'T GROW UP WITH, OR LEGACY CHARACTERS WHOSE FRESHNESS HAS WORN OFF.
AT THE RISK OF ENCOURAGING YOUR INSANITY, WHAT, PRAY TELL, IS A "LEGACY CHARACTER"?


YOU KNOW. ONES WHO WERE CREATED AS HIPPER, EDGIER VERSIONS OF PREVIOUSLY EXISTING CHARACTERS, BUT JUST END UP MAKING FANS WANT THE ORIGINALS BACK.
SO, UH...

MAYBE WE SHOULD GO HIDE.

SEE HERE, WOMAN! I AM OTTO OCTAVIUS!
I AM SECONDARY TO NO ONE! I WILL NOT SIT IDLY BACK AND WAIT FOR OTHERS TO FIGHT MY BATTLES.
ESPECIALLY WHEN THEY CANNOT POSSIBLY DEFEAT THIS MENACE WITHOUT MY GENIUS!

YOU, YOUNG LADY. MY FILES INDICATE YOU POSSESS THE ABILITY TO TRAVERSE DIMENSIONS.
OKAY, PUTTING ASIDE HOW CREEPY IT IS THAT YOU'VE GOT "FILES" ON ME, LET'S SAY I DO. SO WHAT?

THESE GIANTS ARE INVADING FROM ANOTHER DIMENSION. THE ASGARDIAN REALMS.
YOU WILL TAKE US THERE, THAT WE MAY STRIKE THE ENEMY AT THE SOURCE!
THAT'S... ACTUALLY NOT A BAD IDEA.

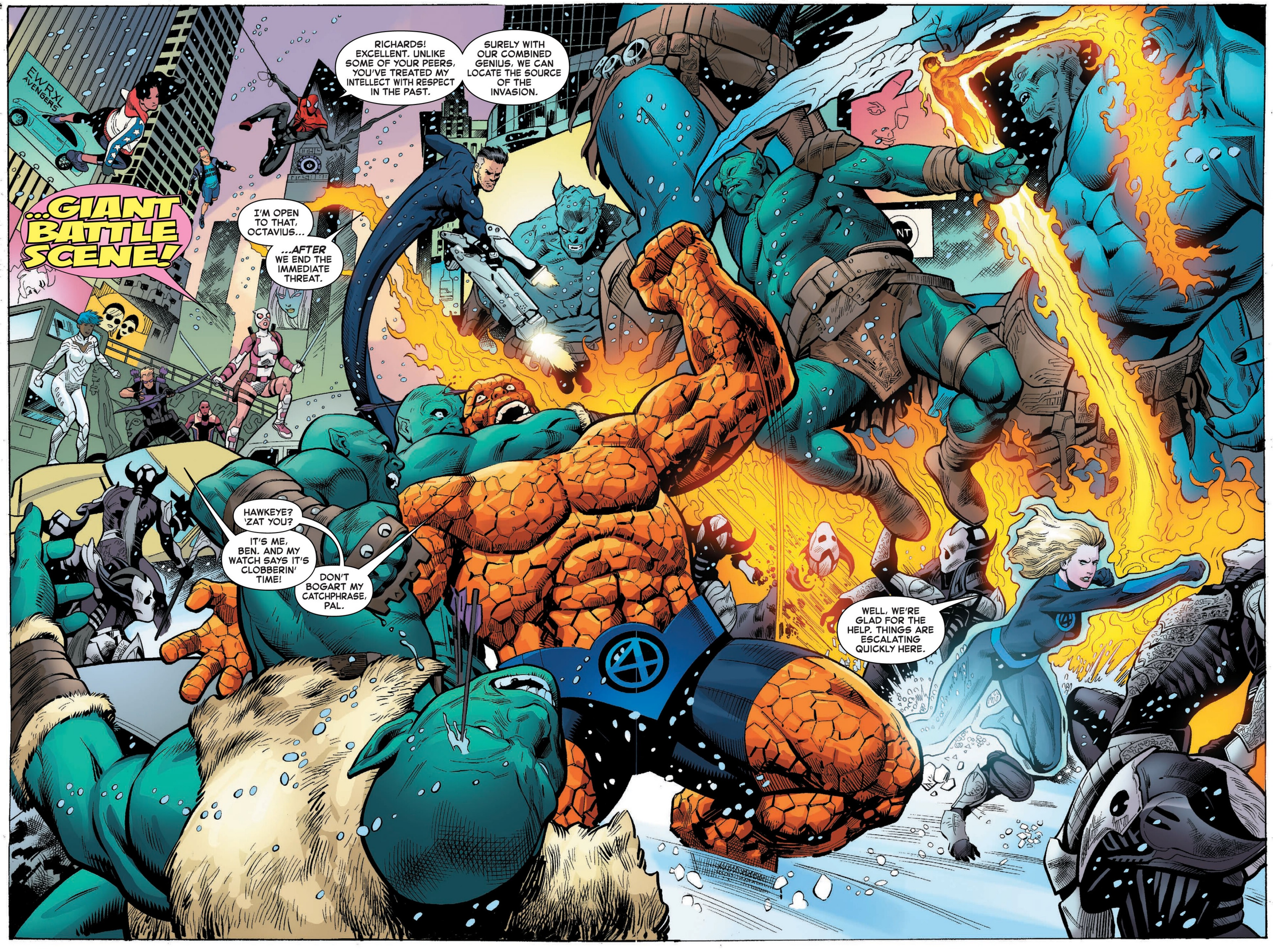
HOLD ON. WE CAN'T LEAVE L.A. UNPROTECTED.
IT ISN'T. MY OCTAVIAN LENS WILL MAKE THIS AREA INHOSPITABLE TO THE FROST GIANTS FOR APPROXIMATELY TWENTY-FOUR HOURS.
OPEN 24

AND WE DO HAVE FRIENDS WHO CAN LOOK OUT FOR THIS TOWN. THE SUPPORTING CHARACTERS WE DON'T HAVE ROOM FOR IN THIS ISSUE.
MY PET LAND SHARK, THAT LADY WHO GOT TURNED INTO A DRAGON...
KATE WOULD COVER US, BUT I BET SHE'S BUSY IN ANOTHER TIE-IN.*
*SEE WOTR: JOURNEY INTO MYSTERY!
Y'KNOW, WE SHOULD DO THIS. I'M KINDA DIGGING ON THE IDEA OF BREAKING NARRATIVE CONVENTIONS.
SHE MAKES A SOLID AND ALMOST COHERENT POINT. THIS MIGHT BE OUR BEST CHANCE TO HIT THESE MONSTERS WHERE THEY LIVE.

WELL? YOU'VE ACKNOWLEDGED THE GENIUS OF MY PLAN. WHY THIS DELAY? HOW LONG DOES THIS TAKE?
IT'S NOT WORKING. THESE "ASGARDIAN REALMS"... THEY'RE MAGIC. AND MAGIC HAS ITS OWN ANNOYING RULES.
SORRY. I CAN'T TAKE US THERE.
INTOLERABLE! TRY AGAIN!
I DO NOT WORK FOR YOU, PAL.
HOLD ON. I HAVE AN IDEA.
BABE, YOU CAN STILL TELEPORT US AROUND EARTH, RIGHT? LIKE, TO NEW YORK?
SURE.
SMART THINKING, RAMONE. THERE'S A TON OF ASGARDIAN REFUGEES IN NEW YORK.
EXACTLY. AND IF ANYONE KNOWS HOW TO GET TO THE SOURCE OF ALL THIS, IT'S THEM.
DO AS THEY SAY, WOMAN!
DUDE, YOU ARE WORKING MY LAST NERVE...

BE READY FOR ANYTHING!
YEAH, MY IDEA OF "ANYTHING" HAS EXPANDED QUITE A BIT LATELY...
YOU DID IT! AMERICA, YOU--
WAAAH!
WOOOOSH

FWOOSH
HEY! SORRY FOR THE COLD WELCOME.
AND I HATE TO BE THAT CELEBRITY WHO JUST ASSUMES YOU KNOW WHO HE IS. BUT LET'S FACE IT, YOU DO.
C'MON. PARTY'S THIS WAY. IT'S GOT EVERYTHING-- FROST GIANTS, DARK ELVES, TROLLS...
THWIP
TROLLS. BEEN A LONG TIME SINCE I LAID THE SMACKDOWN ON TROLLS.
DEFINITELY A CROSSOVER. GRATUITOUS GUEST STAR, AND NOW HERE COMES A...


...GIANT BATTLE SCENE!
EWRXL AVENGERS
RICHARDS! EXCELLENT. UNLIKE SOME OF YOUR PEERS, YOU'VE TREATED MY INTELLECT WITH RESPECT IN THE PAST.
SURELY WITH OUR COMBINED GENIUS, WE CAN LOCATE THE SOURCE OF THE INVASION.
I'M OPEN TO THAT, OCTAVIUS...
...AFTER WE END THE IMMEDIATE THREAT.
HAWKEYE? 'ZAT YOU?
IT'S ME, BEN. AND MY WATCH SAYS IT'S CLOBBERIN' TIME!
DON'T BOGART MY CATCHPHRASE, PAL.
WELL, WE'RE GLAD FOR THE HELP. THINGS ARE ESCALATING QUICKLY HERE.

VERY WELL. THEN...
...THE DIE IS CAST!
THWAP
THWAP
DUDE. IS THAT *YOUR* CATCHPHRASE?
IT'S SO BAD IT'S ACTUALLY KINDA AWESOME...
KRAK

WAR OF THE REALMS:
UNCANNY X-MEN #1 VARIANT BY
John Tyler Christopher

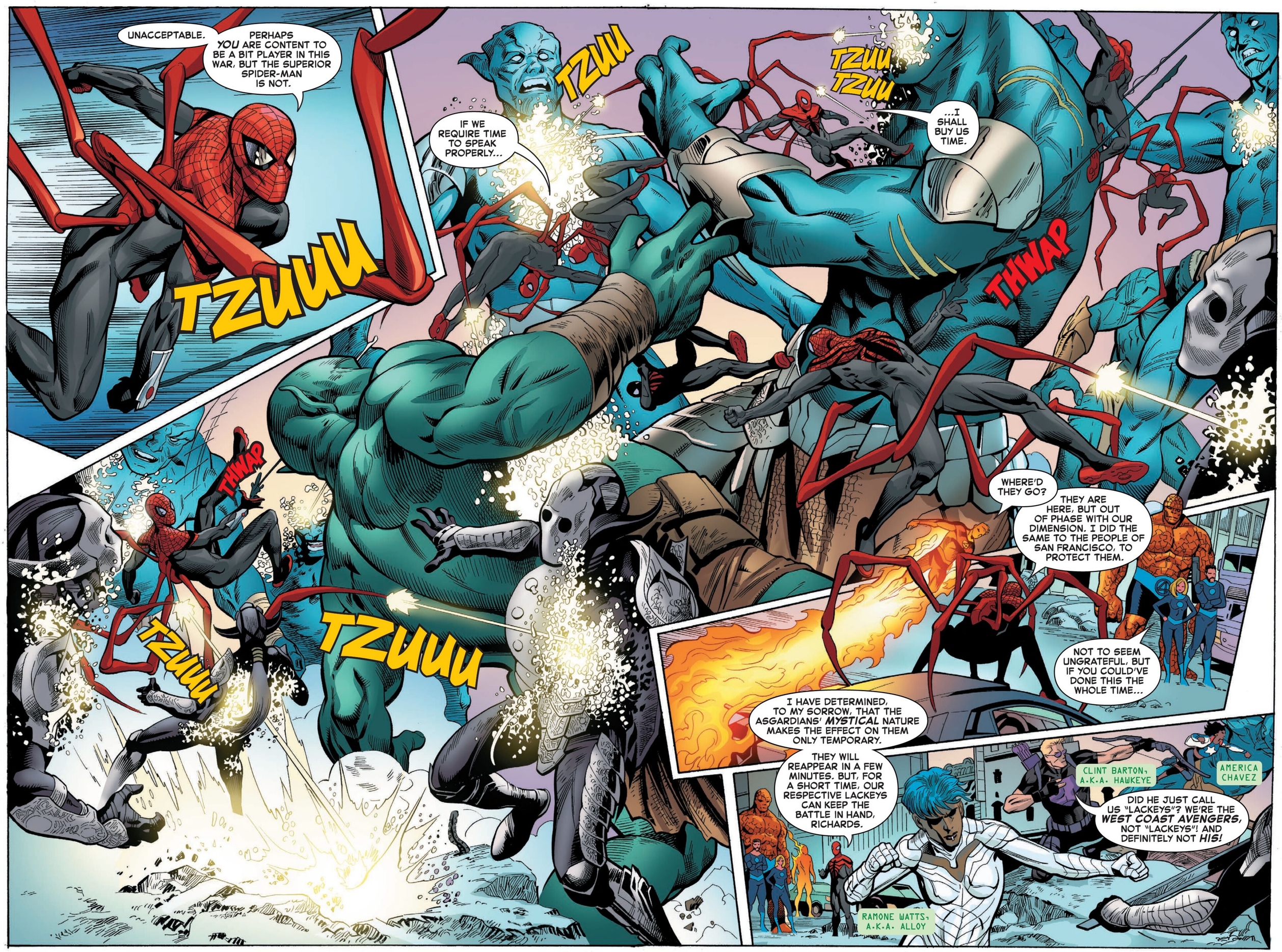
WAR OF THE REALMS:
UNCANNY X-MEN #1 VARIANT BY
Whilce Portacio & Chris Sotomayor

WAR OF THE REALMS:
UNCANNY X-MEN #2 VARIANT BY
Scott Williams & Sunny Gho

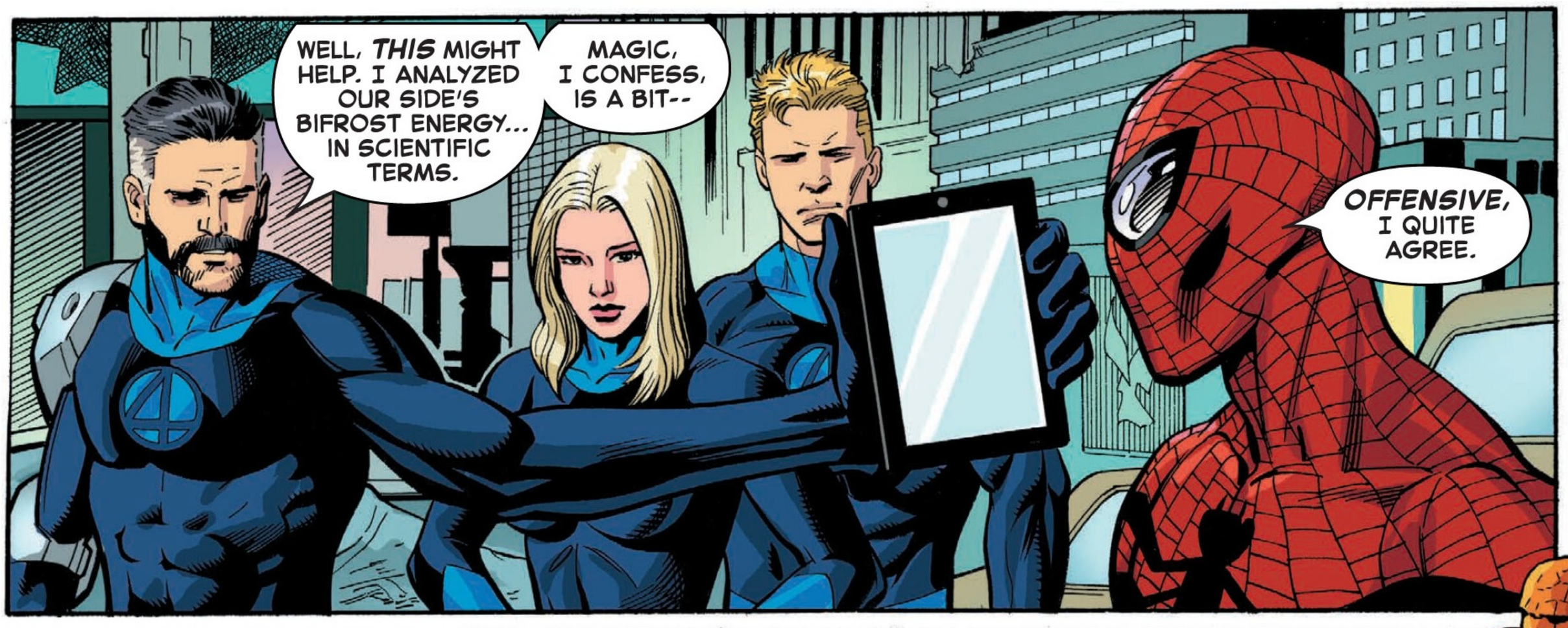
WAR OF THE REALMS:
UNCANNY X-MEN #3 VARIANT BY
Ivan Shavrin

Superior Spider-Man #8

RICHARDS! THIS ENDLESS BATTLE TRIES MY PATIENCE!
IT IS A WASTE OF TIME! WE MUST FIND THE SOURCE OF THE INVASION, AND STRIKE THE ENEMY THERE!
WE'VE GOT TEAMS DOING THAT, OCTAVIUS. OUR JOB IS TO DEFEND NEW YORK.
EVEN YANCY STREET. SO GET TA CLOBBERIN' AND SHUT YOUR PIE-HOLE!


UNACCEPTABLE.
PERHAPS *YOU* ARE CONTENT TO BE A BIT PLAYER IN THIS WAR, BUT THE SUPERIOR SPIDER-MAN IS NOT.
TZUUU
IF WE REQUIRE TIME TO SPEAK PROPERLY...
TZUU
TZUU TZUU
...I SHALL BUY US TIME.
THWAP
THWAP
TZUUU
TZUUU
WHERE'D THEY GO?
THEY ARE HERE, BUT OUT OF PHASE WITH OUR DIMENSION. I DID THE SAME TO THE PEOPLE OF SAN FRANCISCO, TO PROTECT THEM.
NOT TO SEEM UNGRATEFUL, BUT IF YOU COULD'VE DONE THIS THE WHOLE TIME...
I HAVE DETERMINED, TO MY SORROW, THAT THE ASGARDIANS' *MYSTICAL* NATURE MAKES THE EFFECT ON THEM ONLY TEMPORARY.
THEY WILL REAPPEAR IN A FEW MINUTES. BUT, FOR A SHORT TIME, OUR RESPECTIVE LACKEYS CAN KEEP THE BATTLE IN HAND, RICHARDS.
CLINT BARTON, A.K.A. HAWKEYE
AMERICA CHAVEZ
DID HE JUST CALL US "LACKEYS"? WE'RE THE *WEST COAST AVENGERS*, NOT "LACKEYS"! AND DEFINITELY NOT *HIS!*
RAMONE WATTS, A.K.A. ALLOY

OR WE COULD *REALLY* TAKE IT TO THE BAD GUYS WHILE THEIR NUMBERS ARE LOWER.
DO AS YOU WISH, STRIPLING. IT IS ONLY RICHARDS I REQUIRE. THE REST OF YOU ARE *INCONSEQUENTIAL.*
YOU'RE ABOUT *TWO SECONDS* FROM PANTS ON FIRE, PAL.
JOHNNY, WAIT.
OCTAVIUS TRIED TO HELP US, DESPITE HIS MENTAL STATE AT THE TIME, DURING A... *VERY* DIFFICULT POINT IN OUR LIVES.*
YOU'VE GOT FIVE MINUTES, DR. OCTAVIUS. WE'LL HOLD THE FORT THAT LONG.
YOU HAVE MY GRATITUDE, MRS. RICHARDS.
*IN THE TRAGIC *FANTASTIC FOUR #267*! --NOT-CRYING-YOU'RE-CRYING NICK
THE ASGARDIANS TRAVEL BY MEANS OF WHAT THEY CALL THE *BIFROST.* OUR ENEMY MALEKITH'S FORCES HAVE THEIR OWN VERSION, THE *BLACK* BIFROST, AND WE CAN'T GET ACCESS TO IT.
OUR SIDE HAS A DAMAGED BIFROST THAT'S FUNCTIONAL BUT LIMITED. THE AVENGERS HAVE USED IT TO DISPATCH TEAMS TO VARIOUS POINTS.
AND THAT SEEMS TO HAVE EXHAUSTED ITS POWER, AT LEAST FOR NOW.
I HAVE MY OWN TELEPORTER, *MS. AMERICA CHAVEZ,* THOUGH SHE HAS WOEFUL INADEQUACIES WHEN IT COMES TO MAGIC.
LITERALLY EVERY WORD YOU JUST SAID MAKES ME WANT TO PUNCH YOU.


WELL, THIS MIGHT HELP. I ANALYZED OUR SIDE'S BIFROST ENERGY... IN SCIENTIFIC TERMS.
MAGIC, I CONFESS, IS A BIT--
OFFENSIVE, I QUITE AGREE.

BUT THIS IS IDEAL, RICHARDS. WITH THIS, I CAN AT LEAST ACCESS THE ASGARDIAN REALMS... AND WIN THIS BATTLE!
AS I SAID, WE HAVE TEAMS ON THAT. WE COULD USE YOUR HELP HERE--
HOLDING A SINGLE CITY WHEN THE WORLD IS AT STAKE? BAH.

HE CAN'T ACCEPT HIS PLACE IN THE CROSSOVER HIERARCHY.
AT SOME POINT, WE'RE ALL IN AN ANCILLARY TIE-IN. YOU SHOULDN'T TAKE IT PERSONALLY.
GWENDOLYNE POOLE, A.K.A. GWENPOOL
IGNORE THIS YOUNG WOMAN. SHE IS QUITE MAD.

WHY DO I GET THE FEELING EVERYONE WHO CHALLENGES HIM GETS CALLED "CRAZY"?
YOU'VE GOT A POINT. BUT IN GWENPOOL'S CASE, IT'S ALSO KINDA FAIR.
HUGE FAN, BY THE WAY.
JOHNNY WATTS, A.K.A. FUSE

NOW WE SHALL BE OFF.
TO ME, MY WEST COAST AVENGERS!
HE DID NOT.
I KINDA LOVE IT.
QUENTIN QUIRE, A.K.A. KID OMEGA

MS. CHAVEZ, I AM SYNTHETICALLY MIMICKING THIS "BIFROST" ENERGY. CAN YOU DUPLICATE IT?
WHOA. HEAD RUSH.
YEAH. YEAH, I CAN.

THEN LET US WIN THIS WAR!

STRETCHO, I GOTTA TELL YA, I THINK ALL 'A THEM JOKERS ARE NUTTIER'N SQUIRREL POOP.
I BELIEVE THAT IS, IN FACT, THE SCIENTIFIC TERM FOR IT, BEN...

THE SWAMPS OF SVARTALFHEIM. REALM OF THE DARK ELVES.
CHAVEZ! WHAT IS THIS NONSENSE?
YOU WERE MEANT TO BRING US TO AN AVENGERS STRIKE TEAM!
I TRIED. THERE'S SOMETHING KEEPING ME FROM GETTING A FIX ON THEM. FEELS LIKE MAGIC AGAIN... BUT, LIKE, EXTRA MAGIC THIS TIME.
IF THIS BIFROST THING IS OUR SIDE'S TRANSPORTATION, MAKES SENSE WE'D TAKE STEPS TO PROTECT IT.
OKAY, SINCE EVERY INCH OF THIS PLACE SEEMS TO BE CRAWLING WITH MONSTERS, WE CAN'T JUST WANDER AROUND BLIND. WHAT THE HELL DO WE DO?

HRM. CAN YOU FIND THE OTHER STRIKE TEAM? THE ONE IN THE FROST GIANTS' REALM?
LET ME THINK...YEAH. YEAH, I GOT 'EM.
THEN TAKE US THERE.

I AM GETTING REAL TIRED OF YOU GIVING ME ORDERS.
QUIRE, COVER ME.
WAIT, WE JUST GOT HERE.

DAMMIT, DOC OCK, IF YOU GOT US INTO A MONTAGE, I AM SO GONNA KICK YOUR...

JOTUNHEIM. HOME OF THE FROST GIANTS.
OH GREAT, FROM SWAMPS TO A BLIZZARD. JUST SAYING, YOU EVER NOTICE GUY CHARACTERS NEVER GO PLACES LIKE THIS WITH BARE LEGS?
SILENCE. WE MUST LOCATE... AH. THERE.
THE HELL IS THIS NOW?
LUKE CAGE
IRON FIST
CLINT? IS THAT YOU?
QUIRE? GO HOME. THIS IS GROWN-UP STUFF.*
CAPTAIN AMERICA
WOLVERINE
SPIDER-MAN
AH, MAN.
OTTO, WHAT ARE YOU DOING TO THESE POOR KIDS?
*IT'S THE TEAM FROM WOTR STRIKEFORCE: THE LAND OF GIANTS! --NORSE-ENTHUSIAST NICK

EXCELLENT! AT LAST.
ONE SIDE, SPIDER-MAN. I MUST SPEAK WITH CAPTAIN AMERICA REGARDING THE OPTIMAL STRATEGY FOR CRUSHING OUR ENEMIES.
OUR DISCUSSION OF TACTICS WILL BE FAR BEYOND YOUR COMPREHENSION.
LISTEN, OTTO. WE'RE GLAD FOR THE HELP, BUT WE'VE GOT IT UNDER CONTROL. REALLY.
DO NOT TRY MY PATIENCE!
GOOD TO SEE YOU, CLINT. WHO ARE YOUR FRIENDS?
MY--? WE'RE THE WEST COAST AVENGERS NOW! YOU... REALLY HAVEN'T HEARD?
SO ARE YOU DEAD OR NOT? I CAN NEVER REMEMBER.
MAKES TWO OF US.
I PRESUME YOU MARCH ON THE ENEMY. YOU CANNOT WIN WITHOUT MY GENIUS!
I MEAN, WE'RE MARCHING ON AN ENEMY. WE THINK THOR'S HERE SOMEWHERE, AND WE AIM TO GET HIM OUT. BUT WE DON'T NEED--

THOR? YOU ARE HERE SOLELY TO RECOVER *THAT* BUFFOON?
YOU GOTTA HAVE MULTIPLE QUESTS IN A CROSSOVER. OR IT'S JUST A STORY ARC.
FORGET THOR! WE MUST FIND AND TAKE THIS BLACK BIFROST, RESTRICTING THE ENEMY'S MOVEMENTS! *THAT* IS THE KEY TO VICTORY!
YEAH, *UH*, LOOK AROUND. THIS IS A THOR-CENTERED EVENT. I'M GUESSING *HE'S* THE KEY TO--
ENOUGH OF YOUR LUNATIC PRATTLING, WOMAN!
OTTO...
...YOU NEED TO GO HOME.

YOU... DARE?!
MY CITY IS UNDER THREAT! THE PEOPLE-- THE WORLD I HAVE SWORN TO PROTECT IS ENDANGERED! I WILL NOT STAND IDLY BY!
WITH SUPERIORITY COMES RESPONSIBILITY!
STOLE AND MANGLED MY CATCHPHRASE. IMPRESSIVE.
LISTEN TO ME, OTTO. NO ONE'S ASKING YOU TO JUST DO NOTHING.
WE WANT YOU ON THE WALL. WE NEED YOU ON THE WALL.
BUT TRUST ME, I'VE BEEN IN A LOT OF THESE THINGS. THE ONLY WAY WE WIN IS BY WORKING AS A TEAM.
SOMETIMES THAT MEANS YOU'RE ON THE FRONT LINES, AND SOMETIMES IT MEANS YOU'RE GETTING THE HULK FRESH PANTS.
SOMETIMES YOU'RE PUNCHING OUT THANOS, AND SOMETIMES YOU'RE FIGHTING HENCHMAN #2 IN A CHUCK E. CHEESE.
WHATEVER IT TAKES, YOU DO IT. BECAUSE IT'S NOT ABOUT YOU. IT'S ABOUT DOING THE MOST GOOD.
YOU TRUST YOUR BUDDIES. YOU TRUST THE PLAN. AND YOU DO YOUR JOB.

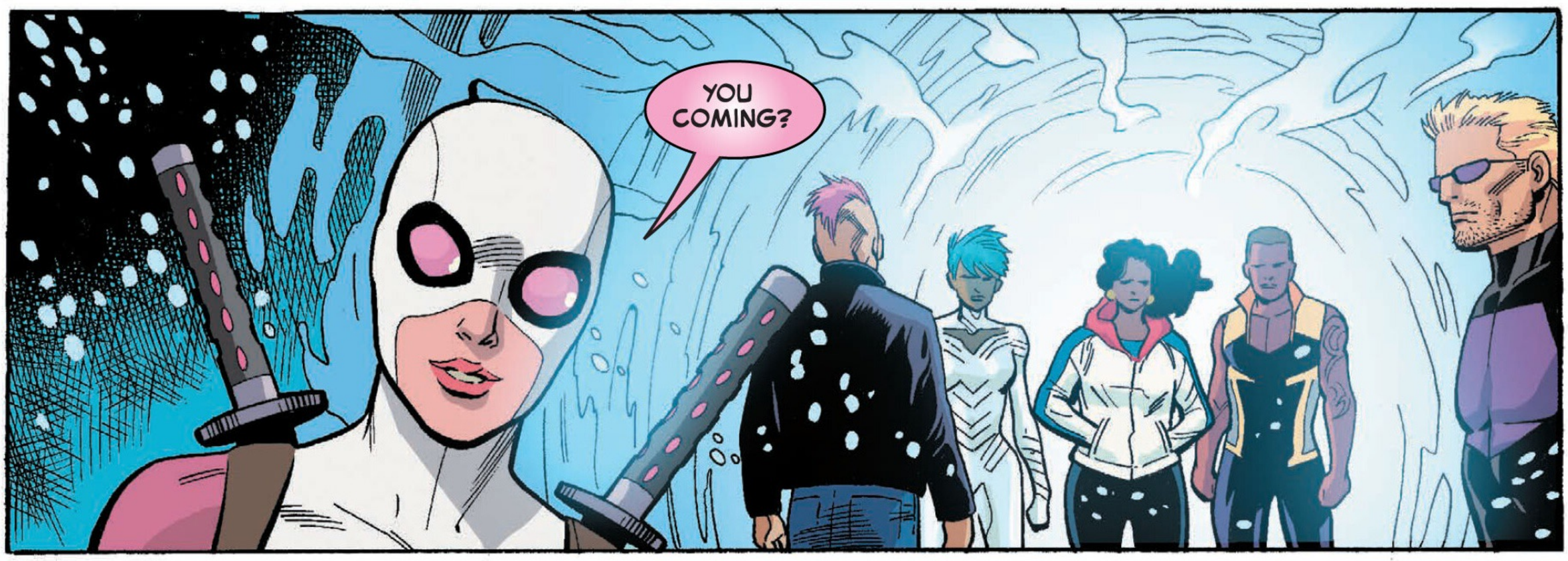
UTTER DRIVEL!
HEAR ME, AVENGERS! FORGET THOR. WE SHALL RETURN TO SVARTALFHEIM AND FIND THIS BLACK BIFROST!
I, OTTO OCTAVIUS, SHALL LEAD YOU!

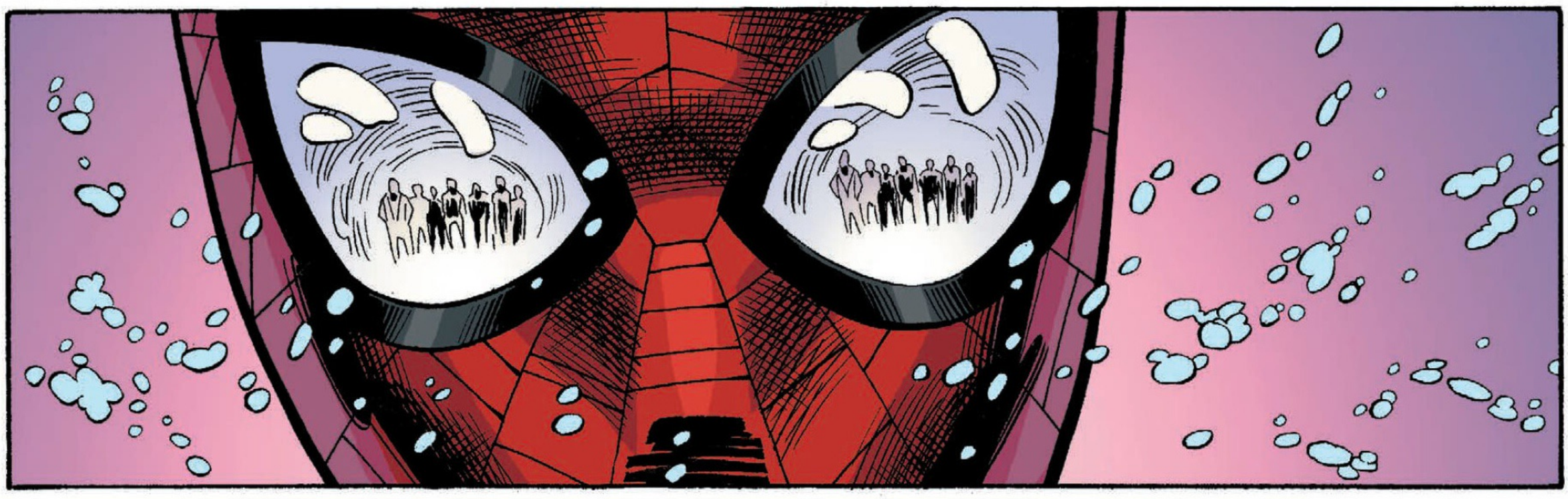
TALK TO YOUR BOY, WEBS.
HE'S EMBARRASSIN' HIMSELF.

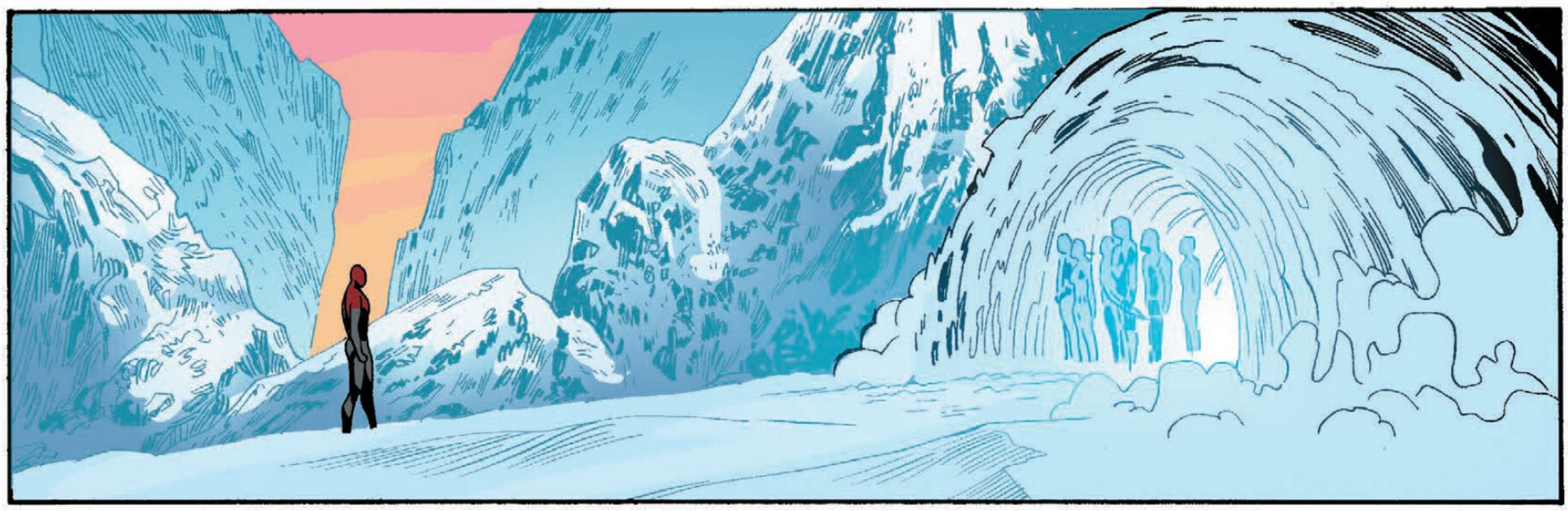
GO BACK TO EARTH, OTTO.
THERE'S A WHOLE WORLD OF PEOPLE THAT CAN USE YOUR HELP.

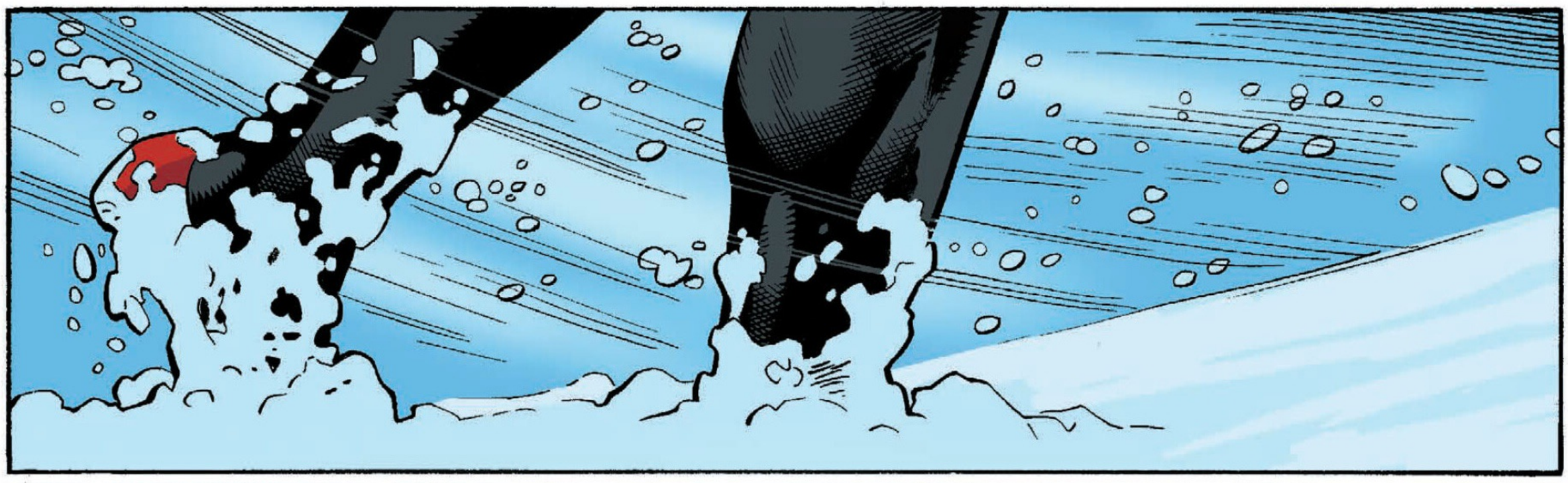
FOOLS. BLIND IDIOTS!
YOU SHALL SEE REASON, OR MY ALLIES AND I SHALL MAKE YOU--

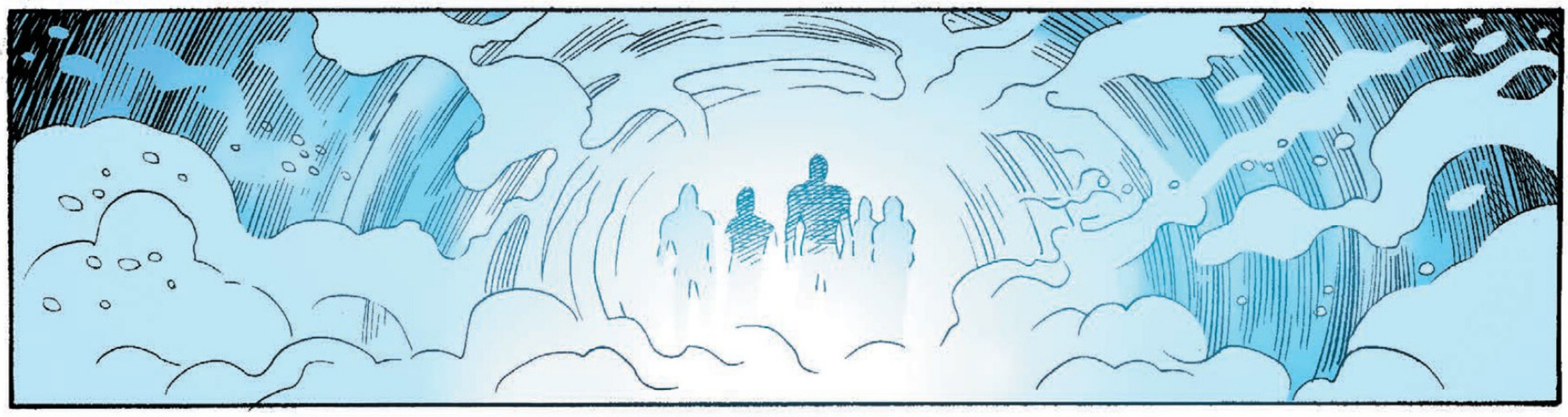
"ALLIES"? I KNOW YOU'RE NOT TALKING ABOUT US.
THOSE GUYS ARE RIGHT. WE'RE OUTTA HERE.
YEAH. YOUR HEAT RAY'LL BE DOWN SOON, AND L.A. NEEDS US.
SORRY, DOC. WE TRIED.
TRAITORS! MUTINEERS!
I COMMAND YOU TO OBEY ME!
LISTEN, BIG GUY. I GET IT.
EVERYONE'S THE HERO OF THEIR OWN STORY. SO WHEN YOU FIND OUT THERE ARE OTHER STORIES WHERE YOU DON'T EVEN RATE A MENTION, IT SUCKS.
BUT I'LL TELL YOU SOMETHING. I'VE BEEN PAYING ATTENTION.
TO THE REDSHIRTS. THE BACKGROUND EXTRAS. THE DAY PLAYERS.
THEY'RE PEOPLE TOO. EVEN IF THE POWERS THAT BE DON'T THINK OF 'EM THAT WAY.
IF, IN THIS WHOLE WAR, ALL YOU DO IS SAVE ONE GUY...
...YOU ARE THE MOST IMPORTANT PERSON IN THAT GUY'S WORLD.

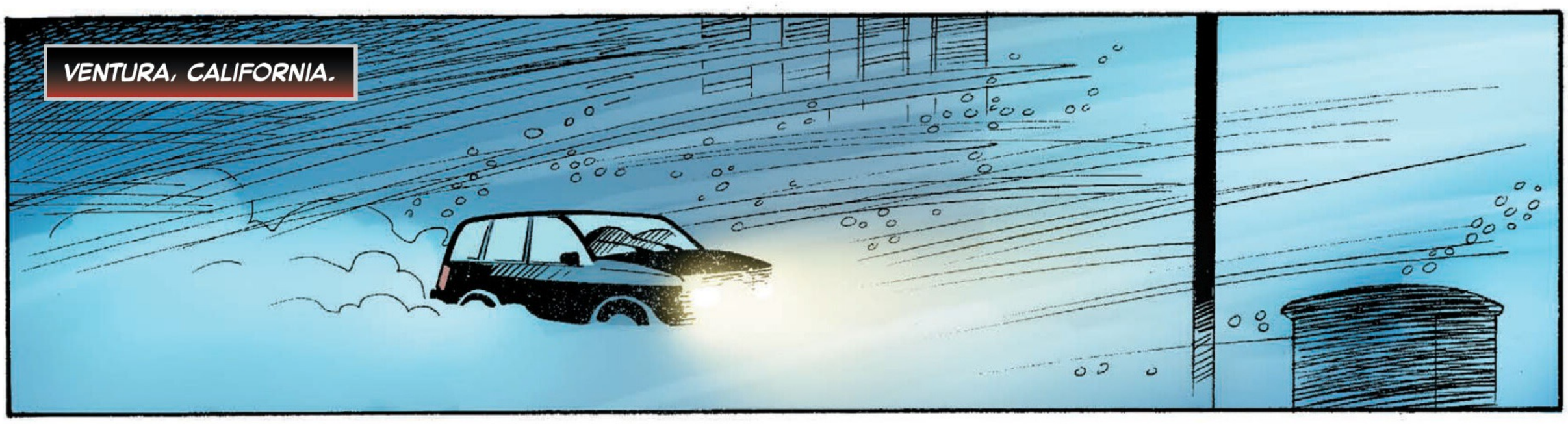

YOU COMING?

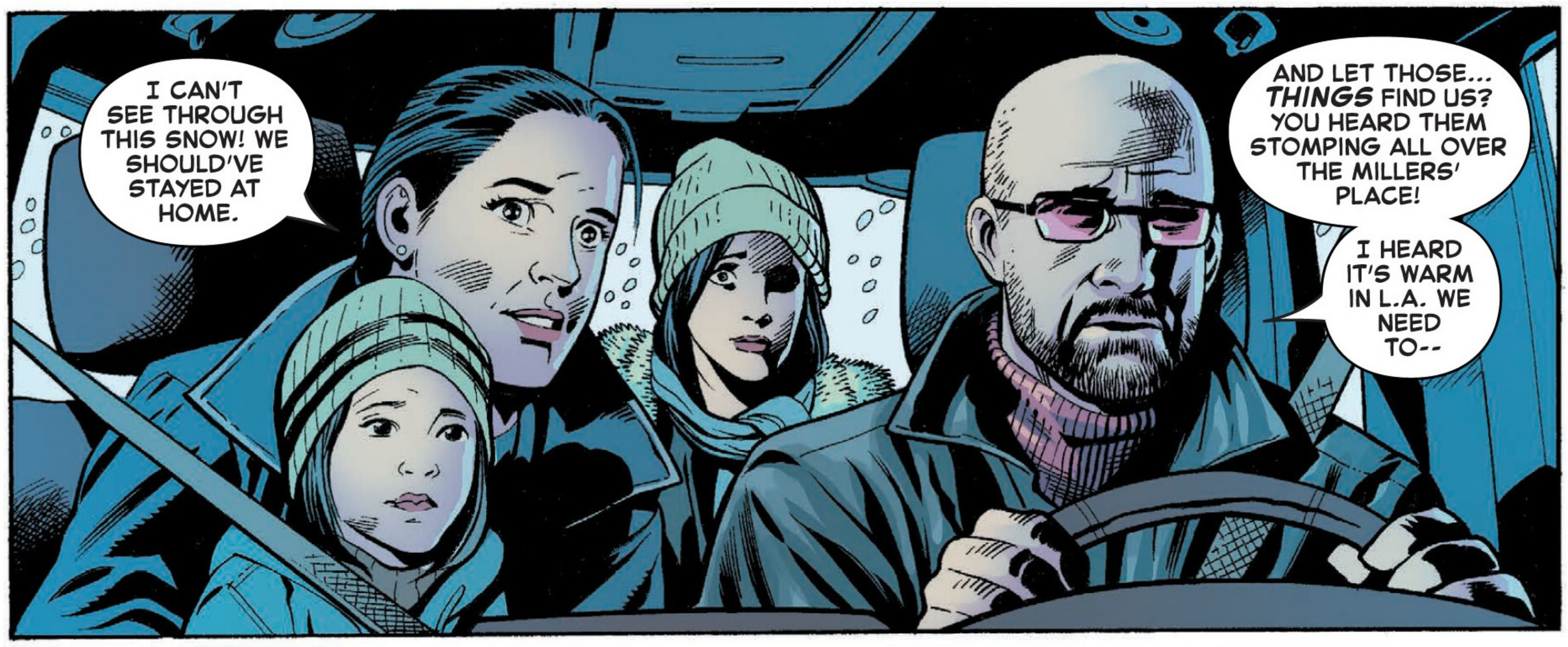









VENTURA, CALIFORNIA.


I CAN'T SEE THROUGH THIS SNOW! WE SHOULD'VE STAYED AT HOME.
AND LET THOSE... THINGS FIND US? YOU HEARD THEM STOMPING ALL OVER THE MILLERS' PLACE!
I HEARD IT'S WARM IN L.A. WE NEED TO--

EEEEE!
THMP

KRASHH

NOT MUCH FLESH ON YOU, IS THERE?
STILL, AT LEAST THERE ARE FOUR OF YOU. AND I AM FAMISHED.
WHAT--?
THWAP
THWAP
HEARD YOU'RE HUNGRY.
TRY SWALLOWING YOUR TEETH.

THWAP

THWAP

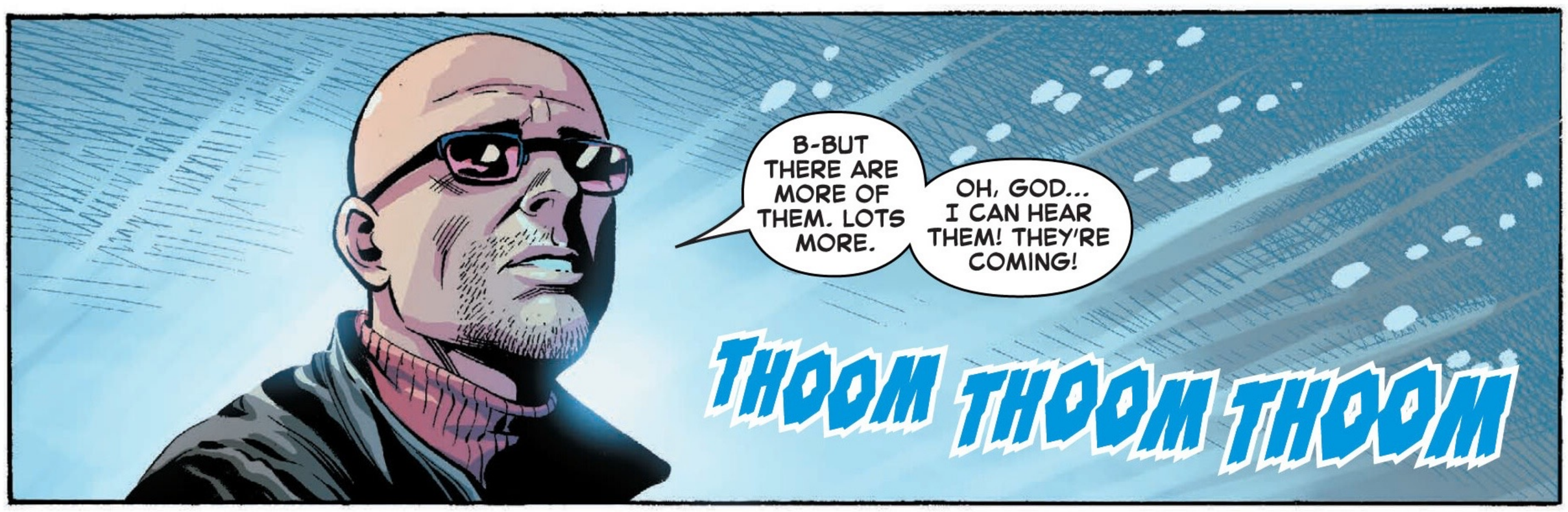
WHAKOOOM

EASY. ARE YOU INJURED?

I...THINK WE'RE ALL OKAY.

THANK YOU SO MUCH. IF YOU HADN'T BEEN HERE, I--WE--

MADAM, IT IS MY HONOR.


B-BUT THERE ARE MORE OF THEM. LOTS MORE.
OH, GOD... I CAN HEAR THEM! THEY'RE COMING!
THOOM THOOM THOOM

DO NOT FEAR, SIR. TAKE YOUR FAMILY TO SHELTER.
WE SHALL NOT ABANDON YOU IN YOUR HOUR OF NEED.

AND TELL OTHERS YOU MEET THAT THEY HAVE CHAMPIONS.
THEY SHALL KNOW US BY OUR BATTLE CRY...

...AVENGERS ASSEMBLE!
DO ME A FAVOR. GO BACK TO "THE DIE IS CAST."

The Unbeatable Squirrel Girl #43

Doreen Green doesn't just study computer science - she also studies **justice**, thanks to her being born with all the powers of a squirrel **and** all the powers of a girl! With the help of her best friends (human and squirrel), she fights crime and saves Earth on the regular. Her pals call her Doreen - which means you can too! - but if you ever see her in costume, keep her secret identity safe and call her...**The Unbeatable Squirrel Girl!**

Squirrel Girl *in a nutshell*

search!

Squirrel Girl @unbeatablesg
@starkmantony Hey quick ethical question for you

Tony Stark @starkmantony
@unbeatablesg Shoot.

Squirrel Girl @unbeatablesg
@starkmantony Hypothetically speaking, if I've come into possession of a necklace from the future that, due to temporal shenanigans, allows a friend instantaneous one-way communication with me, is it right to use it?

Tony Stark @starkmantony
@unbeatablesg No, I meant "shoot" as in "shoot, oh no, if there's one thing I've learned over the past several years it's that I'm not the best at answering ethical questions, quick or otherwise."

Squirrel Girl @unbeatablesg
@starkmantony haha

Squirrel Girl @unbeatablesg
@starkmantony no for real though

Tony Stark @starkmantony
@unbeatablesg If you're asking if it's ethical to use time travel to solve your problems, which I guess is what this boils down to, I say: sure, why not? It's a technology like any other and I know you'll use it to make the world a better place.

Tony Stark @starkmantony
@unbeatablesg As long as you're behaving ethically, that means tools you're using will therefore be behaving ethically too.

Squirrel Girl @unbeatablesg
@starkmantony Aw thanks Tony!! That helps a lot.

Tony Stark @starkmantony
@unbeatablesg My pleasure! Now, if you want bring this thing down to the lab, maybe I can disassemble it, find out a way to mass produce it, sell it, make a few easy tril, I'm happy to cut you in for – say, 15%?

Squirrel Girl @unbeatablesg
@starkmantony haha no I'm good thanks

Squirrel Girl @unbeatablesg
@starkmantony also: I completely refuse to believe that you say "trillion" so much that you're forced to shorten it to "tril"

Tony Stark @starkmantony
@unbeatablesg I say it like a tril times a day. Two tril or three tril, even. Sometimes a tril tril "tril"s.

Squirrel Girl @unbeatablesg
@starkmantony already muted this conversation, lol

Squirrel Girl @unbeatablesg
Attention criminals! First: Thanks for following me on this site!! Second: Stop doing crimes!! Third: One of my friends can now communicate with me whenever she wants, and you have no idea who it is, and I have friends everywhere, so please see point #2 in this very tweet

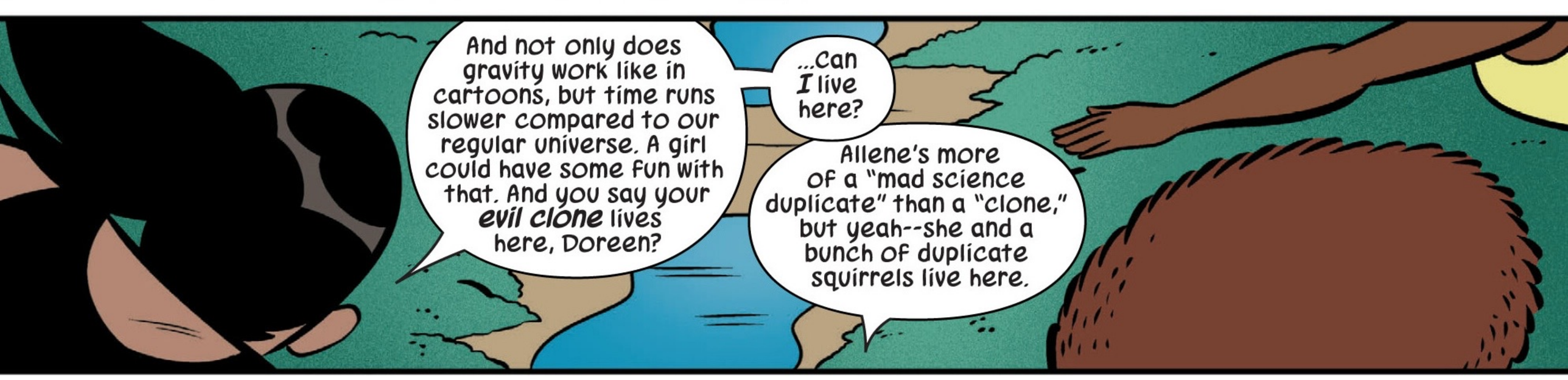
Squirrel Girl @unbeatablesg
Also, and I realize I have a recent history of these portentous tweets backfiring, but things have seemed Pretty Quiet lately, so I'm gonna go check out the Negative Zone. Nobody do any li'l OR BIG crimes while I'm gone!

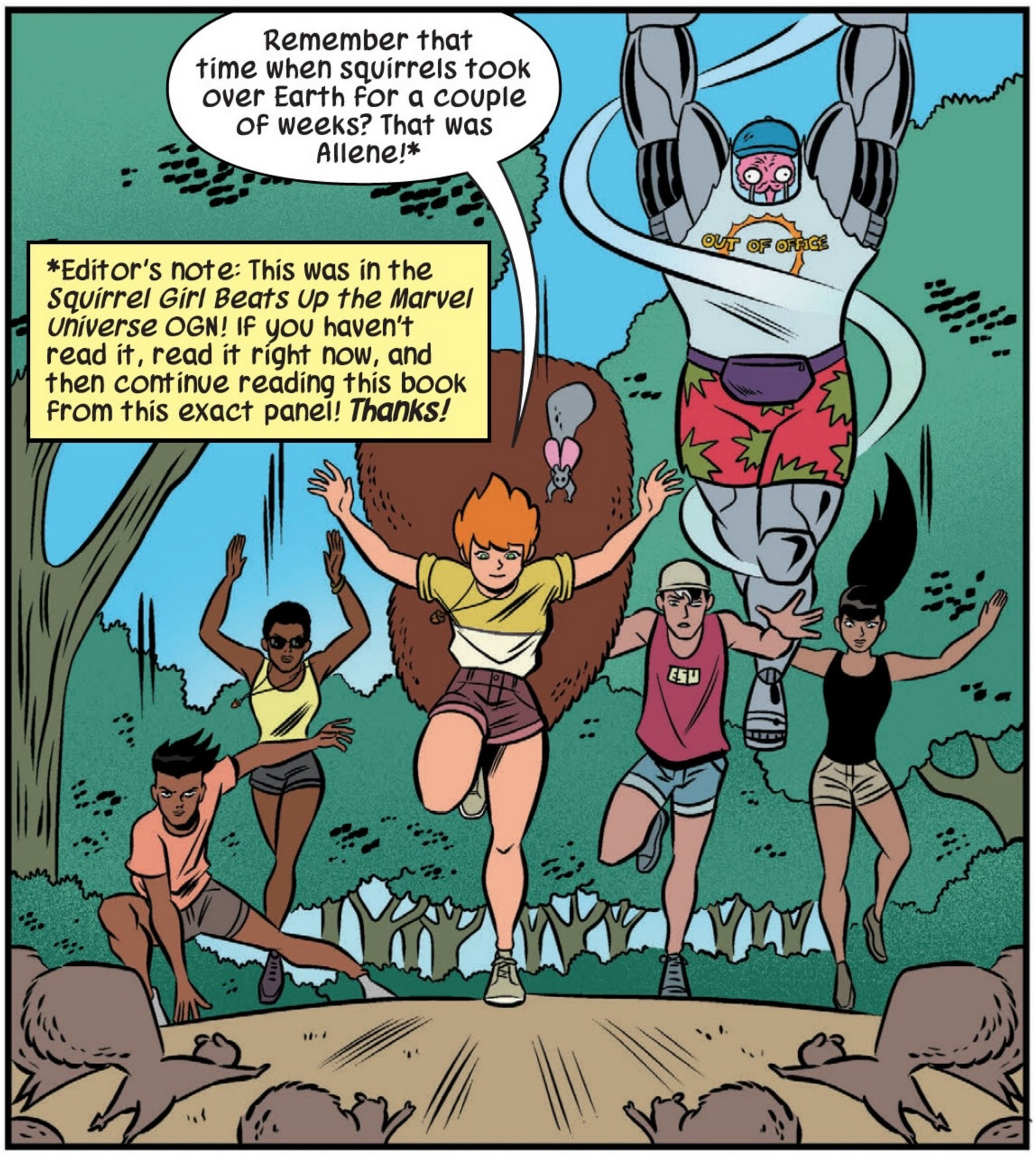
Squirrel Girl @unbeatablesg
There's lots of other heroes besides me still in New York, so I feel ABSOLUTELY CERTAIN that no matter what you have planned, they can handle it.

Squirrel Girl @unbeatablesg
Now, to take a big drink of water, go to the Negative Zone, and return with the water still in my cheeks in case any surprise twists require me to do a spit take! Byeeeeeeeee

#negativezone
#internalworkings
#canada
#parents
#avengersensemble

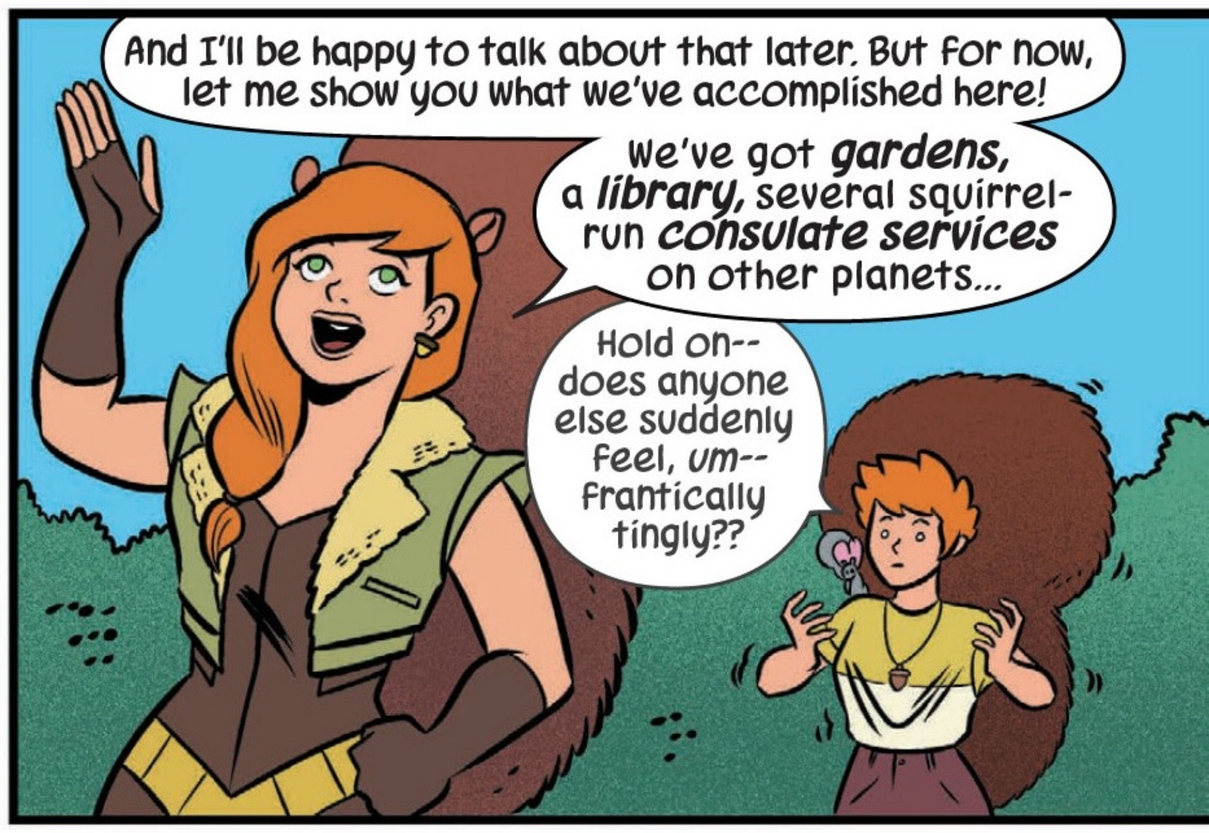
Brian, Ken, Mary, and Tomas, let me welcome you to this, your first trip...
OUT OF OFFICE
...into the NEGATIVE ZONE!





Who could that mysterious off-panel voice be? I won't lie. It's Allene, it's clearly Allene.

As far as end-of-the-page cliff-hangers go, this is not the most mysterious one, but you should keep reading anyway!!



Sorry for suggesting the idea of "a network of squirrel-run consulates across other planets" and not following up on it until the spin-off series arrives,

you'll just have to rely on your imagination to describe the laughs, loves, and wacky workplace hijinks they get up to every week!

What.
Whoa!

You can tell Loki likes you when he prevents anyone else from ruthlessly roasting your clothing choices.

That's his job.

SMAK

...and *this* is what happens?!

It was worth a tryyyyyy

Loki made himself appear to Captain America as just a regular, non-Loki person. It's a pretty good trick, but here's a secret: It's not actually that difficult to pull off.

Why, you yourself are probably appearing as a regular, non-Loki person as we speak--without even trying!

I'm--it's **complicated**, okay? Recently, **yes**, I've been fighting for the bad guys. **Allegedly**. But that's only because it's impossible to take someone down from the inside if you're not on the inside already!! **Duh**.

You're **welcome**, by the way.

Okay, so--if I'm here and you're here and we're both good guys, let's go jump into battle, have ourselves some **secret team-ups**, and--

No, weren't you listening?

I just said: Earth is **doomed**. That's not, like, **rhetoric**. This literally can't be stopped anymore. Earth will fall.

The only hope left now is to let it happen, then try to **undo** it.

I gotta say, "letting the bad thing happen and then hoping we can fix the thing" is basically the least inspiring form of heroism I've ever heard of.

Listen, I'm new to this and we all find our own path, okay??

Here's the tea: While everyone's been distracted with this fight, Malekith's **already** divided up Earth. Your hero friends don't know it yet, but North America's going to the Frost Giants, and they're already all over the continent.

North America — Land of the Frost Giants
Europe — Land of the Dark Elves
Asia — Land of Fire
Africa — Land of the Angels
South America — Kingdom of the Dead
Australia — Kingdom of the Trolls
Antarctica — Kingdom of Roxxon Inc.

Which is why I just had the great idea of doing **you** a favor and sending you up to Canada.

Kinda seems like I could do just as much good **here**.

Ah, but you're only saying that because **your** dad isn't the king of the Frost Giants, so you don't know that hidden somewhere across the 3.8 million of your realm's "square miles" of Canada...

...is a **Frost Giant secret base**.

It's **only** the foundation for all their operations, and if you can find it and destroy it, then we could turn the tide and **win** this war!

...I'm not sure what you want me to say.

"Wow Loki, what an amazing plan! Thank you for involving me in this! You're so great! Here, have some nuts and also my respect!"

Some people think in terms of "good guys" and "bad guys," but the world's more complicated than that. Besides "good guys" and "bad guys,"

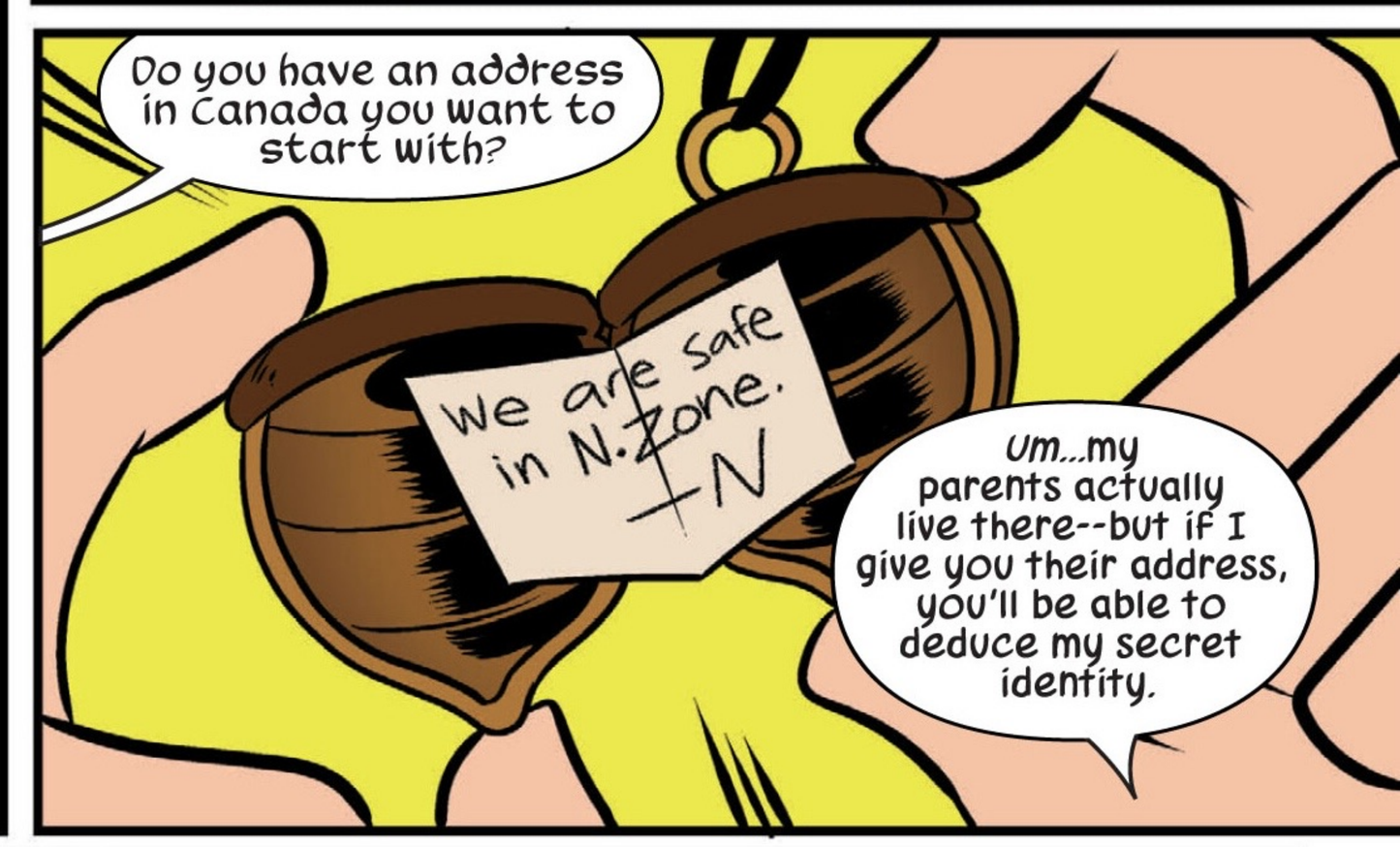
there's also big guys, small guys, tall guys, fall guys, wise guys, shy guys, nice guys, twice guys (these are twins),

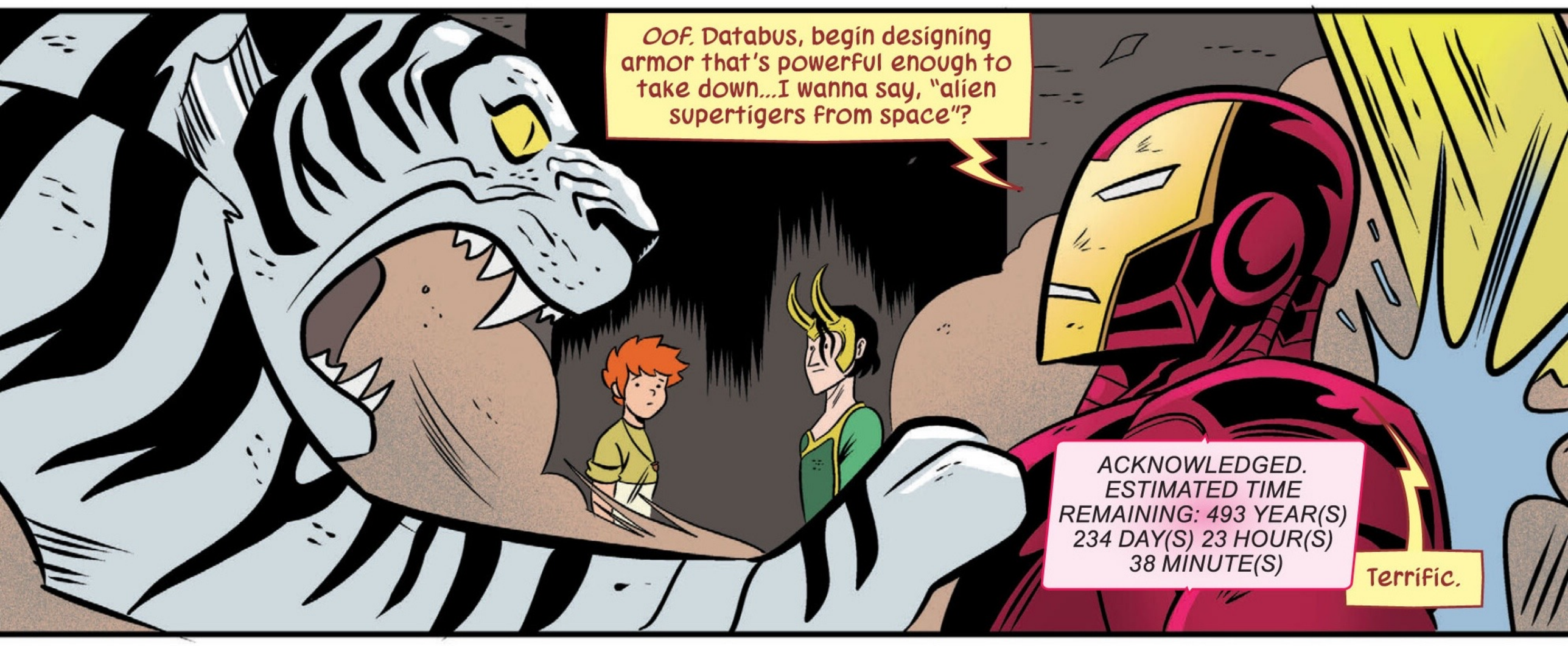
and even non-guys! Things be **complicated**.

See, one of the Ten Realms is a place of fire and brimstone called "Hel," so it makes tons of sense that the Asgardian minced-oath version of that place would be called "Hek."

Take that, teachers who said a master's degree in linguistics wouldn't come in handy when writing talking squirrel comics!!

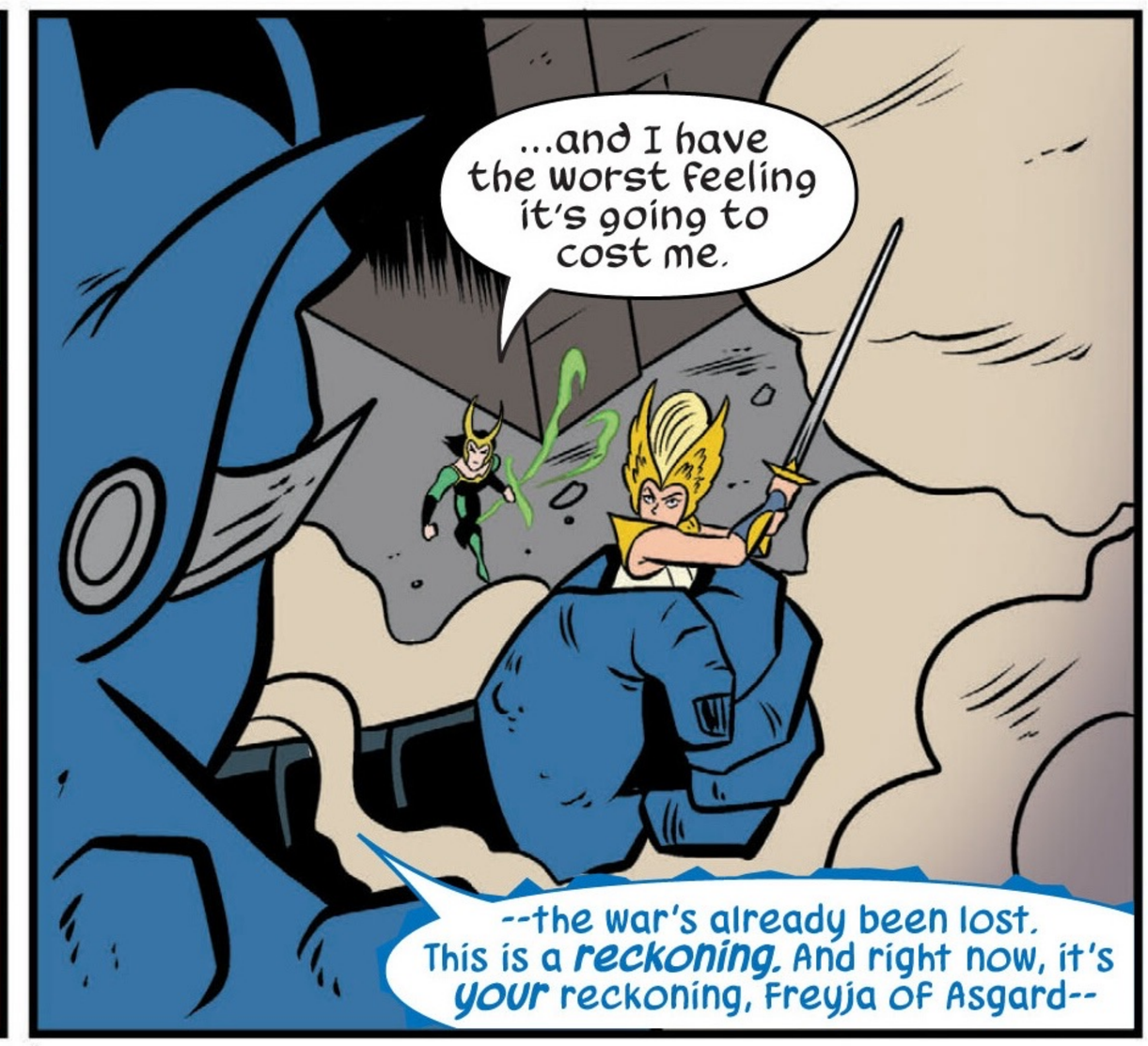
Listen, Squirrel Girl--I know I'm...difficult to love sometimes. Even just to like.
And yes, I know that I don't have, you know--
--"a lot of friends"--
--but that just makes me want to protect the few I have left even more.
And right now, Nancy may be the only friend I've got.
I swear to you, I'll teleport her--and your other friends--back here when this is done and Midgard's safe. But until then--it just doesn't make sense. It'd just put her in danger.
I promise this isn't a trick. And you can trust me, because what I'm about to say is the truest thing I've ever said:
I'd never do anything to intentionally harm Nancy Whitehead.





If you're wondering how Nancy could've managed to write a note in the Negative Zone that instantly shows up inside Doreen's necklace in the Regular Zone, great question!

We've received your question, gone ahead and answered it, sent that answer back in time, and published it in graphic narrative format as *"The Unbeatable Squirrel Girl #42."* Check it out for all the details!

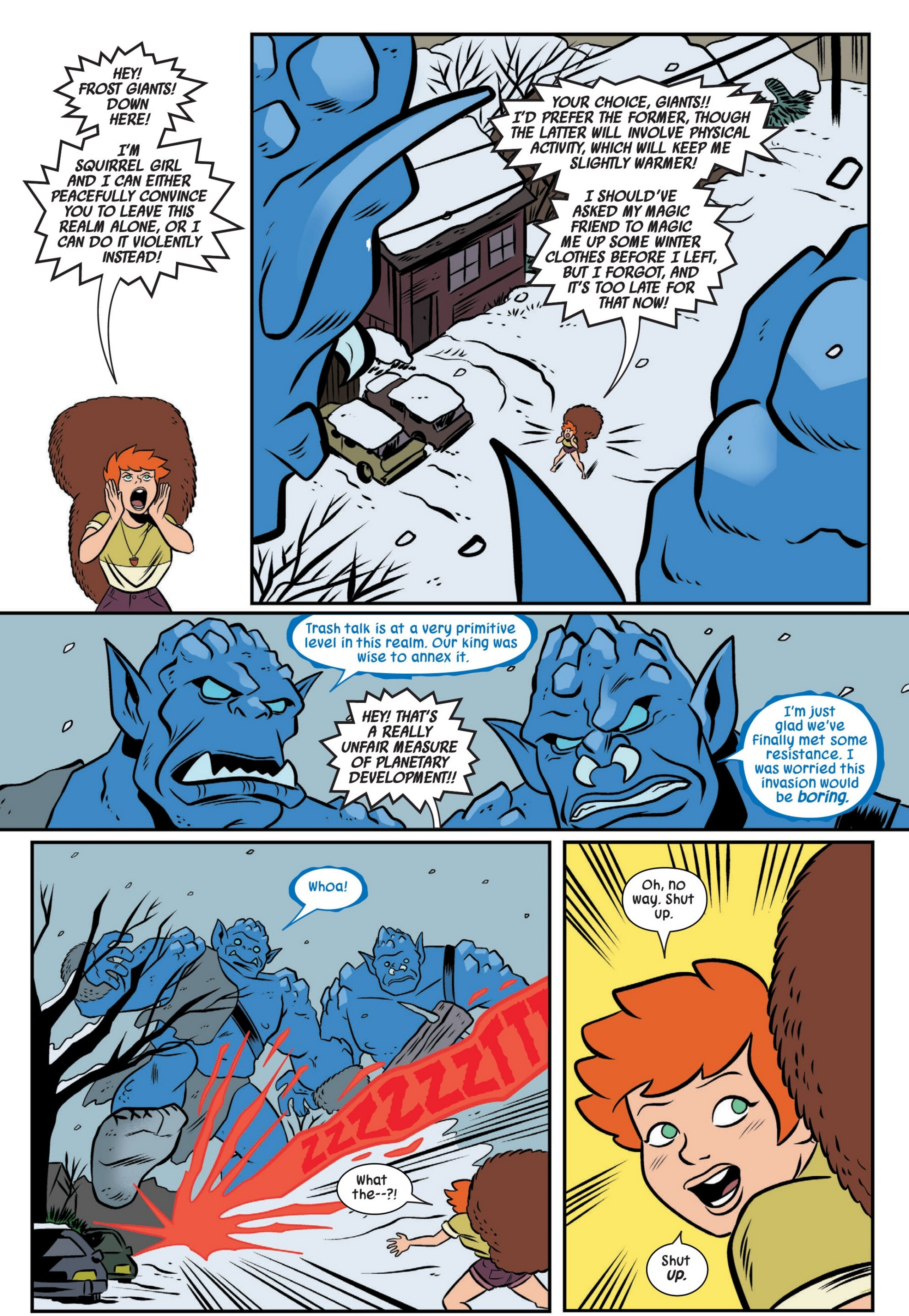


Anyway, that's the end of Loki for this issue! If you'd like to end on this happy note with him, definitely don't read *The War of the Realms #1!*

Just assume he said that portentous "feeling" thing and then went outside to exist uneventfully, the end!!

Looks like I have to fight some Frost Giants now. As Galactus said to the Silver Surfer in the yet-unpublished next issue of my zine:

"NORRIN, HEED ME WELL AS I SAY THIS UNTO YOU: I TRULY HATE MONDAYS"



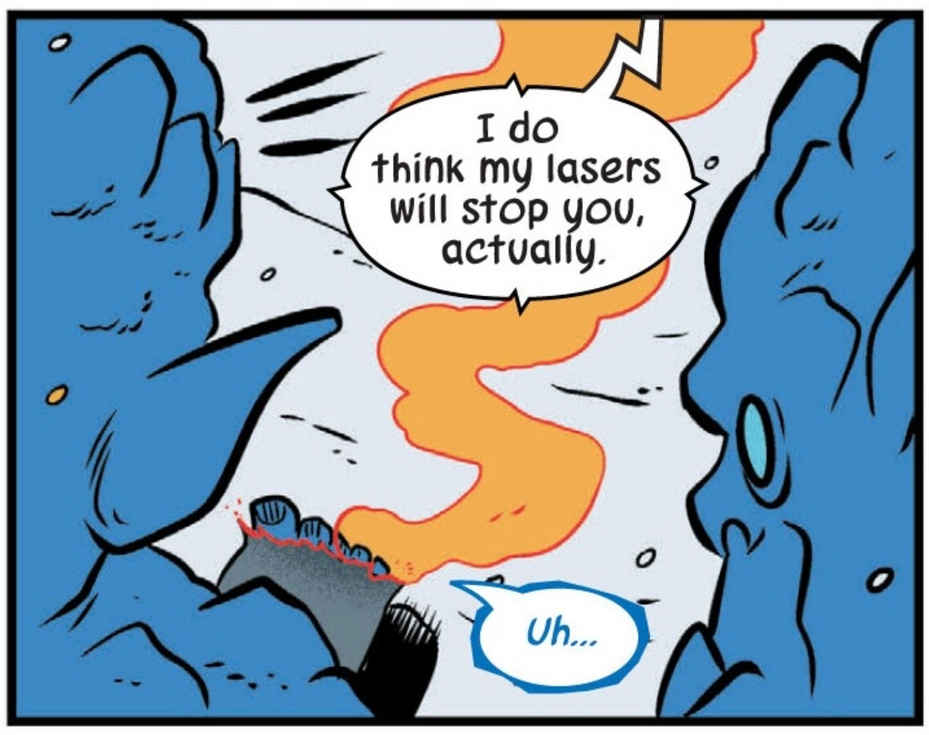
See, now *this* is an end-of-the-page cliff-hanger to write home about! Those of you who have read *Squirrel Girl Vol 1*--the one with a visit to the Savage Land--may have some idea as to what this is, but as for everyone else: Turn the page!

That's precisely what these end-of-the-page cliff-hangers are designed to encourage!!

Turn around, giants. This town is under my protection.

OAK TREE ULTRON, YOU'RE THE GREATEST THING I'VE EVER SEEN AND YOU'RE DOING AMAZING, SWEETIE!!

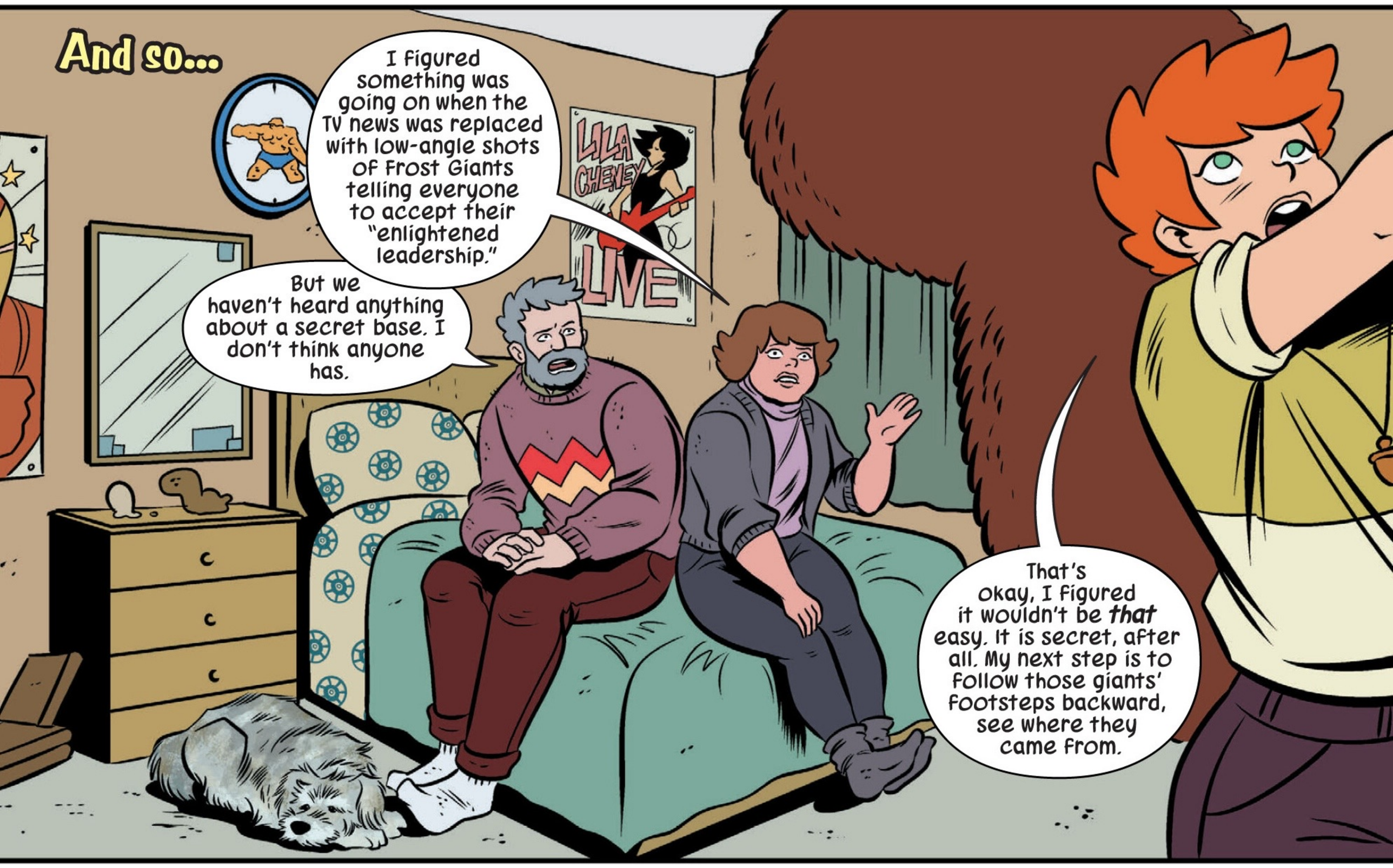
Thanks, stranger I don't know.

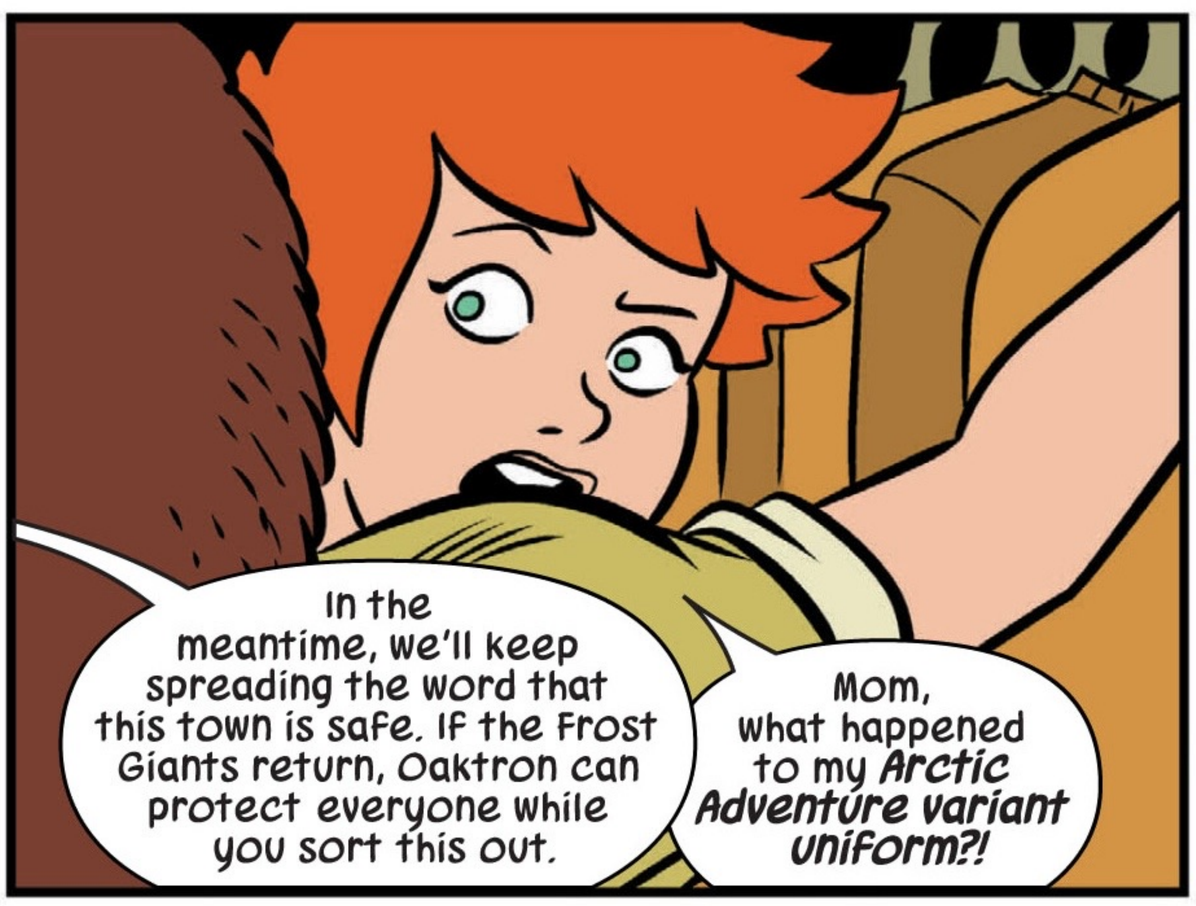


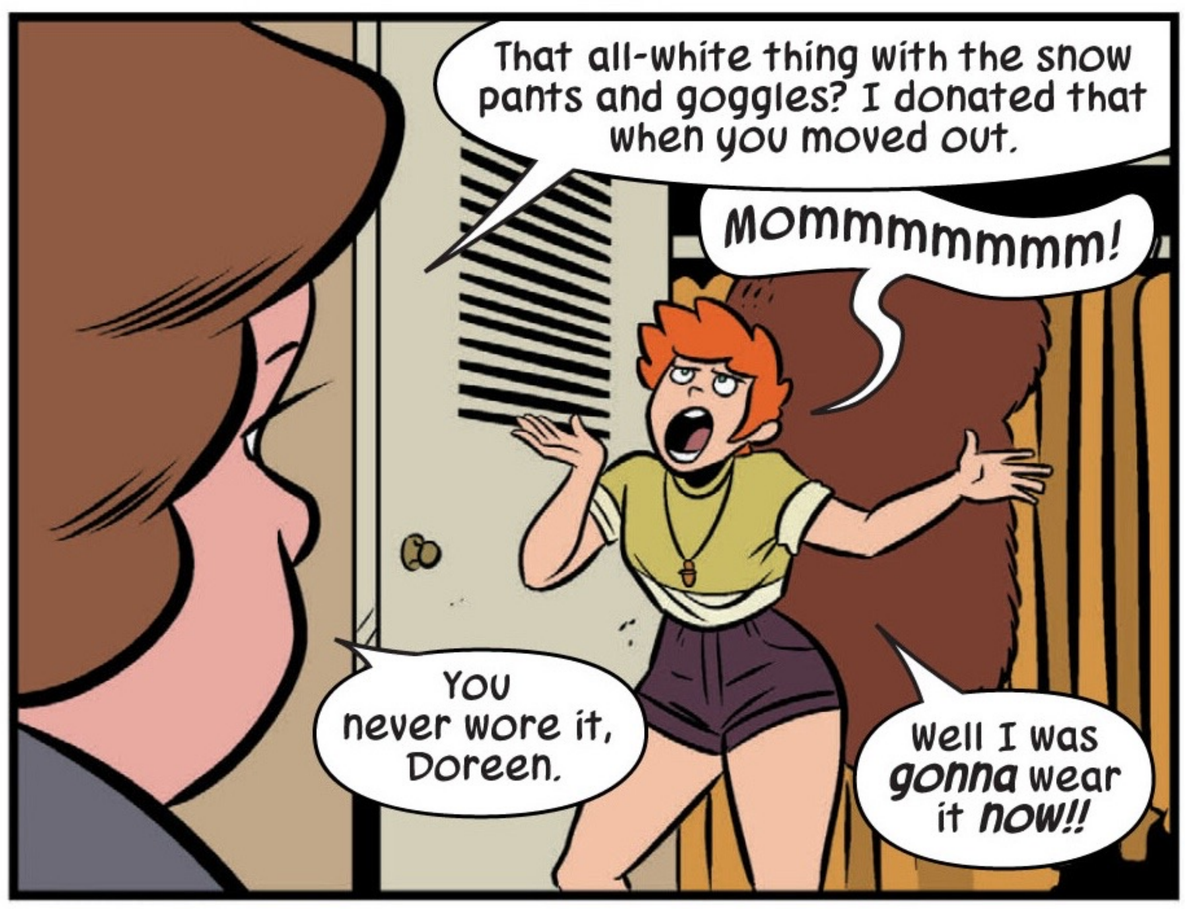
I bet that as they were leaving the Frost Giants overheard Maureen say, "You'll catch your death of cold"

and they were like, "Oh wow that's so much better than 'Frost bites,' let's definitely steal that line and start using it instead."

That's what I bet.







Mom, where's my antiFreeze "Avengers Ensemble" with the snap-on Antarctic Ice Action Armor and the Turbo-Defrost Arm Cannon that really works?

Come on Mom, we designed it to be as toyetic as possible, don't tell me you threw it out

Not included in this issue: the email thread where Derek and I discussed whether or not Doreen would also cover her tail in a jacket to protect it from the cold too, before realizing that it's already covered in insulation, since that's how the fur on squirrels works! We are very conscientious humor scientists.

But then she finally found some Frost Giants farther north...

Oh sweet, I have the perfect line for this!

Greetings, Frost Giant!! You know what'd really be a kick?

Abandoning your takeover plans for Earth!

ping!

aw dang it

...which was great because it meant our story could continue.

This comic firmly enshrines in canon that the sound of a Squirrel Girl bouncing off a Frost Giant is "ping!"

In case you were wondering what that sounds like, now you know. It sounds like this: "ping!"

One time a friend of mine stepped on a nest of ground wasps, and they flew up into his clothes and started stinging him.

He was too shocked to say what was happening, so from our point of view he just started screaming and tearing his clothes off and he ran away.

All this to say: as a writer, inspiration is all around you.

That tickled. And it's not going to happen twice.

Hey Gary.

Oh, hey Danielle.

Stop messing around. We need to take over this town.

She started it!

YOU started it when you *invaded our planet!*

I don't care *WHO* started it. *I'm* ending it.

Okay, two questions. *One:* Can we please discuss this without beating me up, and *two: HOW* did you manage to sneak up on me??

Please. We may be *big...*

..but we're not *slow.*

Gah!

SMAK

KICK

Okay this

is bad

but on

the bright

any

can't get

side it

KICK

worse?!

KRA-KA-BOOM

Squirrel Girl. I was hoping I'd run into you.

Because, despite everything else happening on Earth right now...

...you and I have some unfinished business that I'd very much like to discuss.
the unbeatable Squirrel Girl
Starring:
Squirrel Girl
...the person we've been following this whole issue!
Ratatoskr
...the Asgardian God of Gossip, a shape-shifting squirrel who loves sowing chaos and has mind-control powers! Squirrel Girl only barely avoided disaster the last time they met!
And the complete destruction of North America!!
...which we can hopefully all agree would be bad for several distinct reasons, not the least of which is that a lot of us keep all our stuff there!!

The Unbeatable Squirrel Girl #44

Doreen Green doesn't just study computer science - she also studies **justice**, thanks to her being born with all the powers of a squirrel **and** all the powers of a girl! With the help of her best friends (human and squirrel), she fights crime and saves Earth on the regular. Her pals call her Doreen - which means you can too! - but if you ever see her in costume, keep her secret identity safe and call her...**The Unbeatable Squirrel Girl!**

Squirrel Girl *in a nutshell*

Squirrel Girl @unbeatablesg
I WENT TO THE NEGATIVE ZONE FOR LIKE FIVE MINUTES AND THE WHOLE WORLD GOT TAKEN OVER IN AN ASGARDIAN WAR OF THE REALMS?? RT IF THIS IS BALONEY

Squirrel Girl @unbeatablesg
I WANT EVERYONE TO KNOW I RETWEETED MYSELF JUST NOW, THEN UNDID THE RETWEET SO I COULD RETWEET IT AGAIN BECAUSE IT'S *THAT* BALONEY

Squirrel Girl @unbeatablesg
THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION TO THIS IMPORTANT MATTER

Egg @imduderadtude
@unbeatablesg aliens are real and they took over north america lol

Squirrel Girl @unbeatablesg
@imduderadtude I'm on it! Loki's sent me on a secret mission up north in Canada!

Squirrel Girl @unbeatablesg
@imduderadtude Also they're not aliens, they're Frost Giants. This dude Malekith let his buddies divide up all the continents and North America got the Frost Giants.

Squirrel Girl @unbeatablesg
@imduderadtude I mean, yes they're "aliens" in that they don't come from our planet and instead hail from another world that probably has a higher atmospheric oxygen content or other sort of evolutionary pressure that tends toward gigantism, but they're not ALIEN aliens

Tony Stark @starkmantony
@unbeatablesg @imduderadtude Jumping in here. Am I to understand that all of North America now depends on a secret mission given to you by Loki, a guy so FAMOUSLY untrustworthy that they made him the LITERAL GOD of lies and liars?? THAT Loki?

Squirrel Girl @unbeatablesg
@imduderadtude @starkmantony I know, I know--but I trust him, Tony. He's not playing us. I promise. And with the other Avengers PRESUMABLY busy with other continents, I figured my help would be appreciated!

Squirrel Girl @unbeatablesg
@imduderadtude @starkmantony ...You ARE fighting to save the other continents, yeah??

Tony Stark @starkmantony
@unbeatablesg @imduderadtude We're working on it.

Squirrel Girl @unbeatablesg
@imduderadtude @starkmantony Hey Tony have you saved any continents yet tho

Tony Stark @starkmantony
@unbeatablesg @imduderadtude WE'RE WORKING ON IT. I'm leaving NA in your capable hands, Squirrel Girl.

Squirrel Girl @unbeatablesg
@imduderadtude @starkmantony Thanks dude. Don't worry: my mom made me a new outfit to fight crime up north!!

Tony Stark @starkmantony
@unbeatablesg @imduderadtude That...only makes me more worried, actually.

Squirrel Girl @unbeatablesg
@imduderadtude @starkmantony it has squirrel ears and a painted-on squirrel face and i may never stop wearing it

Squirrel Girl @unbeatablesg
@imduderadtude @starkmantony wait hold on just encountered some Frost Giants

Squirrel Girl @unbeatablesg
@imduderadtude @starkmantony WAIT HOLD ON JUST ENCOUNTERED RATATOSKR, THE ASGARDIAN SQUIRREL CHAOS GOD WHO ALMOST TOOK OVER THE WORLD LAST YEAR!!

Egg @imduderadtude
@unbeatablesg @starmantony lol plz untag me from this convo

Egg @imduderadtude
@unbeatablesg @starmantony i'm #online to post memes and not be tagged in conversations, and i'm all out of not being tagged in conversations!!

Egg @imduderadtude
@unbeatablesg @starmantony also plz save my house first i don't want a frost giant to ruin it lolololololol

search!

#ratatoskr
#wealthydowager
#jackandjill
#spidersquirrel
#uglymug

Ratatoskr, you--you--you ***shape-shifting master of darkness!!*** I should've known you'd be behind this!!

Hey, hey, come on now! Appreciate your faith in my abilities, but for once, you can't blame this attack...

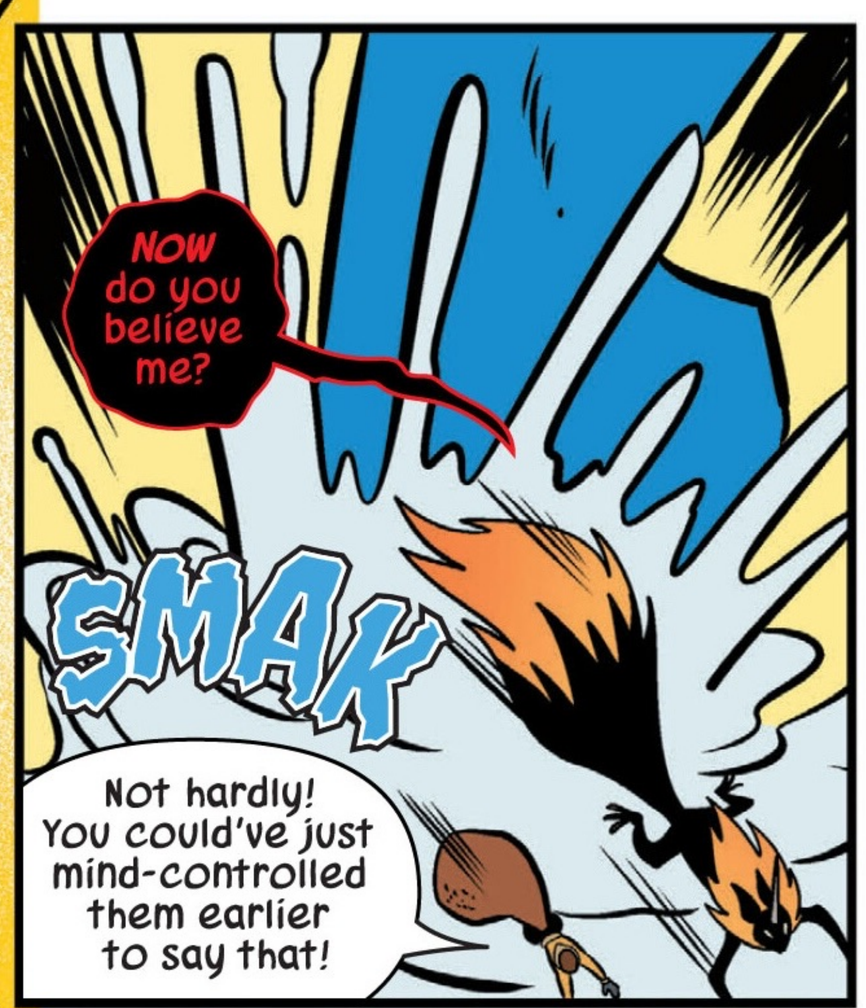
Believe it or not, I have a friend who used to go to random Wikipedia articles, pick a random sentence, and add "Believe it or not" to the front of it.

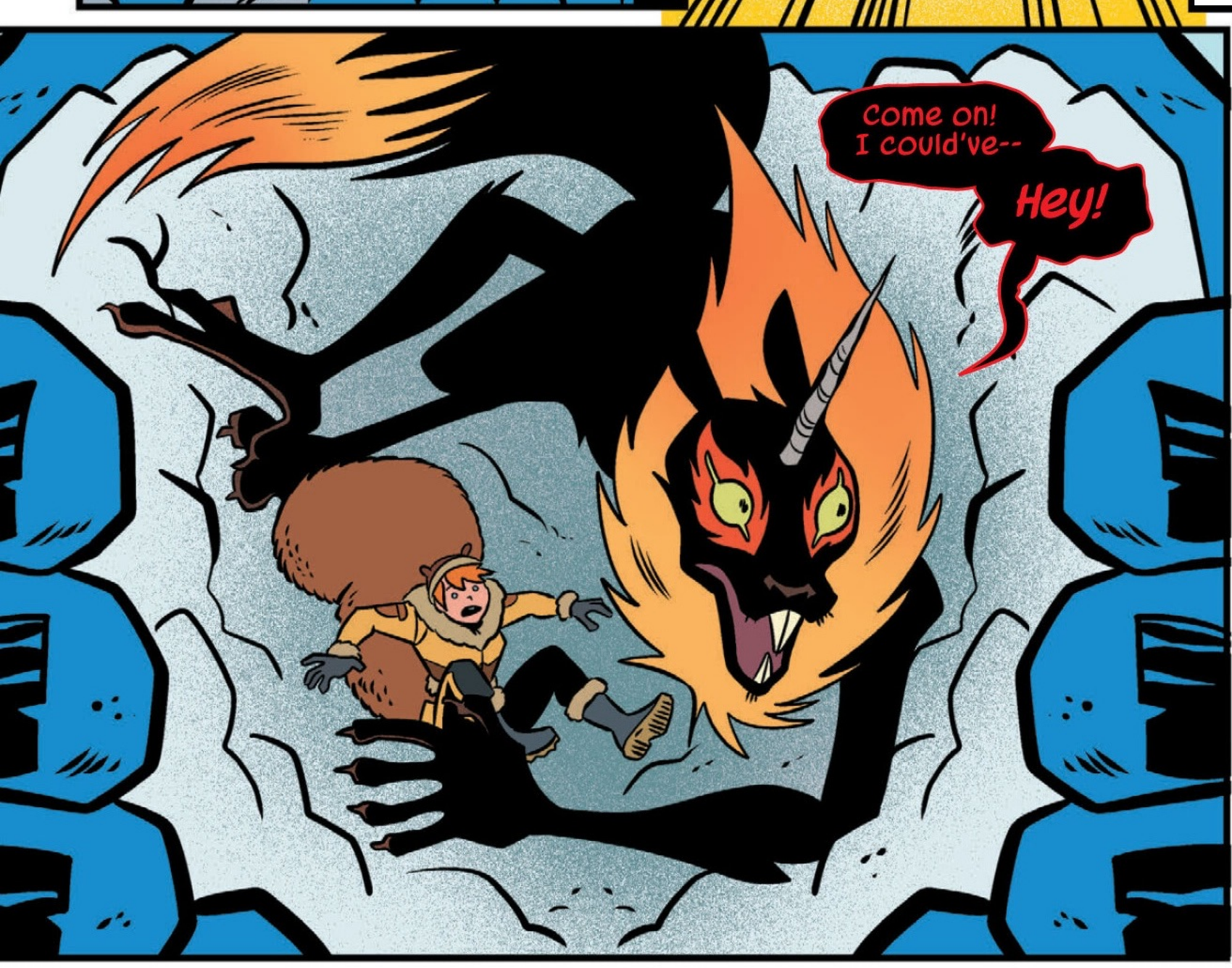
Believe it or not, Wikipedia doesn't like it when you do that! Anyway, this friend is Chris Hastings and he wrote *The Unbelievable Gwenpool.*

Wait--if you're not aligned with the invaders of Earth, then how come the Frost Giants aren't attacking you?
I don't know! Why don't you ask them?
I was wondering if you'd kill each other and save me the trouble.
Oh my gosh, Gary, they really are like little action figures who talk. Adorable.

The ones with powers are rarer and therefore more collectible. I've been looking for one with a kung-fu grip. These ones aren't that, though.
Well, if they're no good to you, and they aren't going to kill each other...

...then we'll just have to do it ourselves!


NOW do you believe me?
SMAK
Not hardly! You could've just mind-controlled them earlier to say that!


Come on! I could've--
Hey!

Gotcha.
Perfect. Just perfect.

You know that Asgard probably really does sell postcards with that slogan on them, above an image of, like, Thor punching out a monster.

Then the next one has the same slogan but now it's Thor throwing his hammer. Then the next one has the same slogan but it's just Thor blowing a kiss at the camera and giving a thumbs-up. Greetings from Asgard, everyone.

"Meddling" is too great a word to be so rarely used.

But you can change that! Next time you're late somewhere, don't blame traffic, blame the "infernal meddling of the anonymous masses interfering with my designs on Earth once more!

"...For once, Asgard had problems that extended beyond myself."

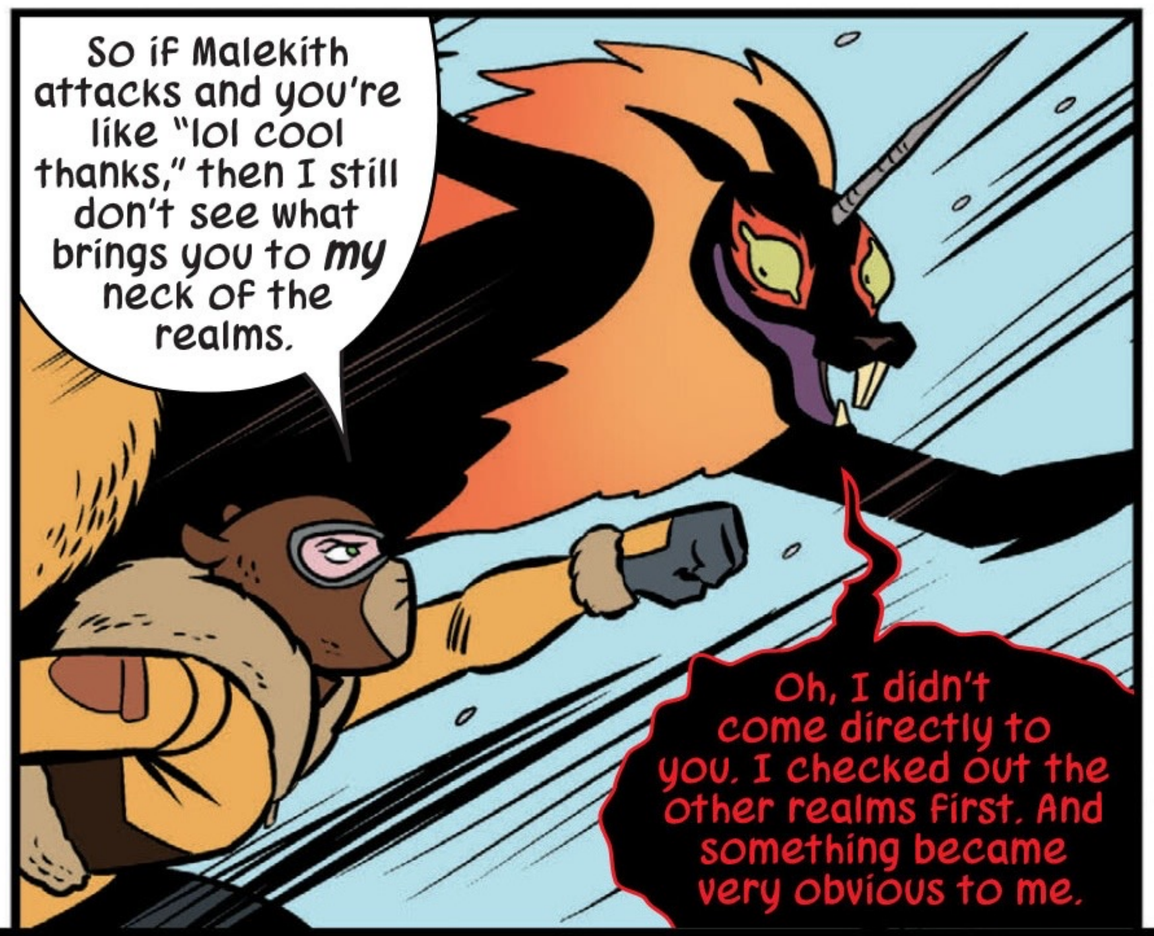
TREMBLE, FEEBLE GODS! FOR NOW YOU FACE THE **MANGOG**, WITH THE STRENGTH **AND HATRED** OF A BILLION **BILLION** BEINGS!!

...This is new.

It was then that I realized...the action-movie noises I'd heard for the past several days might not have been one of my guards watching an extremely long action movie with really convincing surround sound.

I know you'd like to blame me, but I've already preemptively refused it! Check and mate, rest of the universe!

Get on my level, rest of the universe!!

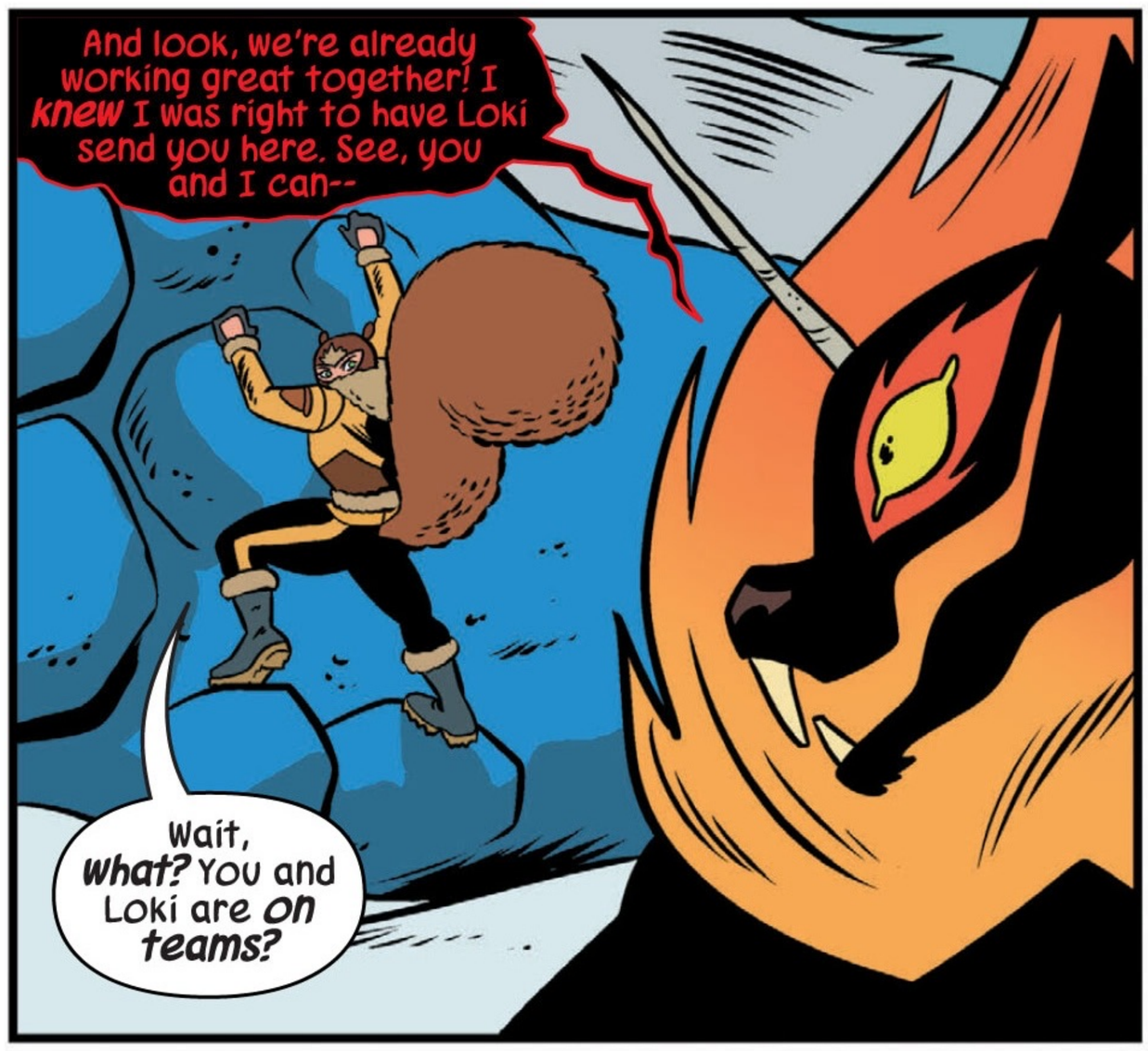


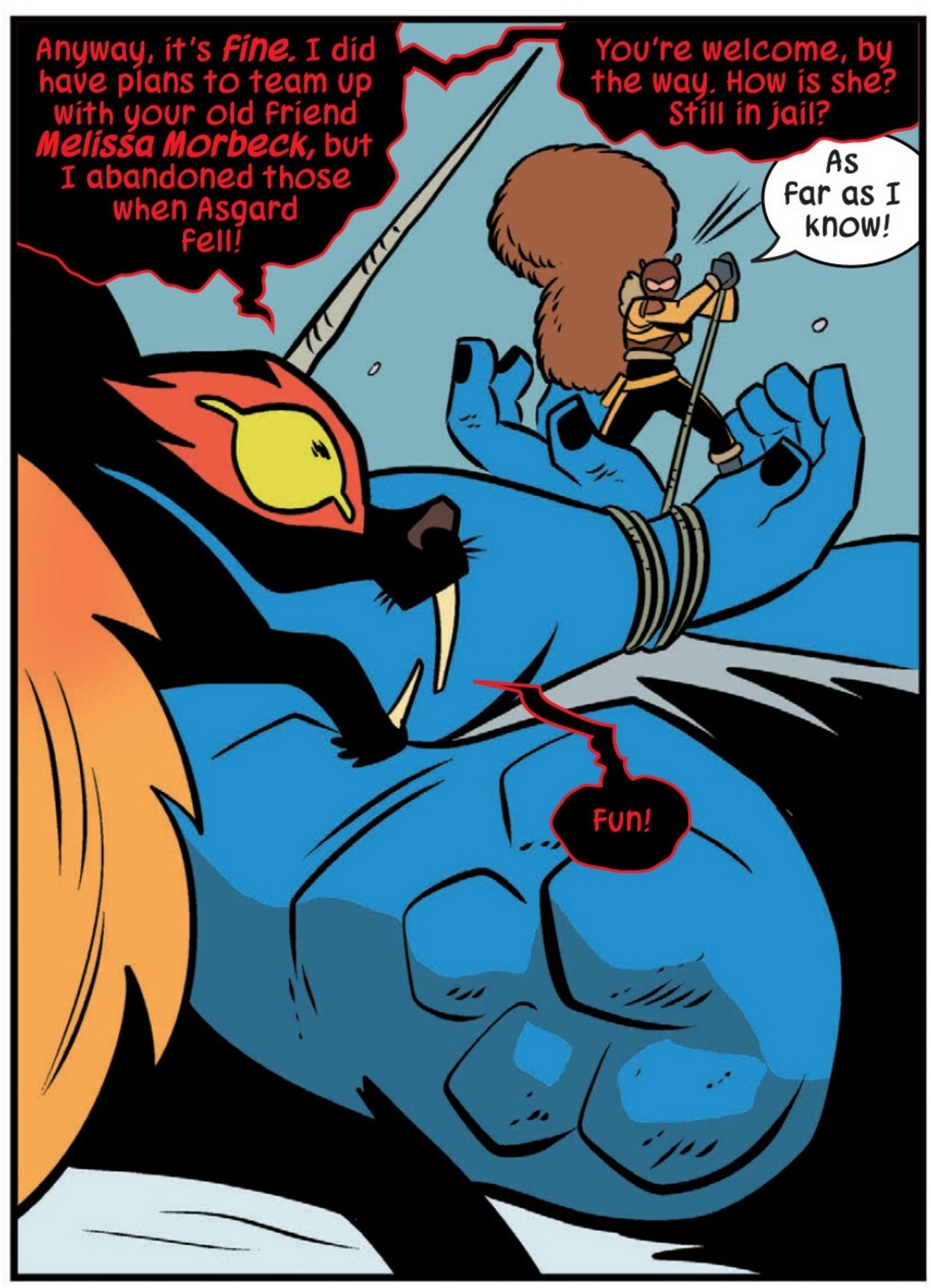
Guess what? The modern "y'all" has the same grammatical role (that of an otherwise-absent plural second-person pronoun) that "ye" used to have in Early Modern English!

So if anyone claims that saying "y'all" makes you sound uneducated, y'all can educate them on how it actually has a linguistic pedigree going back hundreds of years.

Malekith is a hair's breadth away from uniting all ten realms under his leadership, Squirrel Girl. And that's a recipe for one thing.
Yeah, chaos! Which you *love*, incidentally!
NO.
That's an empire of *uniformity*, of *stagnation*.
And it's incredibly, intolerably *boring*.
Hey! Down here, Gary and Danielle! We give up!
Come and get us, you big babies!! Fast as you can!
Whoever grabs us first gets the glory!
Anyway, to someone like me, who thrives on chaos and change--I can't stand it.
And it occurred to me that the way I can cause the most chaos now--the *only* way left for me to stir things up--is to interfere with those plans while I still can. It's why I've come to fight.
KLANG

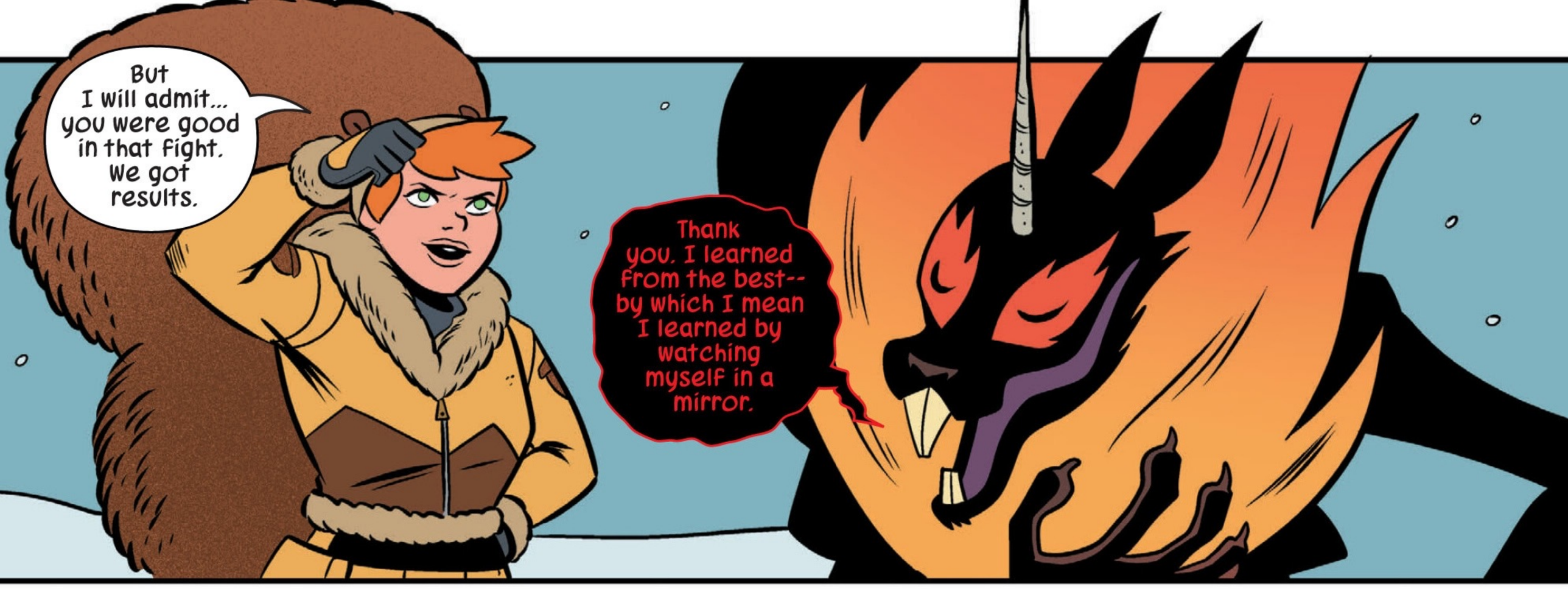
I'm here because you and I have a **shared enemy,** Squirrel Girl. Plus, come on, I've always had a soft spot for your realm. It feels like your planet has some world-threatening crisis like **every summer.**
I'm sure it's not **every** summer...
It's like, how are you all still here? I love it.
KRASH
KRASH

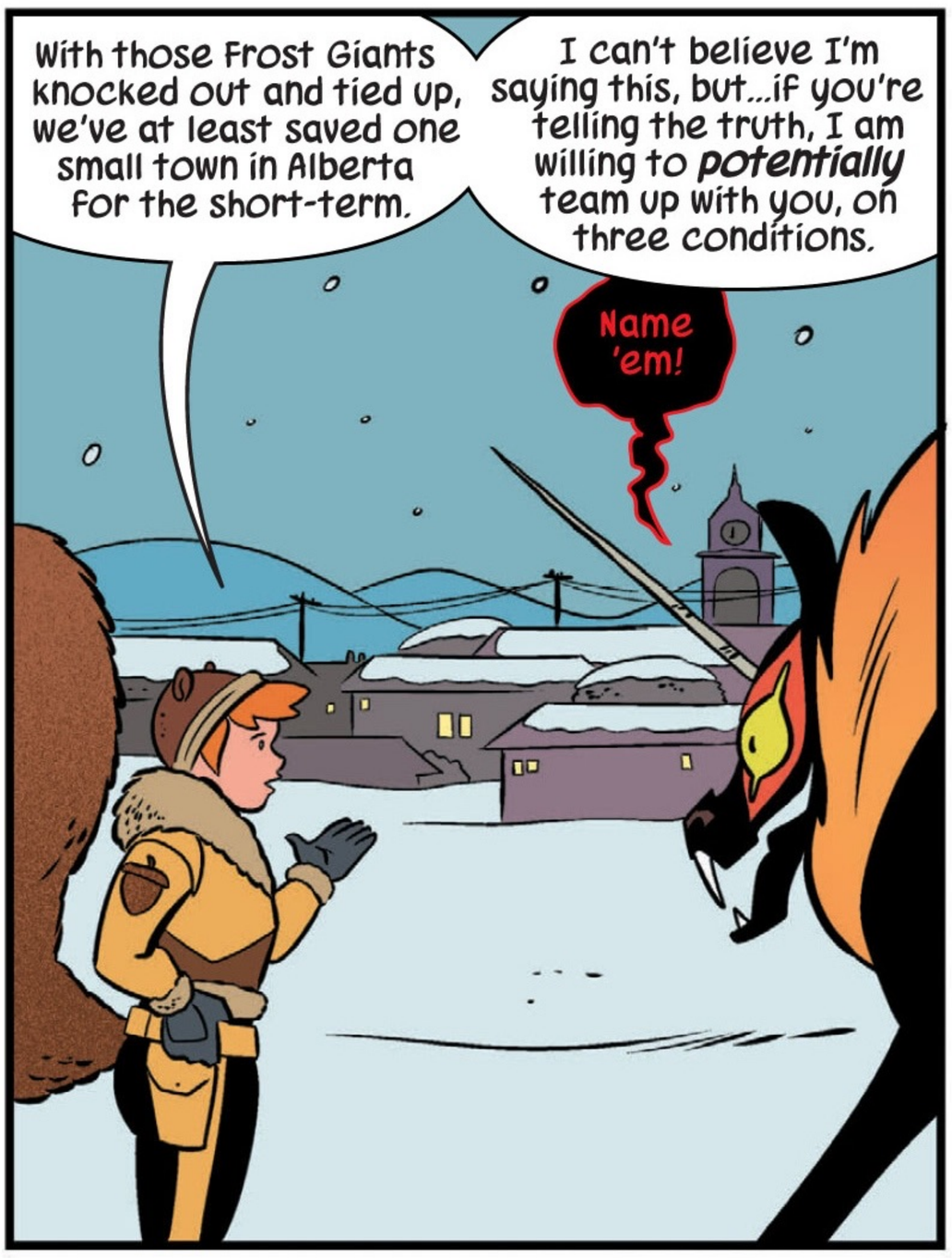


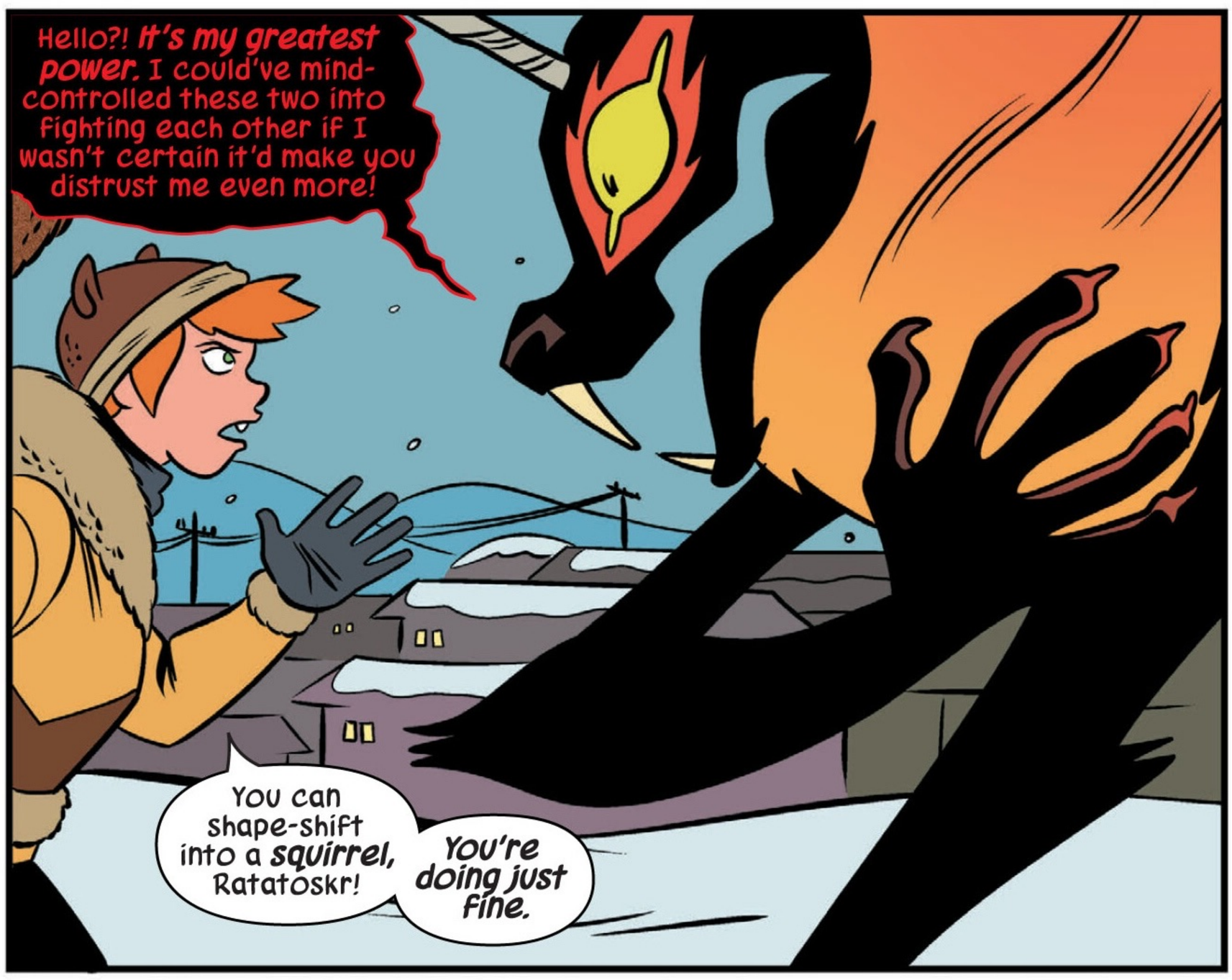


Squirrel Girl coming out strong against manipulating people without their knowledge and consent!!

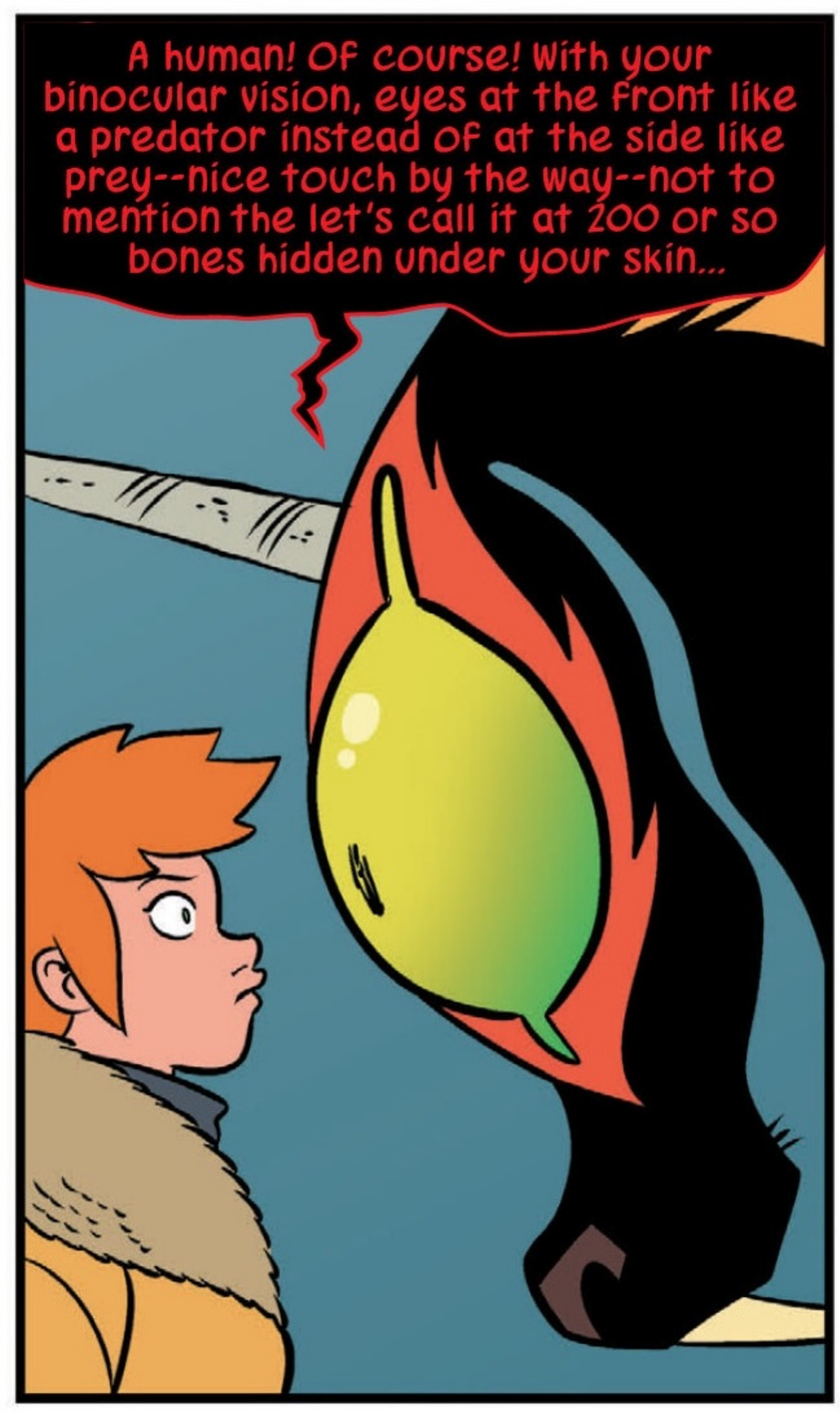
Sorry, all master manipulators reading this comic, but Doreen Green really thinks you should clean up your act!!







Given how much this comic has shown how powerful squirrels really are... Doreen's not wrong.



Maybe. Absolutely maybe.

Our goal is to **blend in,** Ratatoskr, and two identical twins in the same clothes won't--
Oh, is that all? Palette swap! Easy!

Ta-da!!
NO! Look, use me as **inspiration,** but don't make it identical! Add your own personality to it.

Okay--my own personality says "Ta-da!!"
Hard no.

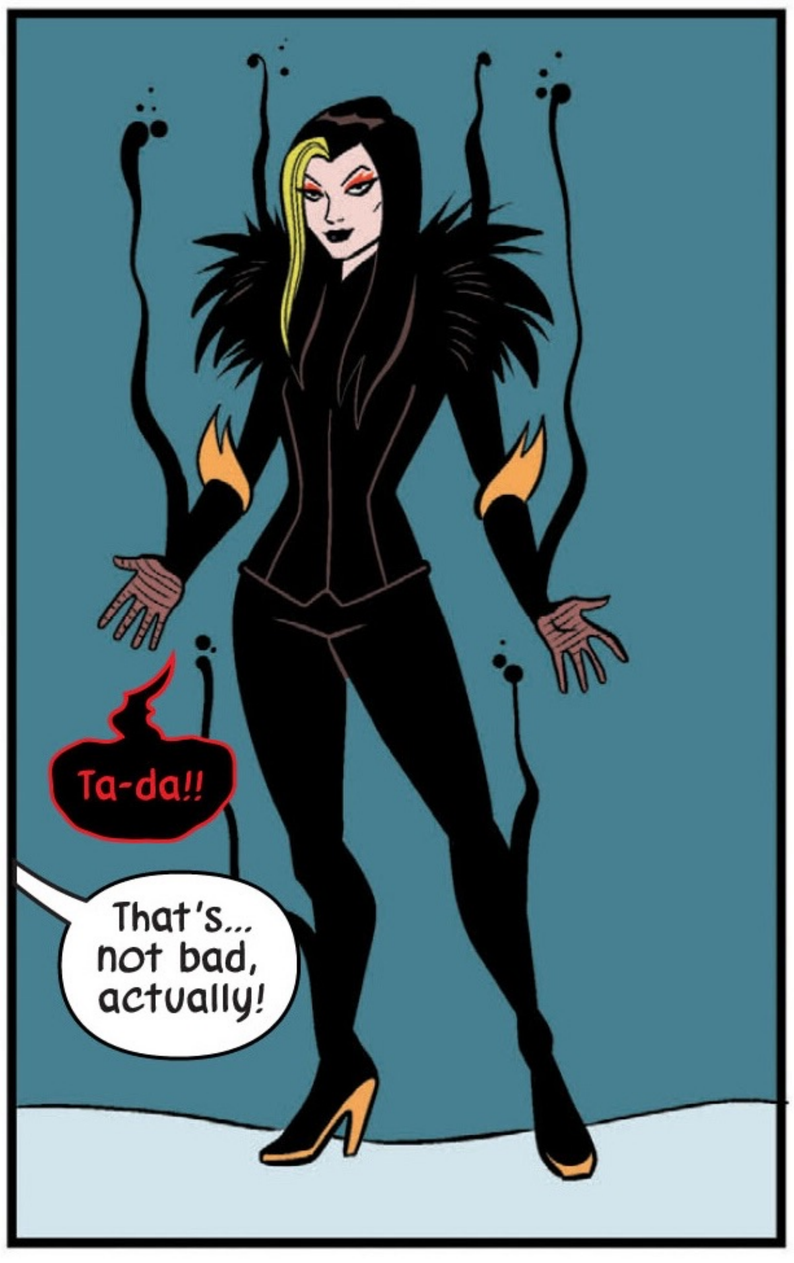
How about this? Ta-da!!
No.

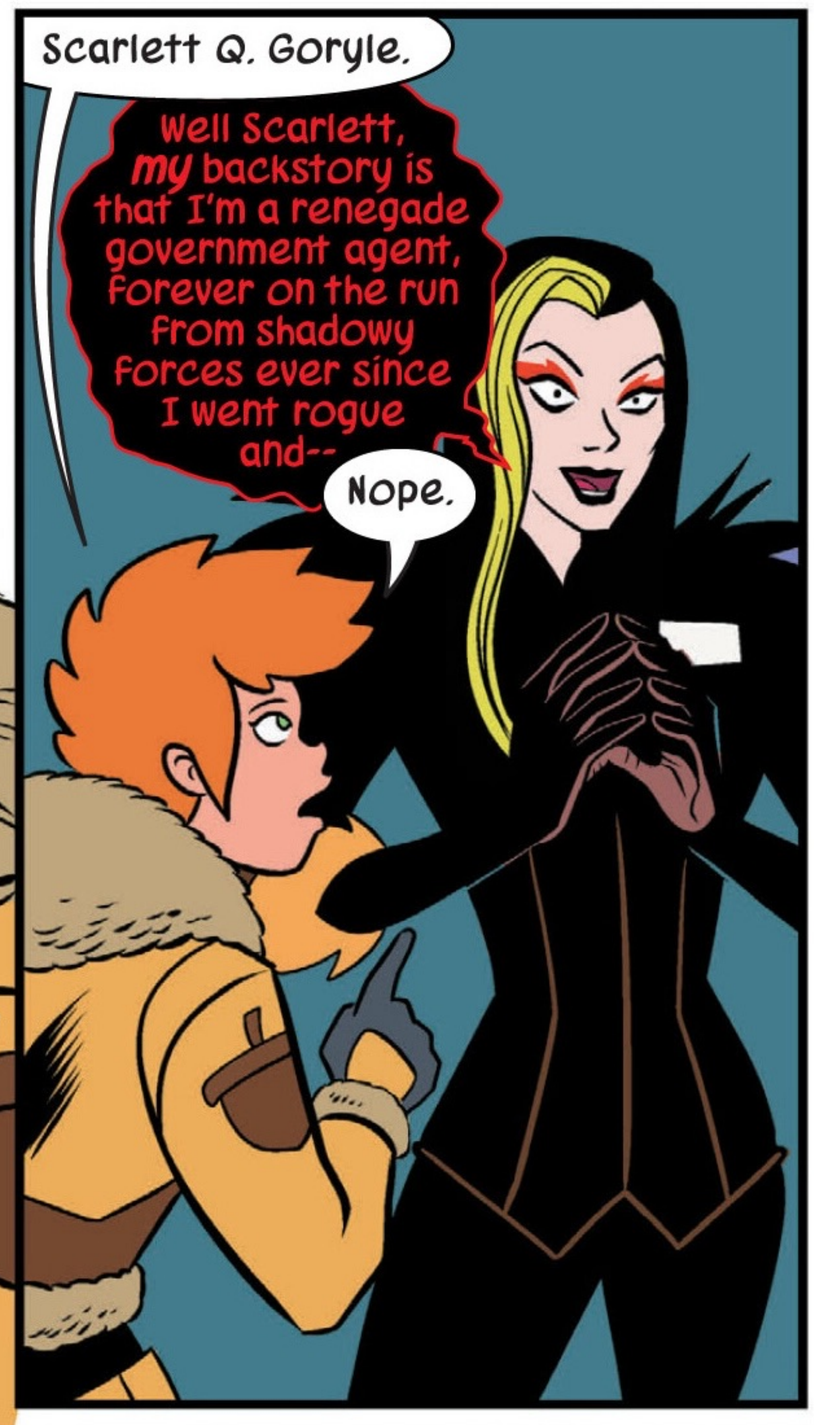
Ta-da!!
No.
Also, how are you making those sparkles?

Ta-da!!
Intriguing, but no.

Listen, are we **certain** this isn't the look?
Just randomize the traits some, okay? Every human looks a little bit different.

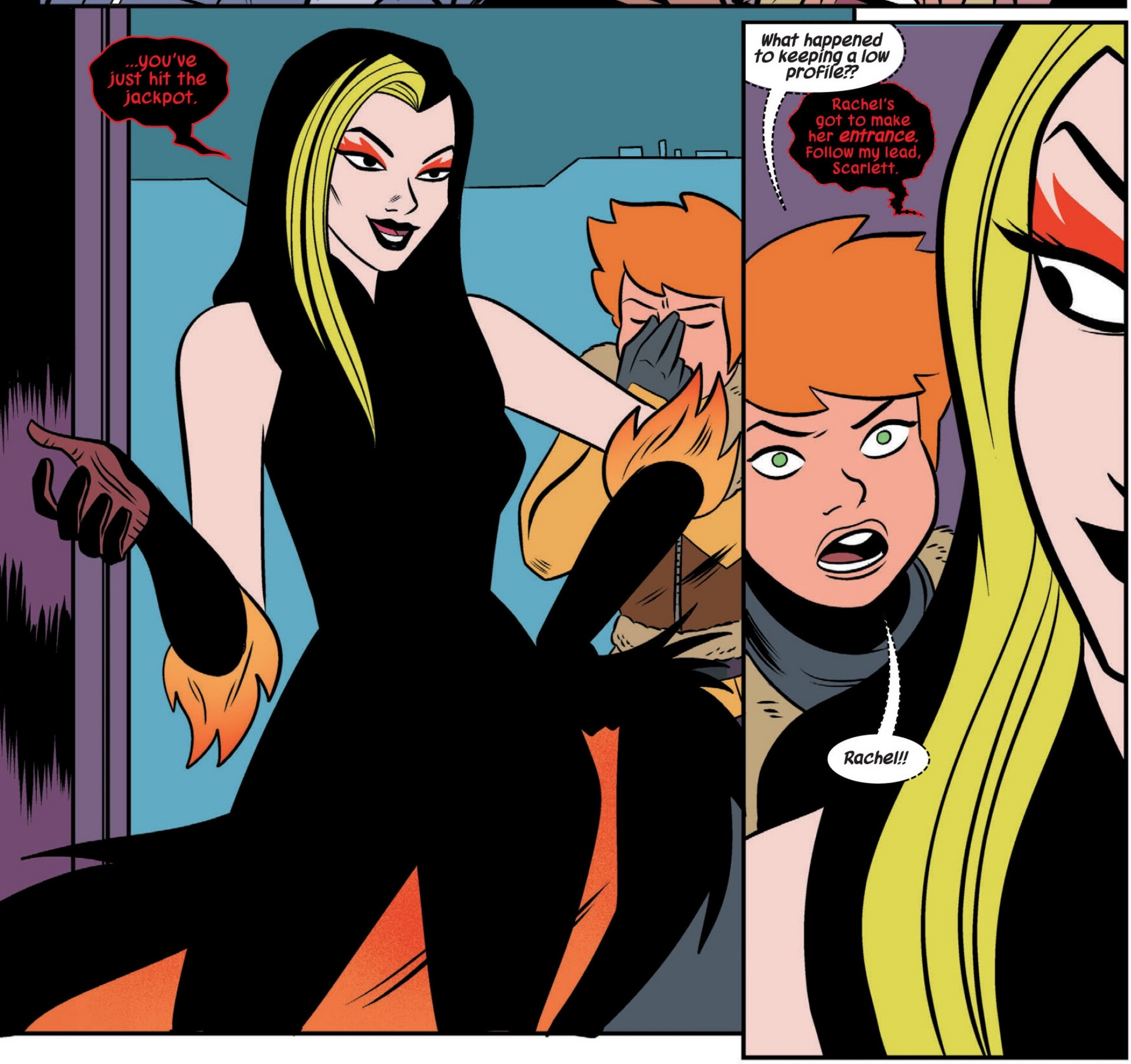
Maybe to **you.** Okay, okay, give me a second...


Ta-da!!
That's... not bad, actually!



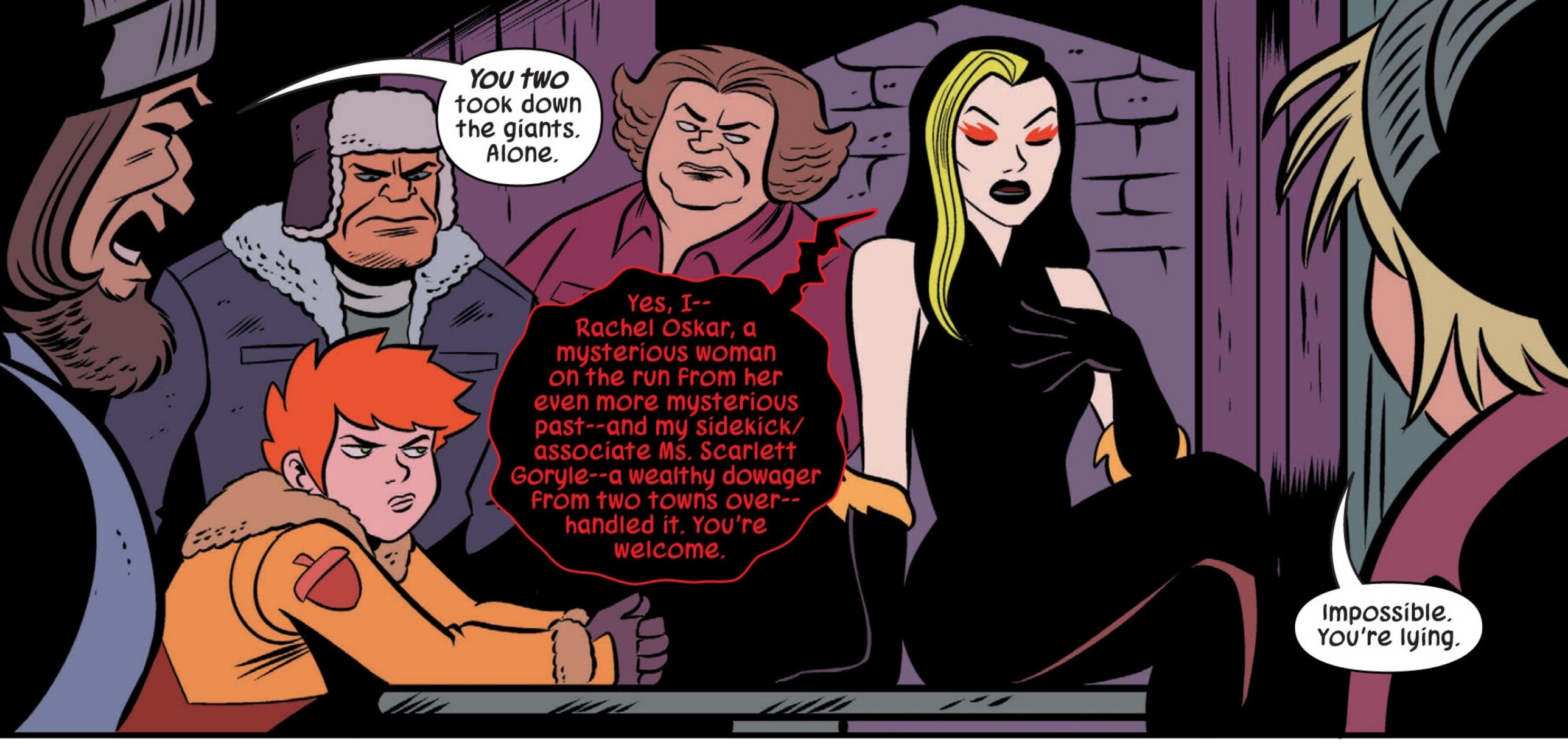
Last time I was here you were still naming a day of the week after Thor--"Thursday," a corruption of "Thor's Day" --despite the fact that literally every other Avenger spends ***way*** more time here on Earth than he does!

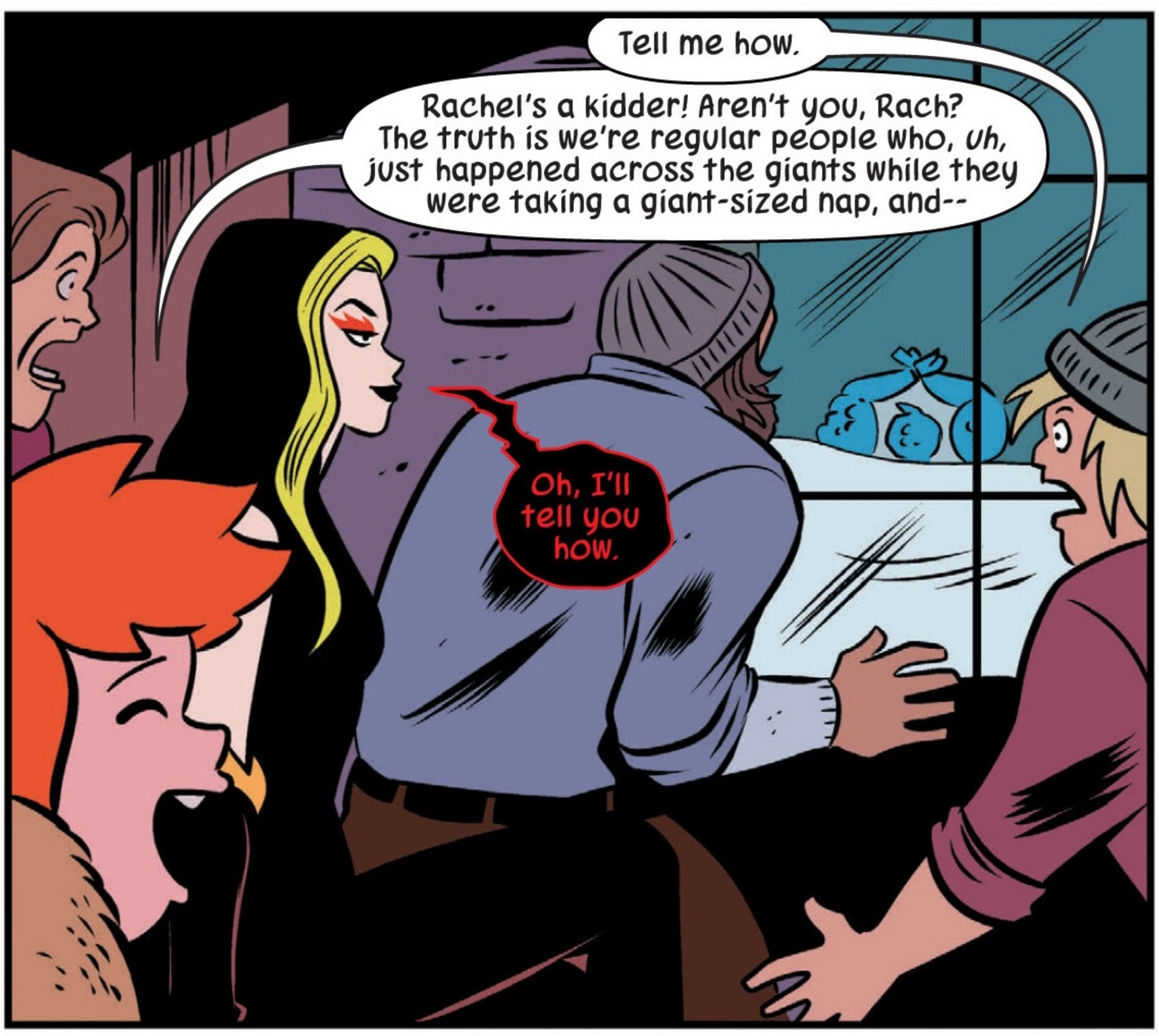
You could've had Ironmansday! ***At the end of each week your parents could have worn jeans to work for Casual Ironmansday.***



You may think that "Scarlett Q. Goryle" sounds like a made-up name, but when you compare it to "Doreen Allene Green,"

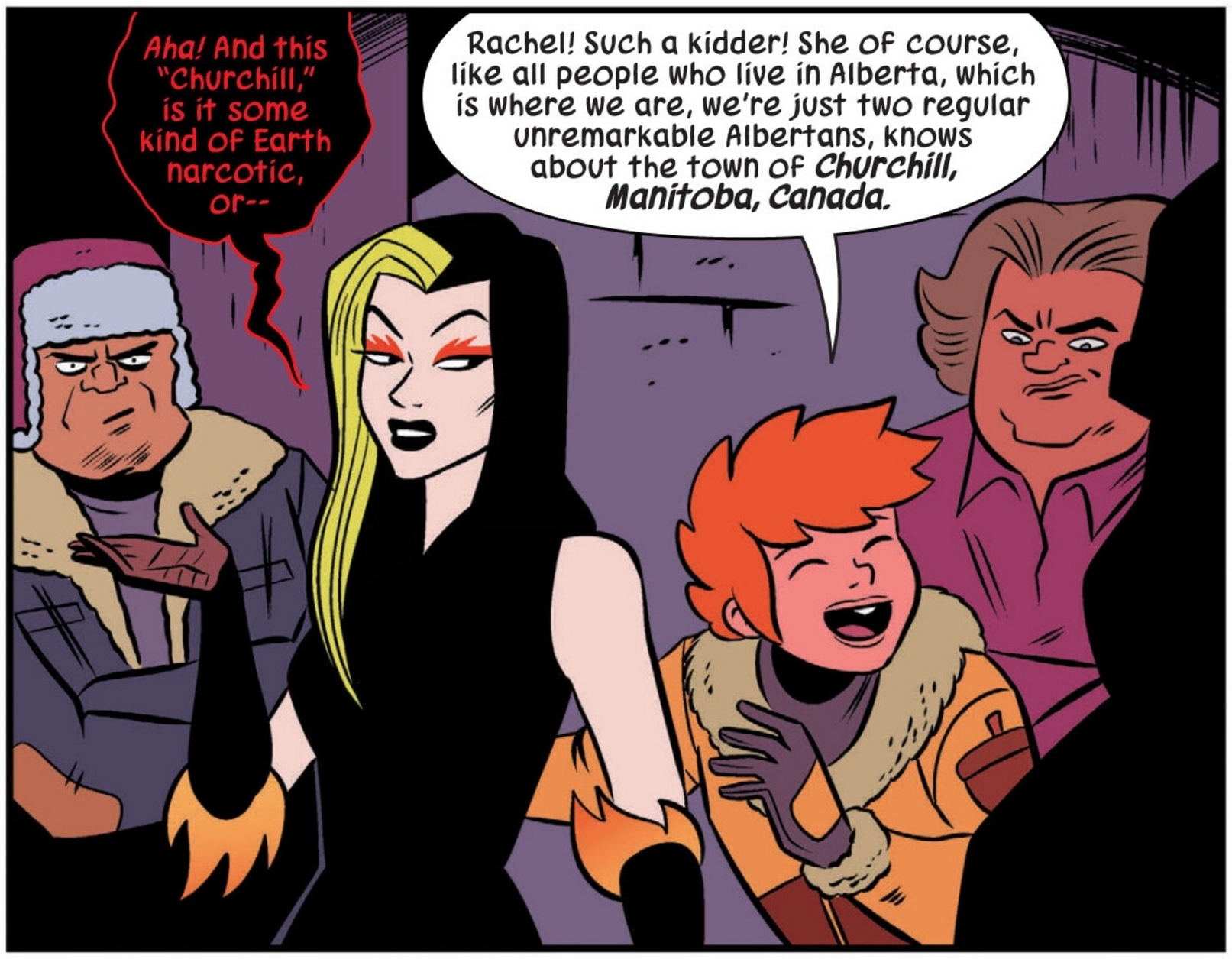
you realize that all names are made up and we can name ourselves whatever we want! Hooray!





Continuing from the last page, we can't actually name ourselves ***whatever*** we want in Canada you're not allowed to give yourself or your baby names that are also military titles,

Which is why this book is written by "Ryan North" and not "Mr. Supreme Commander And Rear Admiral Ryan North, Captain."



HOT TIP FOR ALIENS: The #1 rule of trying to blend in on Earth is this--don't add the adjective "Earth" in front of words!

None of us Earthlings do it when Earth-speaking one of our Earth-many Earth Earth-tongues.

Look, I promise, we're not Frost Giants, and we really should be going, so--
Right. Just two women who show up out of nowhere with backstories that don't make sense. You look a bit young to be a *dowager*, lady. Your first husband already died and left you *title* and/or *property??*

Is *that* what that means?
And you-- I don't remember any tall, dark strangers showing up in town recently. Almost like you just *landed* here. From *space.*

You humans. You encounter something you don't understand, and the first thing you do is go looking for *traitors.*
Oh, she, *uh,* she means when *we* humans encounter something *we* don't understand, *we* go looking for, *uh...*

...traitors...

Okay, everyone, if we can just--
If you'll just calm down for a second, we can--
Friends, if you'll just *listen* to--

CHRRRTT

Now, I can see we've made you upset, and we're leaving, okay?! And I promise we're not here to hurt you. We just wanted information!!

You know... she may have a point. They did tie up the giants, Jack.
There's a chance they're on our side.

...You're lucky my wife likes you. You want to go fight giants, then you go do that. But that doesn't mean I trust you, and it doesn't mean I want to see your ugly mugs in here again.
I can tell you're tense and upset and in a difficult situation so I'm ignoring that insult; thank you for your understanding and we're going now bye.

He doesn't want to see our ugly What?
Mugs. Don't worry about it.
And "mug" means?
"Face," but it doesn't matter, we got what we came for so we can just--
Excuse me??

I spent a lot of time on this "ugly mug," Jack!
Rachel, remember we have a much more important mission than sowing chaos right now?? Remember how we're trying to save all ten realms here??
You don't like my face, buddy? You want I should have another one??
How's this one, Jack? You like this face??
Though I don't know why I'm bothering, since we all know that when you look at me...
UGLY MUG
Rachel, no, don't--

...this is the only face you see!
No Rachel, no Rachel, no--

She's a Frost Giant!!
Get the secret Frost Giant infiltrator!!
Rachel!!

The Unbeatable Squirrel Girl #45

Doreen Green doesn't just study computer science - she also studies **justice,** thanks to her being born with all the powers of a squirrel **and** all the powers of a girl! With the help of her best friends (human and squirrel), she fights crime and saves Earth on the regular. Her pals call her Doreen - which means you can too! - but if you ever see her in costume, keep her secret identity safe and call her...**The Unbeatable Squirrel Girl!**

Squirrel Girl in a nutshell

search!

#frost

#daisy

#frostball

#poetry

#neverwrong

Squirrel Girl @unbeatablesg
Okay, to everyone who still has internet access: Hello! Yes, me and the other super heroes HAVE noticed that there's some sort of realm-based war going on right now, and we're determined to win it!

Squirrel Girl @unbeatablesg
For example, I am currently in rural Alberta, which is in Canada, working to save all of North America from the Frost Giants! Will I win? I mean gosh nothing is certain but I sure hope so

Squirrel Girl @unbeatablesg
Also, I know this may sound "weird" or "unexpected" or "the premise of a buddy comedy film" but in order to assure victory, I've teamed up with Ratatoskr--the Norse God of Smack Talking -- who is a shapeshifting squirrel who runs up and down the tree of life spreading gossip!!

Squirrel Girl @unbeatablesg
(And may I just say as an aside here that everyone finding out that the entire old Norse cosmology was Literally Real is a pretty surprising thing that I guess we all just decided not to talk about?)

Squirrel Girl @unbeatablesg
Anyway, Ratatoskr and I are going to SORT THIS OUT, and right now we're going to go into a town in rural Alberta to find out where the Frost Giant Secret Base is, so we are ON IT.

Squirrel Girl @unbeatablesg
Also if you know where the secret Frost Giant Secret Base is, hmu

Egg @imduderadtude
@unbeatablesg what does hmu mean

Squirrel Girl @unbeatablesg
@imduderadtude "Hit me up." What does "imduderadtude" mean?

Egg @imduderadtude
@unbeatablesg it means im a dude with a rad tude!! "tude" is short for "attitude"!!!!! i'm VERY extreme and rad and VERY online

Squirrel Girl @unbeatablesg
@imduderadtude I thought you were an egg??

Egg @imduderadtude
@unbeatablesg wow eggs can be rad dudes too you know, im a literal egg that's also a literal rad dude, hollllaaaaaaaa

Squirrel Girl @unbeatablesg
@imduderadtude You have my word: I will hollllaaaaaaaa after saving Earth from Frost Giants, citizen. This I swear.

Egg @imduderadtude
@unbeatablesg sweet i knew there was a reason i followed u

Tony Stark @starkmantony
@unbeatablesg Hey Squirrel Girl: I'm taking a break from building armor for Odin and also some dwarves (long (and very interesting) story), and thought I'd check in. How goes the search for the Frost Giant secret base?

Squirrel Girl @unbeatablesg
@starkmantony hahah uh well we're headed to Churchill next and I'll be able to tell you more later assuming we survive this uh "bar fight" with "enraged locals"

Tony Stark @starkmantony
@unbeatablesg ...Did you start a bar fight with locals?

Squirrel Girl @unbeatablesg
@starkmantony Ratatoskr did! RATATOSKR DID BECAUSE SHE'S WILDLY UNPREDICTABLE AND CAPRICIOUS AND TRICKY AND I DON'T THINK SHE'S TAKING THIS OR ME SERIOUSLY!!!!!!

Squirrel Girl @unbeatablesg
@starkmantony ALSO I'M TYPING THIS WITH ONE HAND WHILE TRYING TO BREAK UP THIS FIGHT AND SOMEONE JUST PUNCHED ME RIGHT IN THE EAR, WHAT THE HECK

Squirrel Girl @unbeatablesg
@starkmantony ANYWAY TALK SOON BYEEEEEE

I can't *believe you,* Ratatoskr.

And I can't believe *you!* There was *no way* I was going to lose that bar fight!!

Also, in this form I'm "Rachel," remember? Stone-cold fox, never wrong?

"Never wrong"??

Does getting into a *fistfight* over a *random insult* sound like "never wrong" to you, *Rachel?*

We got the information we wanted! The Frost Giant base is in Churchill, which it turns out is a place! *Mission accomplished!*

"Mission accomplished"? *"Mission accomplished"?!*

The mission's only *started!* All we know now is where to *go.* And that's *despite* what you did, not because of it!

You lied to me about what you were going to do and abandoned our plans, and all you *really* accomplished is that now a whole town in Alberta hates us!! You call that "saving the world"?

Oh no, no, you don't get to put words in *my* mouth just because you heard what you wanted to hear.

I said I was here to *fight* Frost Giants, not to save the world.

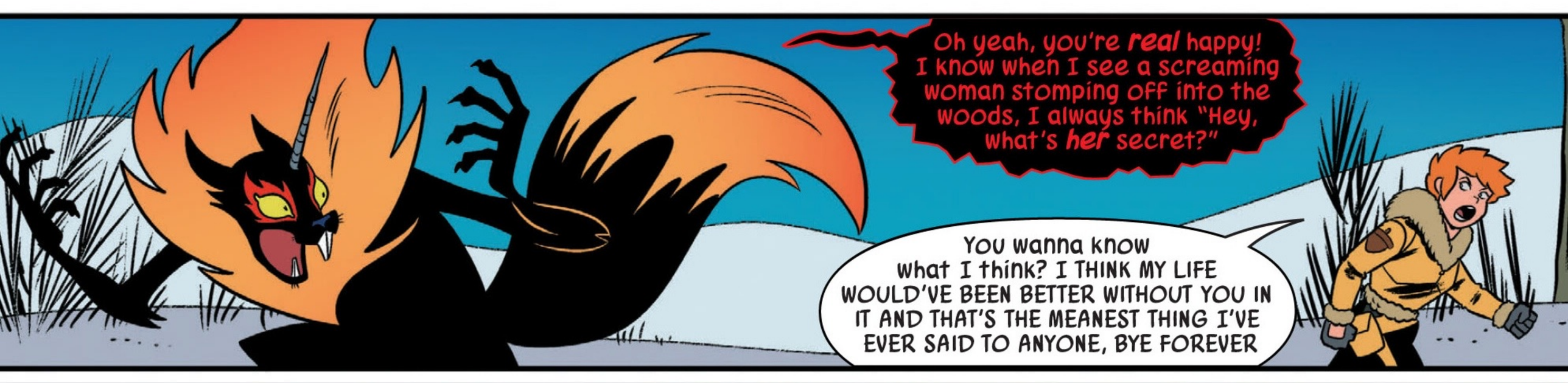
Yes! And that's *how* we save it!

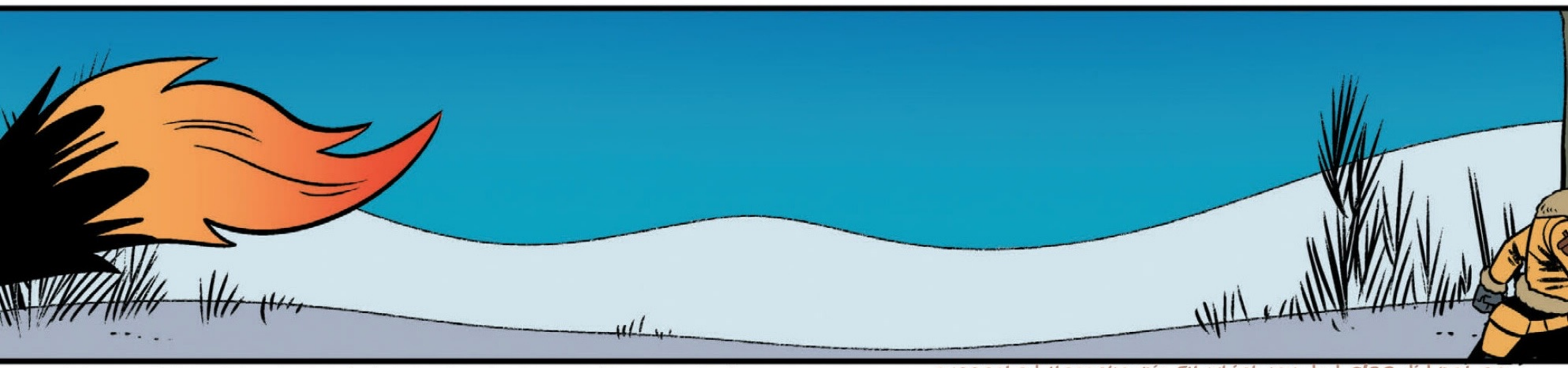
You don't-- you can't--

...you don't actually *believe that,* do you?

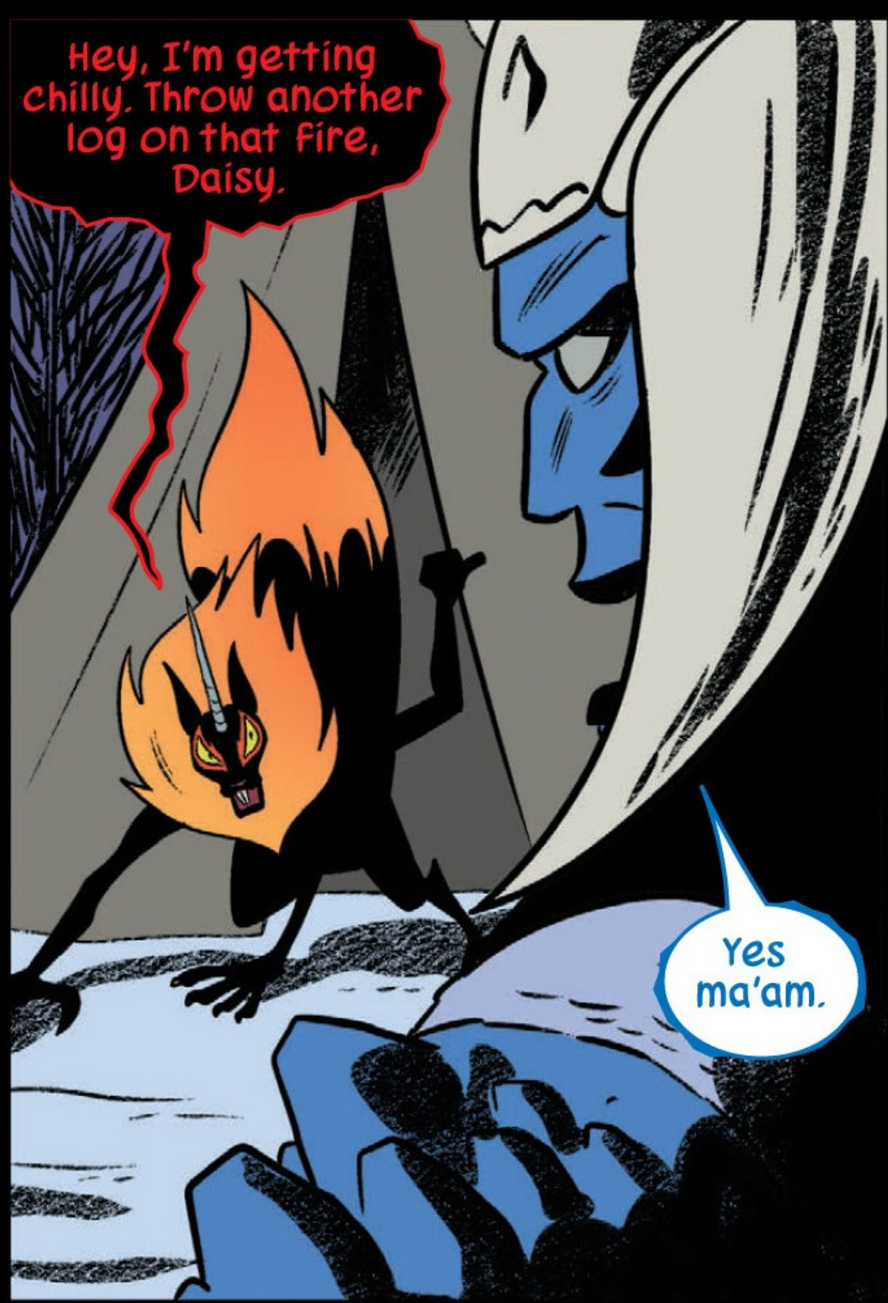
In case you're wondering, Ratatoskr could drop that reference because Asgard *also* had a giant ship named *Titanic* that sunk.

It turns out one of the few constants across dimensions is how bad an idea it is to name your ship *Titanic*, *Gigantic*, or *The S.S. Not Even The Gods Themselves, Whom I Incidentally Do Truly Defy, Can Ever Sink This Boat.*





Hey, speaking of boats: My dad got a boat once, and I suggested he name it that last boat name on the previous page. He did not go with it. My friend (and *Spider-Man: Life Story* writer) Chip Zdarsky suggested *Vesselmania IV*, which my dad ***also*** did not go with! The moral: As a group, dads are clearly amazing, but some of them in particular should be way more open when it comes to unsolicited boat names.

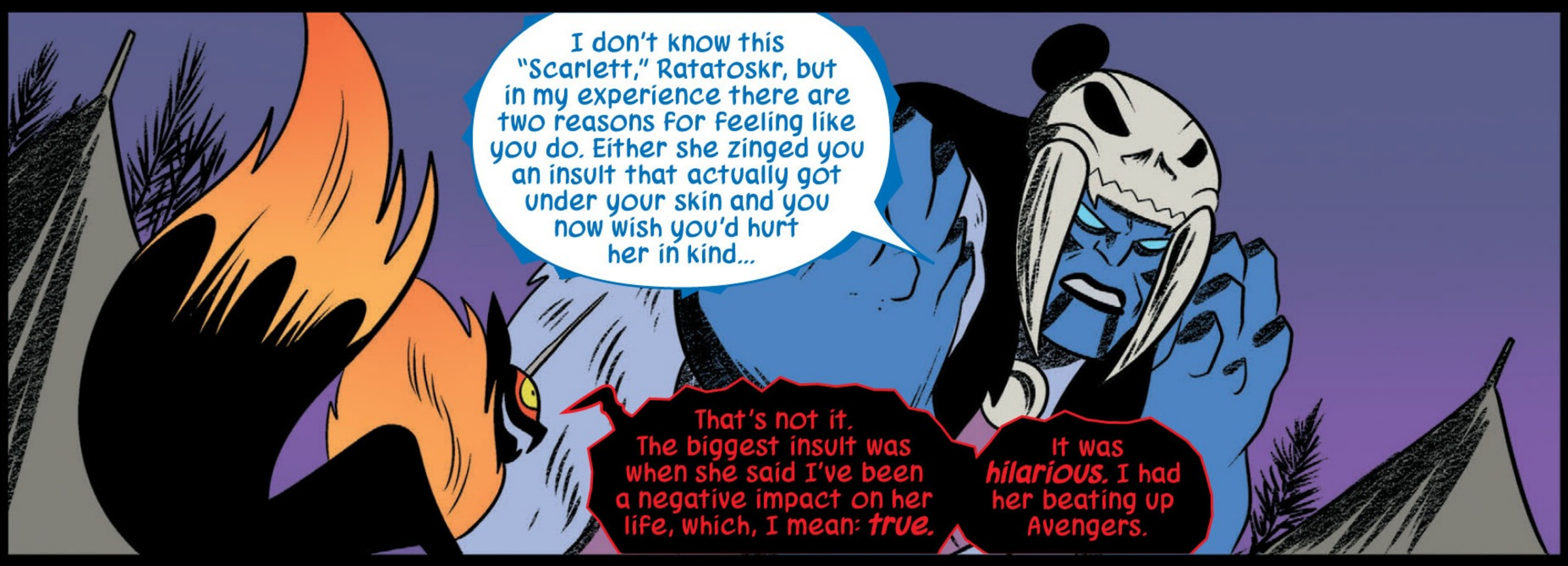


Fun frost facts: frost comes from water, and as all water on Earth is recycled, every time you clear frost off something you're

technically removing water that was once inside a dinosaur's belly. Also, when you drink water, the same rules apply!

I know this is more of a fun water fact than a fun frost fact but you've got water that was once dinosaur pee coming out of the taps in your house and that's amazing!

Shout-out to Ariana Grande for changing the lyrics to this traditional Frost Giant song, thereby making it more accessible to a non-Frost-Giant audience.



Daisy, you're as unwise as you are small. No, see, because you're a giant, that actually means you're really wise!

Listen, Daisy, I haven't given a lot of compliments before and I'm doing my best here.

This Wikipedia page doesn't actually exist in our world (yet), which is just one more thing the Marvel Universe has over ours:

super powers ***and*** useful poetry-based Wikipedia lists.

Whose woods these are I think I know.
His house is in the village though;
He will not see me stopping here
To watch his woods fill up with snow.
My little horse must think it queer
To stop without a farmhouse near
Between the woods and frozen lake
The darkest evening of the year.
He gives his harness bells a shake
To ask if there is some mistake.

The only other sound's the sweep
Of easy wind and downy flake.

And miles to go before I sleep.

"If I have seen further, it is by standing on the shoulders of giants. For example, this one is named 'Daisy' and she helped me see over that hill" --Frost Giant Isaac Newton?

Rachel, if you really want to do better, the first thing you need to do is let Daisy go.

But she's part of an invading army! She'll attack us.

Heh. You're not wrong.

Whose frostball this is, I think I know /
I'mma hit it through the village though

This is going to hurt.

Rachel, I've been making my way through snowdrifts ***all night,*** and this'll save us ***days*** of travel. Plus, what's the point of super durability if you don't use it?

Here we go...!

Batter up!

KA-SMAK

WOOOOOOOOOOO!

AAAAAAHHHHH!

WOOOOOOOOOOO!

AAAAAAHHHHHHHH!

Byeee! Stay Frosty!

WOOO

Here, let me--let me show you something.

Just--hold your hands like this, and then imagine you've got a cape.
Like this?
You'll feel awesome, I promise.

Ah.

Imagination not necessary.

That's right: This issue of SQUIRREL GIRL not only contains Frost Giants, but also a viable recipe for binoculars! ***No other comic can make this claim.***

Yep: This issue of SQUIRREL GIRL also contains a viable recipe for things to say when crash-landing with super-powers.

Maybe other comics can make this claim too?

I sure hope so, it makes them sound pretty fun!

My parents (before I started writing SQUIRREL GIRL, so it was okay then) got a bird feeder that would rotate at high speed when a squirrel stepped on it, but not when lighter-weight birds did. It worked great for a few weeks, flinging squirrels off and keeping the birdseed safe...

until the more-ripped squirrels realized that if they held on for two minutes, it would overload and shut down. My parents weren't even mad. Those squirrels earned that birdseed!

All right, giants, listen up!

Welcome to THE TOWN OF Chu

Early this morning, what we believe to be two Midgardian humans infiltrated our base. That's simply not acceptable.

Your orders are to find them ***before*** they can interfere, kill them, and then--I dunno, toss 'em over the horizon.

Stevie and his friends only got a short look at them, but we were able to create these sketches of the suspects from their description. Take a good look.

Do humans normally grow tails?

We just don't know.

Patrols are looking for some pretty off-model versions of us that I'm choosing not to be insulted by, but they're still close enough that if we're spotted we're goners. Even with mind control, I don't think I could take over everyone in time.

Then it's no loss that we're not using it, *huh?*

Sure, but it's been hours and we haven't found anything. It's all either ruined buildings that some giant sat on, the remains of buildings used to build larger giant-sized buildings, or junk. We certainly haven't discovered any weak points.

I know, I know.

And we're being hunted like rats.

I wasn't expecting a giant red button labeled ***"secret weak point to send all Frost Giants back to Frost Giant land, do not press,"*** but it'd be nice to have ***something*** to show for--

Oh my gosh. Rachel, that's it.

Huh?

That's it! You've saved Earth, Rachel! ***You're a genius!***

What a mystery! What a cliff-hanger! Have you figured out Squirrel Girl's solution? If so, let us know!

We're definitely asking this because it'd be fun to see if anyone figures out the answer, and not at all because we've written ourselves into a corner here and would really love some advice on how to fix everything!!

...

But like, if we did do that...how mad would you be

Like would you be ***really*** mad or would you be just a little mad and maybe really really sympathetic??

The Unbeatable Squirrel Girl #46

Doreen Green doesn't just study computer science - she also studies **justice,** thanks to her being born with all the powers of a squirrel **and** all the powers of a girl! With the help of her best friends (human and squirrel), she fights crime and saves Earth on the regular. Her pals call her Doreen - which means you can too! - but if you ever see her in costume, keep her secret identity safe and call her...**The Unbeatable Squirrel Girl!**

Squirrel Girl *in a nutshell*

Squirrel Girl @unbeatablesg
Okay, so!! LET ME SUMMARIZE SOME SWEET DEVELOPMENTS FOR YOU, MY BELOVED FOLLOWERS ON THIS PRIVATELY OWNED CORPORATE WEB ZONE WHICH FOR SOME REASON WE ALL POST TO FOR FREE

Squirrel Girl @unbeatablesg
War of the Realms: Earth gets taken over, right? Avengers handle the rest of the world, while I handle the linchpin that is the Frost Giant invasion of North America. Stop them, save North America, save the world. NO BIGGIE, RIGHT??

Squirrel Girl @unbeatablesg
(EXCEPT it IS a biggie because Frost Giants are themselves LITERAL BIGGIES and they've taken over the entire continent??)

Squirrel Girl @unbeatablesg
Anyway me and Ratatoskr (Asgardian squirrel god of chaos, and new friend maybe kinda??) found out they have a secret base up north, got into a fight, split up, had alien music sung to us, looked up poetry in the woods on our phone, got back together,

Squirrel Girl @unbeatablesg
TRAVELED to the secret base in a way I'd rather not do again but traveling is a pain and there's times where you'll take any shortcut you can, saw the northern lights, infiltrated the base, got spotted, got attacked, escaped, and then (AND I PROMISE THIS STORY HAS A POINT)

Squirrel Girl @unbeatablesg
--> FIGURED OUT HOW TO STOP THIS! <-- THE ANSWER'S SO OBVIOUS NOW THAT I THOUGHT OF IT!! AND I AM ABOUT TO TELL YOU HOW WE CAN SAVE THE WORLD, RIGHT HERE AND RIGHT NOW:

Squirrel Girl @unbeatablesg
...is what I *would* be saying if there wasn't a chance Frost Giants were reading this, sorry!! But I promise I'm pretty sure it's gonna work, haha

Egg @imduderadtude
@unbeatablesg or are u just posting this 2 bluff the giantz

Squirrel Girl @unbeatablesg
@imduderadtude No, it's real

Egg @imduderadtude
@unbeatablesg or is that just u doubling down 2 bluff the giantz

Squirrel Girl @unbeatablesg
@imduderadtude Okay so I don't think the Frost Giants are reading what I say to reply guy, dude

Egg @imduderadtude
@unbeatablesg so how u gonna beat them then??? it's safe u just said u can tell me

Tony Stark @starkmantony
@imduderadtude @unbeatablesg Actually I'd be very interested in hearing your solution too. And not just because I could really use a solution to my own "world being invaded" situation here.

Squirrel Girl @unbeatablesg
@imduderadtude @starkmantony TONY!! I thought you didn't follow this guy and I thought he blocked you!! You worked it out??

Tony Stark @starkmantony
@imduderadtude @unbeatablesg We worked it out.

Egg @imduderadtude
@starkmantony @unbeatablesg i made some flattering pro iron man memes and he was like "UM, literal lol, all is forgiven and siri PLZ retweet these choicest of memes"

Tony Stark @starkmantony
@imduderadtude @unbeatablesg Not how it went down, but that's not important. How can we win this, SG?

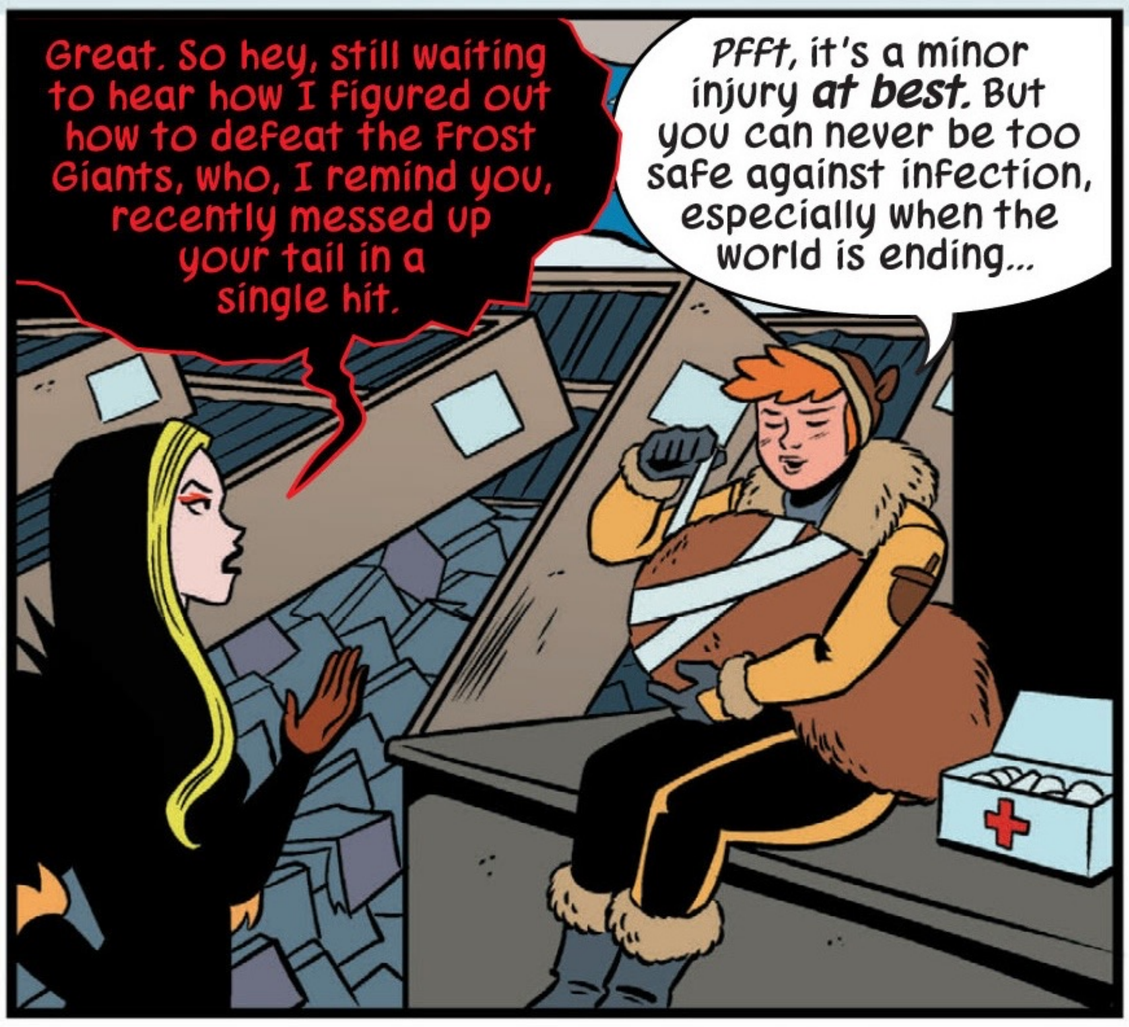
Squirrel Girl @unbeatablesg
@imduderadtude @starkmantony Sorry man, but OPERATIONAL SECURITY. But I promise it'll either work, in which case you'll find out, or it'll fail horribly, in which case you'll also find out when things don't get better!!

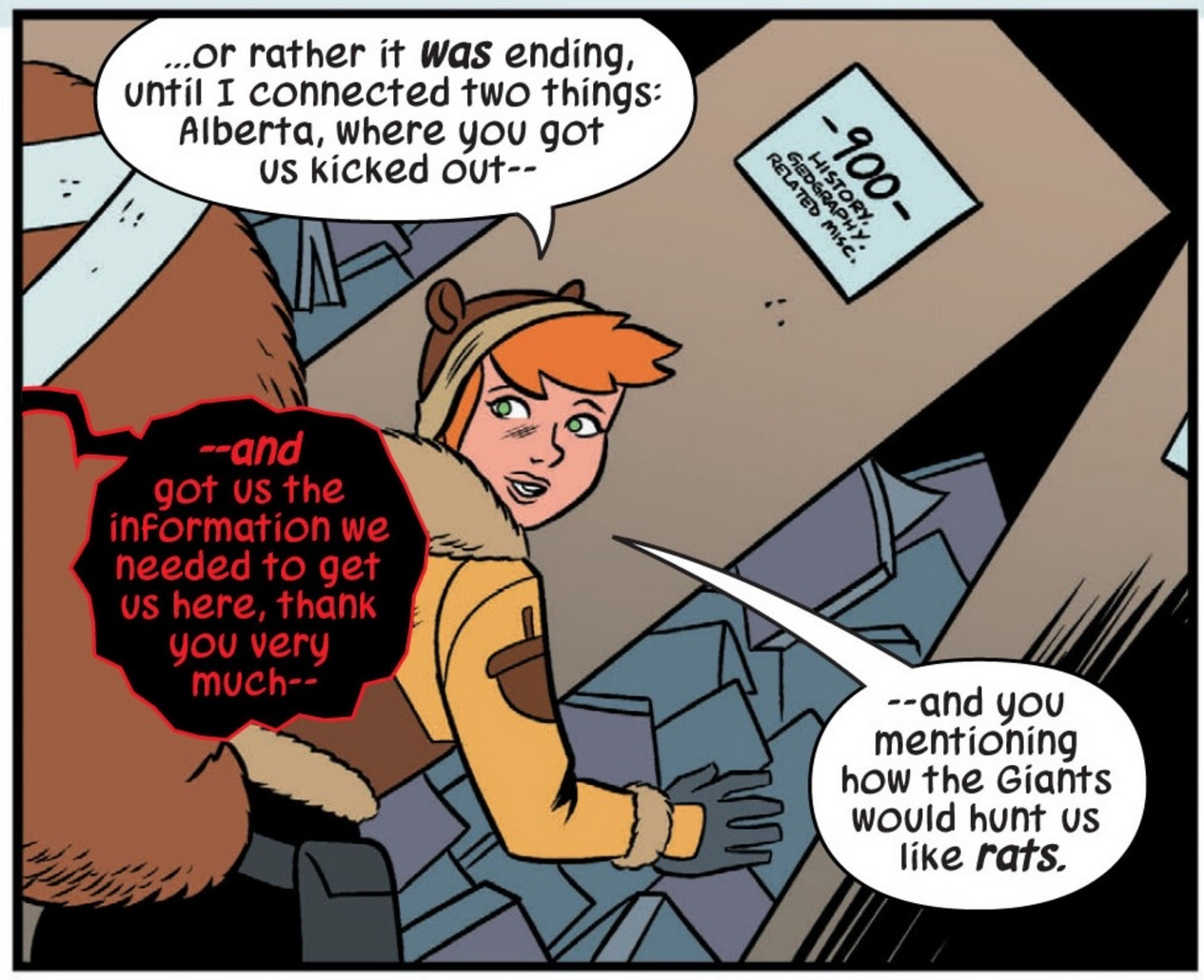
Tony Stark @starkmantony
@imduderadtude @unbeatablesg I trust you, Squirrel Girl. History has its eyes on you.

Squirrel Girl @unbeatablesg
@imduderadtude @starkmantony YES THANKS TONY, WE ALL KNOW THAT EVEN IN THE MIDDLE OF THE WAR OF THE REALMS YOU COULD SCORE HAMILTON TICKETS

search!

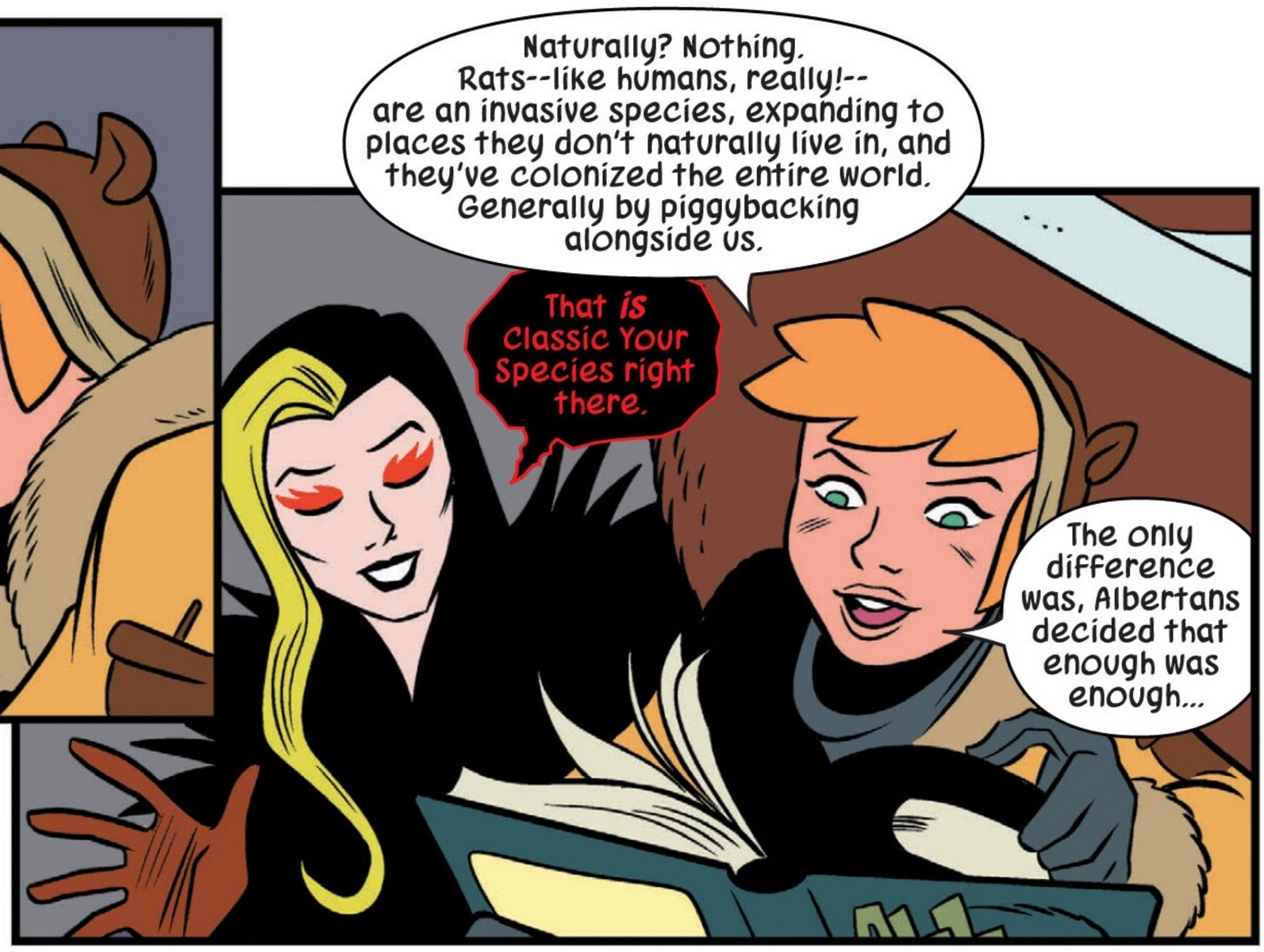
#languages
#northwestpassage
#readingglasses
#wilsonbrunstad
#callme





This map is *real!* In fact, everything that happens in this comic is real!

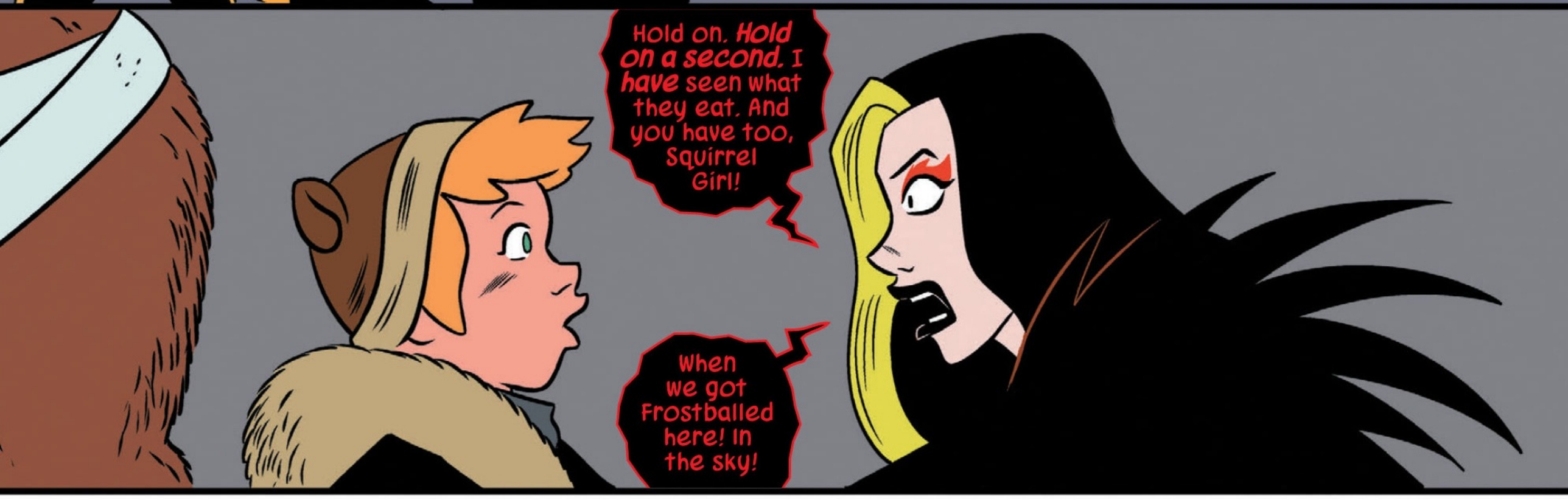
...Okay, no, Frost Giants in Canada aren't real. *But this map is real!*

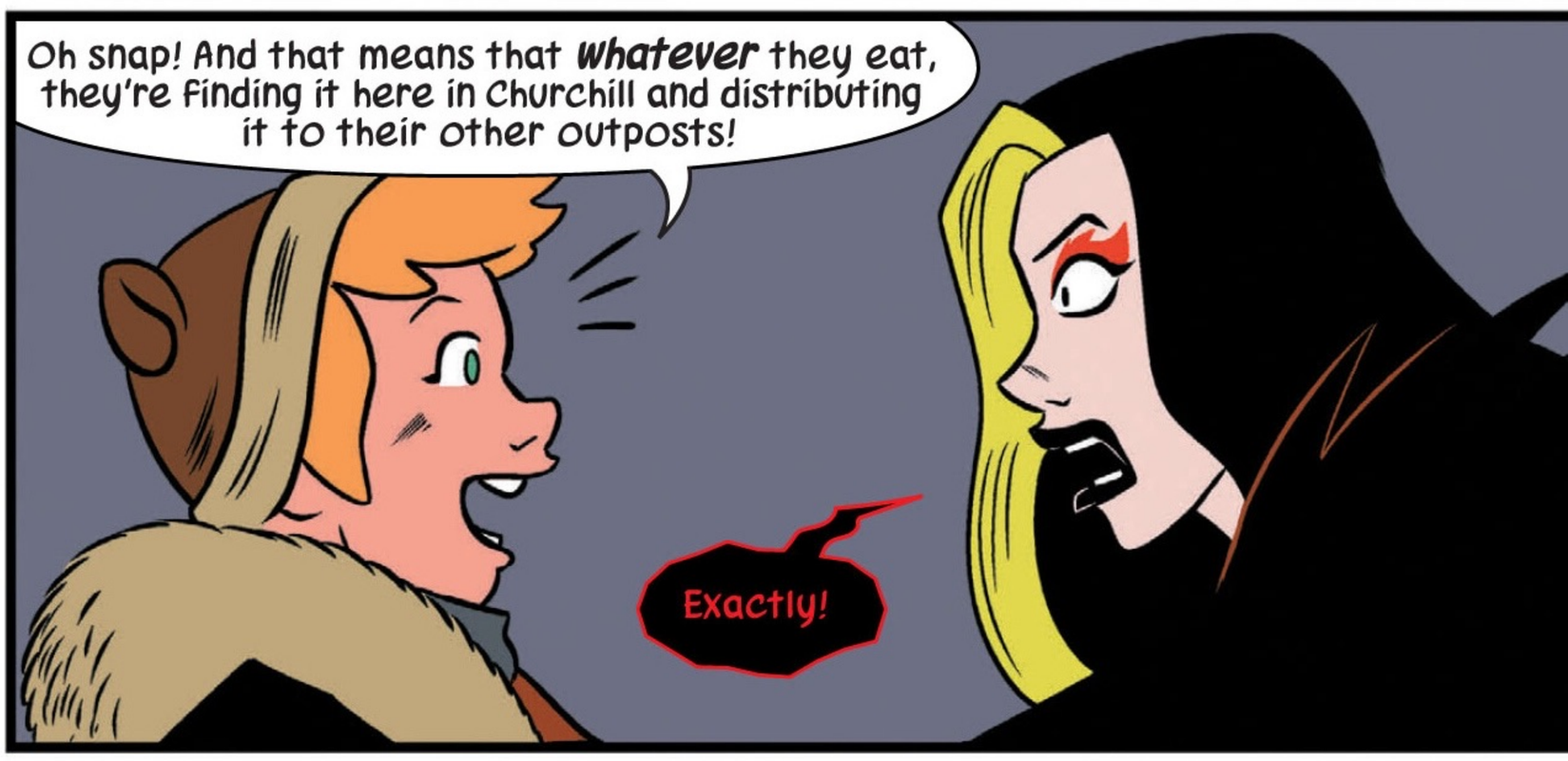


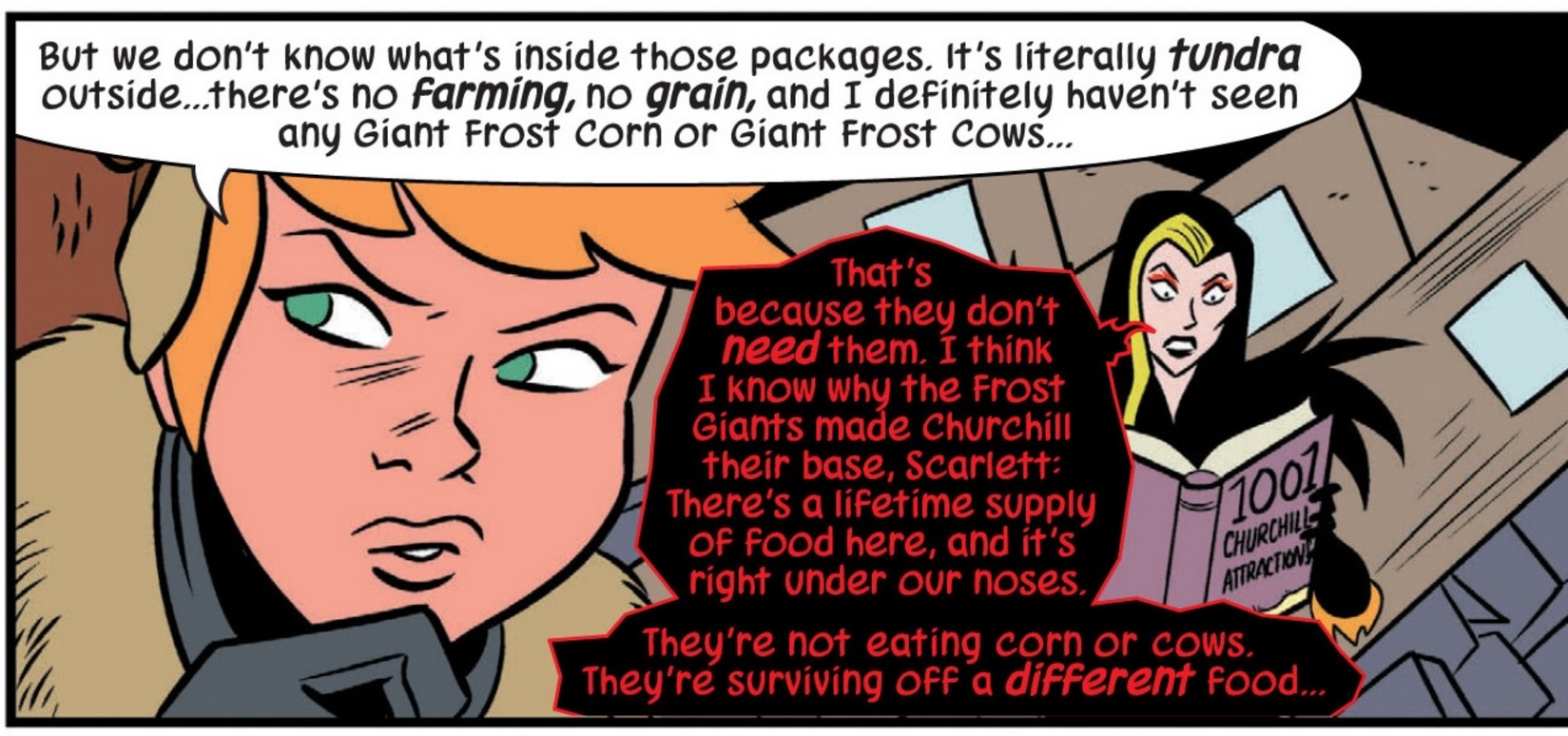
"Code R" stands for "Code Rat." In case you're wondering, "Code A" stands for "Code A Rat I Saw,"

"Code B" stands for "Code Bro, I Saw A Rat," "Code C" stands for "Code Correct: A Rat Was Seen By Me," and so on through the alphabet.

Well, no help there. Frost Giants don't even live in your tiny Earth houses, and it's not like they're hiding.
True. But remember how I said rats didn't naturally live in Alberta? It turns out they can't even survive in the semi-arid wilds of Alberta without our food: There's not enough things they eat to support them!
"And that's how humans, for the first time in history, actually managed to win a battle against the rats. By ensuring that their own human foods were secure, Albertans gave every rat in their province a choice:
"You can leave...
"...or you can starve."
You are now leaving ALBERTA BCing you later!
This pun makes more sense on the British Columbia side of the province. Welcome to Saskatchewan.
I say we give the Frost Giants the exact same choice, Rachel. The only catch is: I have no idea what Frost Giants eat, and I don't think anyone else from Earth does either.
Luckily for us, I happen to know someone who's not from around here.
Wait, you mean me?
Yes, you! Obviously I was referring to you!
I have no idea what they eat!
What? You've visited their realm!
Don't "what" me! You don't get invited to a lot of dinner parties when you're the Asgardian god of chaos!
I'm not apologizing for that!!
And on the rare occasion when I do get invited, I eat all the food before even taking a moment to notice what it is! It's something I'm working on!
I don't have to talk about it to you!!





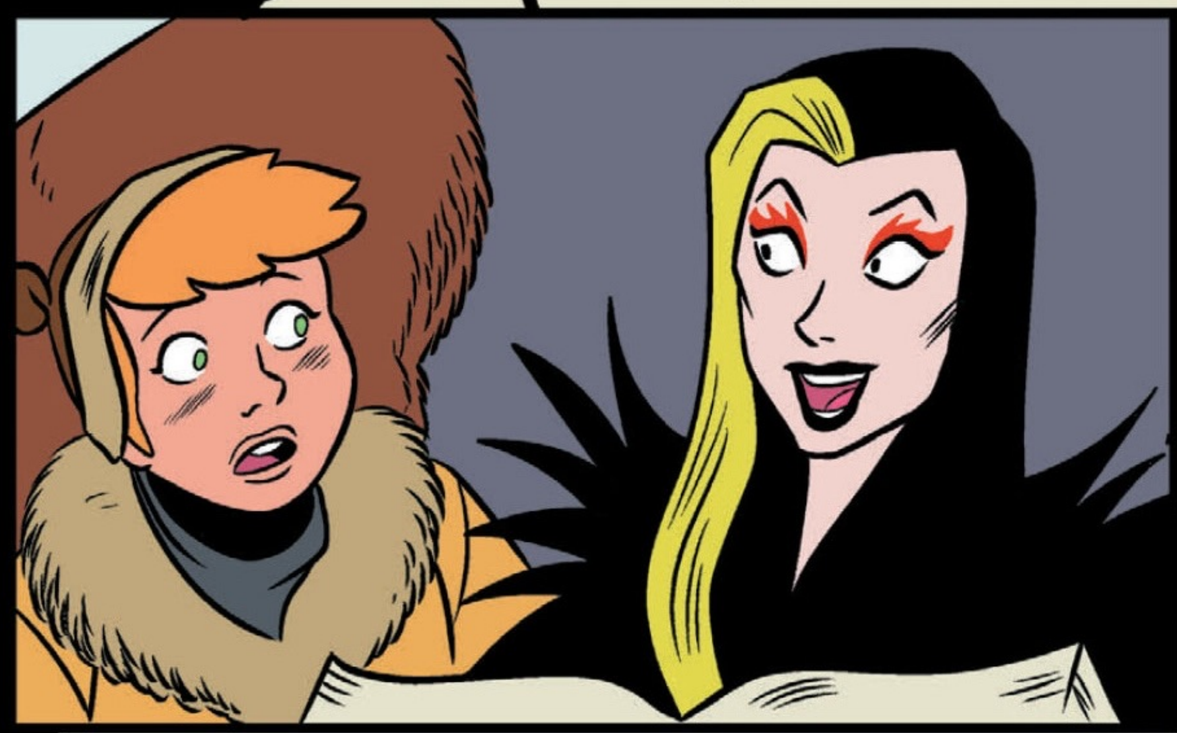


I haven't seen any Frost Corn or Frost Cows, but I have seen some Frost...ed Flakes inside the grocery stores!

Are we 100% certain the breakfast cereal companies are not collaborating with the Frost Giants??

...the Frost Giants are eating the *whales.*

Seeking a true call of the wild? Just off the unspoiled shores of Churchill, Manitoba, you'll find the world's **LARGEST** population of beluga whales! These majestic mammals return to Hudson's Bay every year -- not to find the hand of Franklin reaching for the Beaufort Sea (though **YOU'LL** be able to find an amazing replica of that in any local gift shop), but to frolic with their adorable baby calves! Experience the beauty of the underwater kingdom from safely above it, by enjoying one of several whale-watching tours! You'll have...a **WHALE** of a good time! (That means something is really big.) (Yes, this idiom is largely kept alive by whale-watching tours, and yes, you're welcome.)



These beluga whale facts are *also* real! You know *Squirrel Girl* is *always* going to be your #1 comics source for amazing real facts mixed in with fantastic adventure with no indication how to differentiate the two except for some quasi-reliable notes at the bottom!

Okay. One of us will need to warn the whales to go hang out somewhere else for a bit, while the other sabotages whatever existing whale-processing infrastructure the giants have. Rachel, you can't...*talk* to whales, can you?

Does *this* answer your question?

MMmmm MMMmmmrmm rrrrRRRMMM RAAAAAA

...No, actually? That could just be you making fun of whale speech.

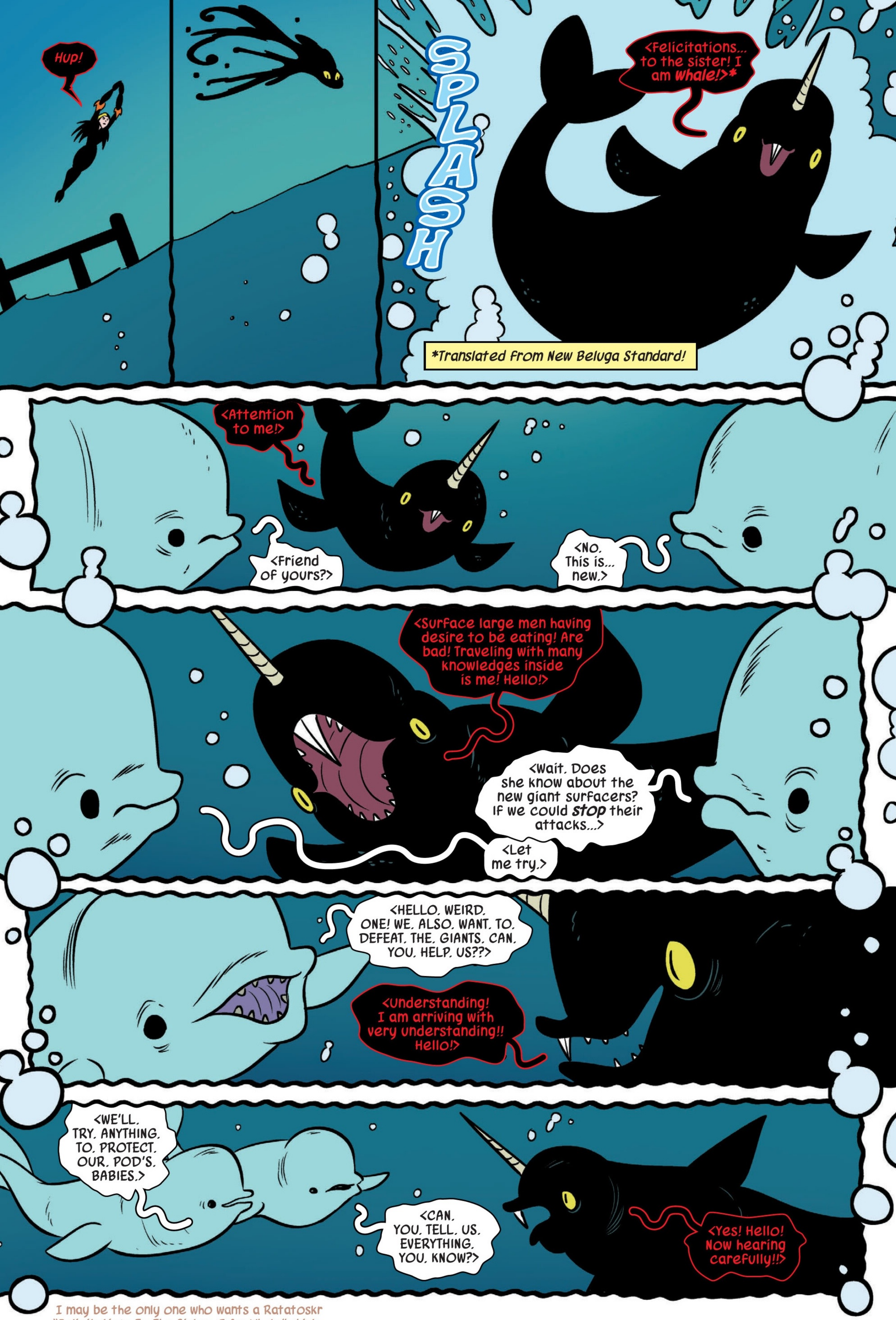
Also I think beluga song is chirpier?

Come on, you don't spend a few millennia spreading gossip up and down the tree of life without picking up a few tricks. I'm *confident* I can talk to the belugas.

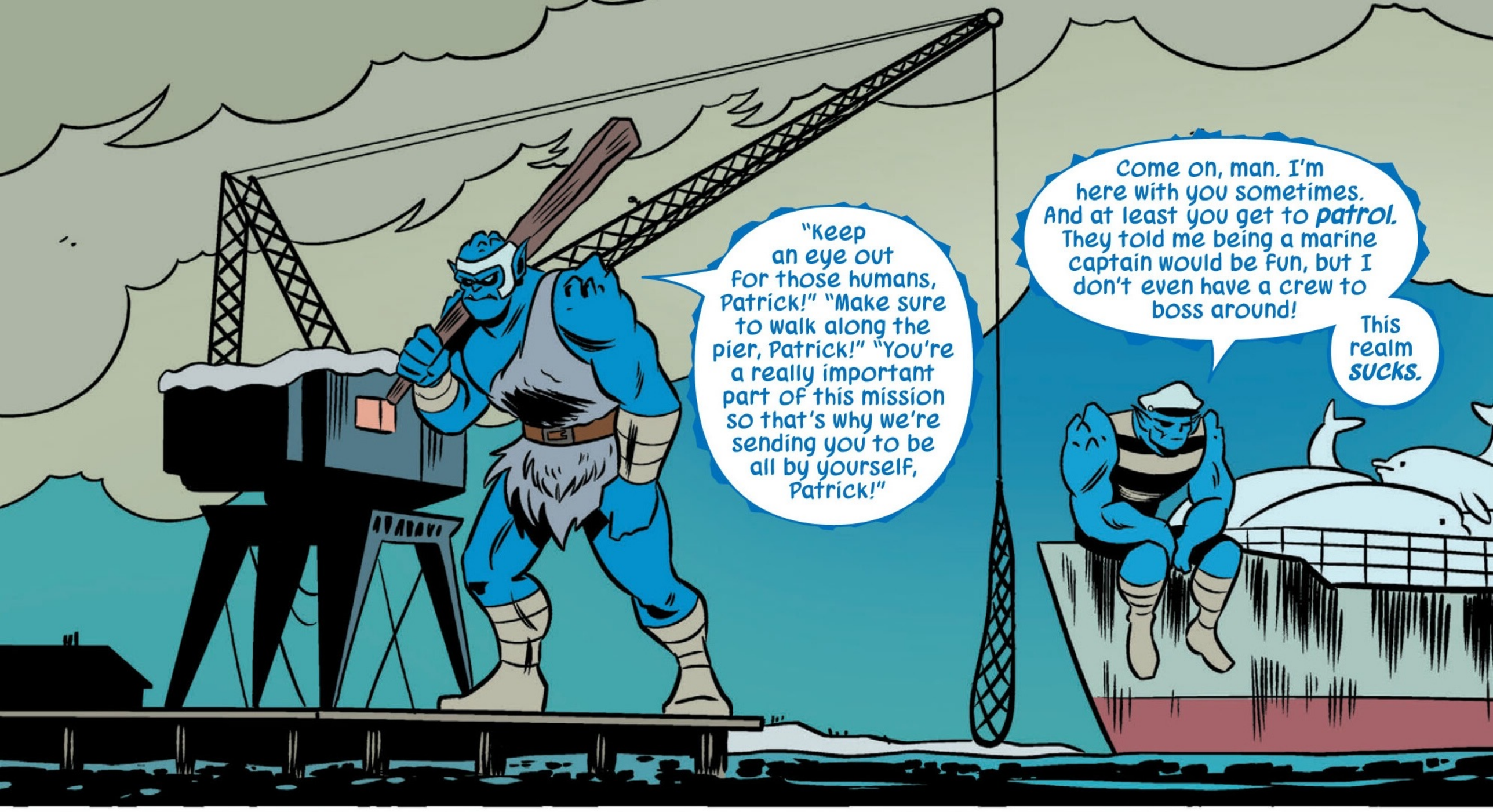
I promise you, Squirrel Girl. I can do this. I can do *better.*

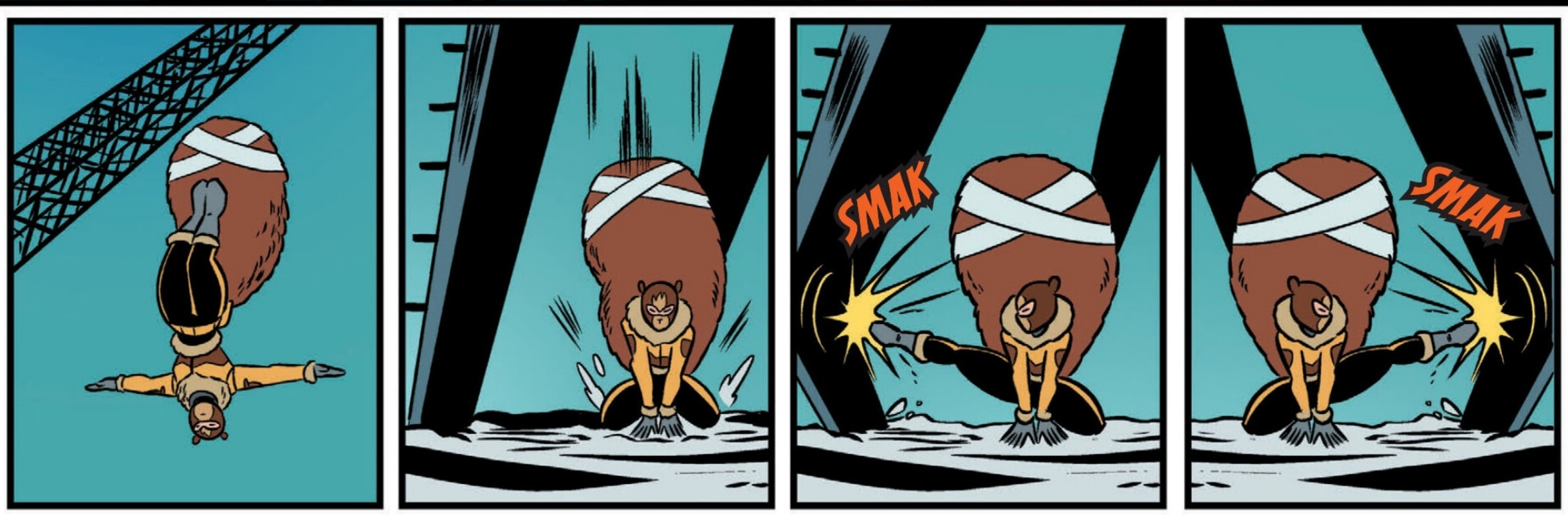
All I need is the chance. All I need is your *trust.*

Rachel...



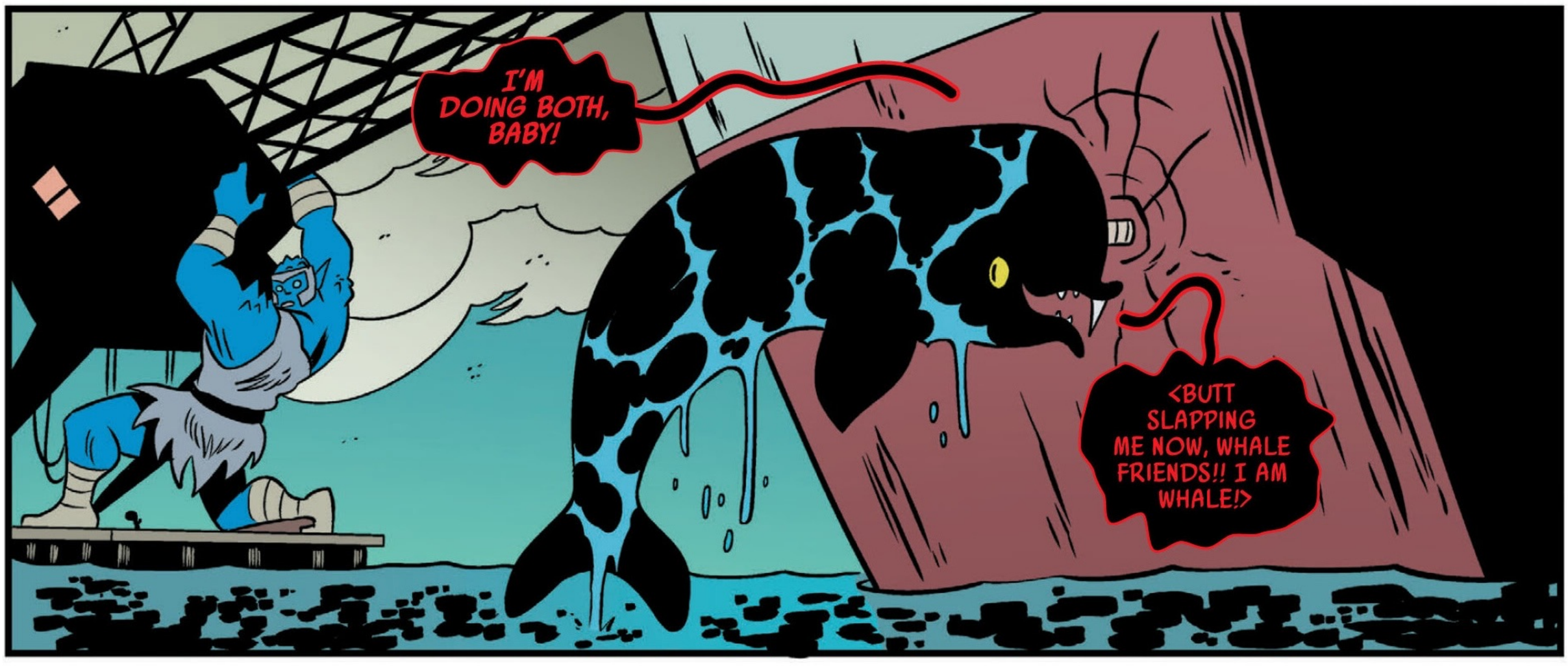
I may be the only one who wants a Ratatoskr "Felicitations To The Sister, I Am Whale" shirt, but I really *really* want it.



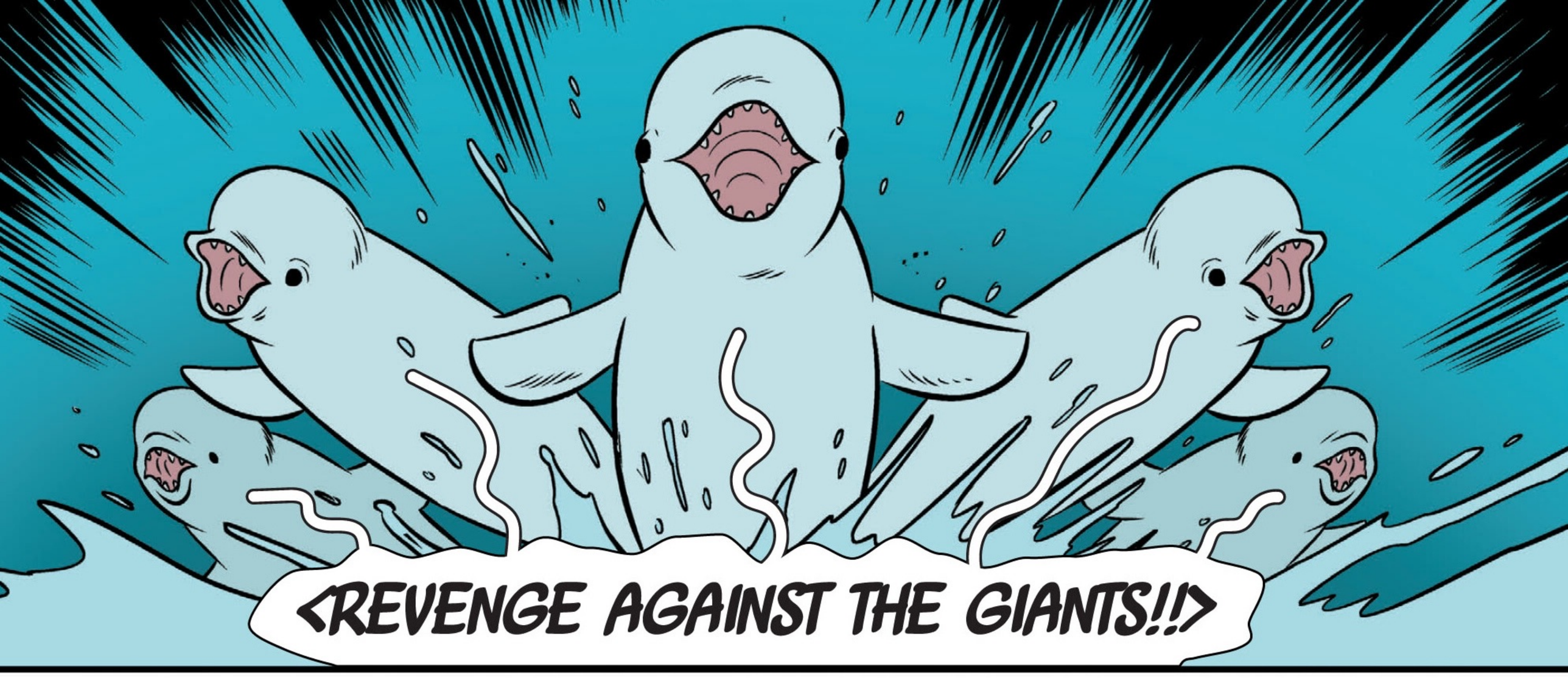


Okay I promise this is the last time I'll say "this is real," but humans really do rarely look up, and this fact is used both in video game level design (hide secrets above the eyeline and they'll stay hidden to most) and in real-life architecture (skyscrapers have interesting bits at the bottom, boring middle sections, and sometimes interesting bits at the top in case anyone happens to glance up).

Now, technically, you're all slightly more qualified to be architects or level designers! You're welcome!



Wait, no, I take it back, a Ratatoskr "BUTT SLAPPING ME NOW, WHALE FRIENDS" shirt is *truly* my heart's desire.



Get it? Instead of feat of strength, Squirrel Girl is showing him her *feet* of strength?

Listen, I *promise* that Patrick will definitely appreciate it when he thinks about it later.

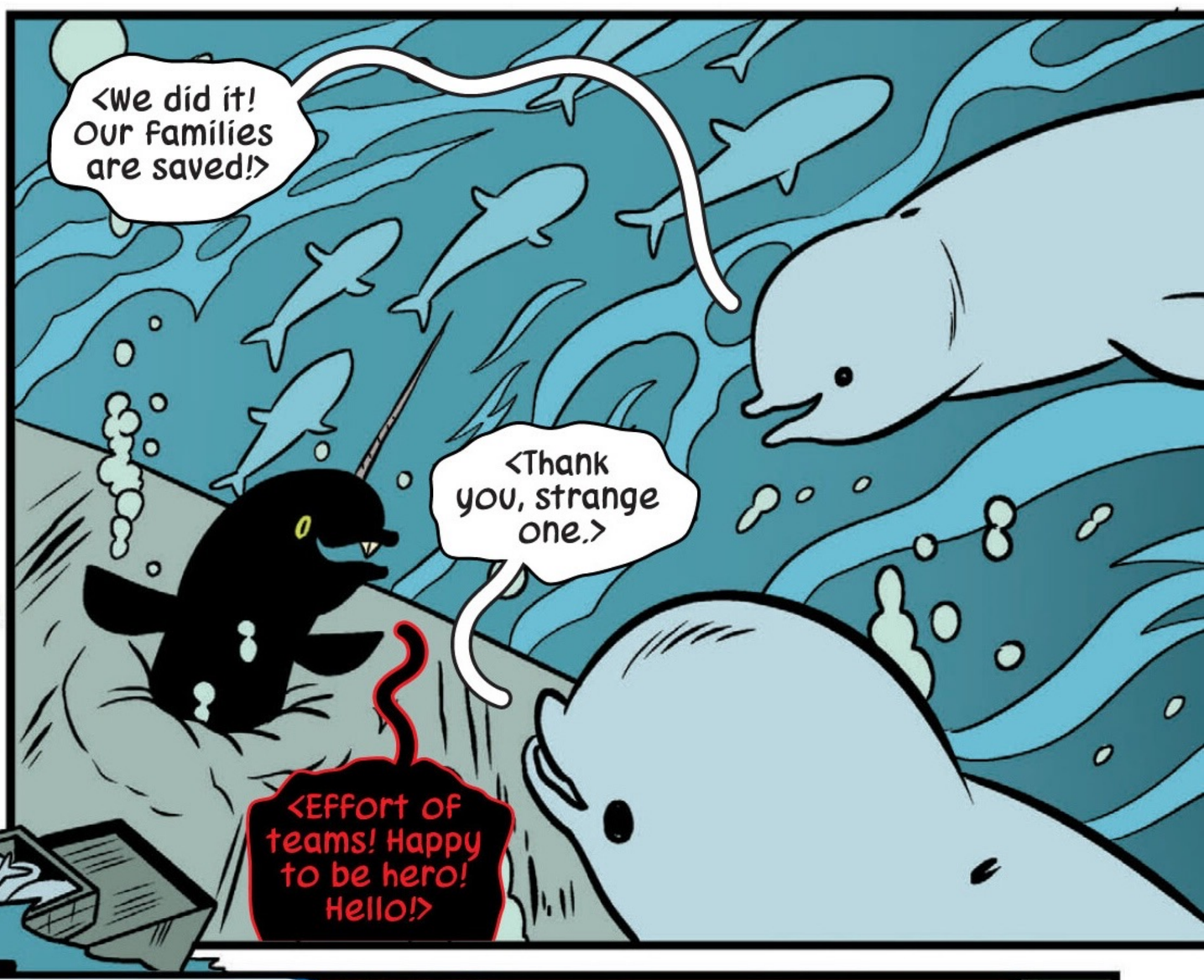
RRRRRRRMMMMM
Argh! Dang it!
Ut-oh.

SMACK
Success!

KRRRASH
Argh!
Sorry sorry sorry!!

SHOOOOF

Now that's what I call "smack talk."



"Food has backfired somehow" is what I shout every time I spill something on my lap when eating.

I am no longer welcome at--let's say "several restaurants"?

I'm so proud of you, Rachel. You changed the world today.

Again, I'm not letting you pin this *just* on me, but yes...we did good.

...But we haven't actually beaten them, have we? The Giants are going to rebuild this infrastructure and then go out deeper in the ocean looking for whales.

The only way we *really* win is to make sure they *never* capture a whale again.

Yep.

And yes, you and I have been spotted, and yes, every Frost Giant in Churchill will be here soon, and yes, we're completely out of options. But if we don't celebrate our victories then nobody will, so that's why we get to take a moment right now.

Thanks for sharing this one with me, Rach, and I'm really sorry I said you were a negative influence on my life.

If we're going to starve them out, then we don't have any other options left now *except* to fight. Maybe you were right all along. It's the end of the line, and the only thing we can do is sow chaos while we still can.

You and I are going to stand here and we're going to battle a city of giants, and if we fall, then North America falls with us.

Come on, Rachel. It's just you, me, and the fate of the world.

Let's stir things up.

Nah.

Oh no. You're not serious.
I am.

I can't believe this! After all this, you're still going to revert to form? You're happy to ditch me and leave me and everyone else on Earth high and dry just for the heck of it?!
Will you calm yourself, please? All I'm saying is that we have another option here!

If there's one thing you've taught me on this trip, Squirrel Girl, it's that there's different kinds of chaos--positive and negative.
I don't recall saying "some chaos is good," but--
--but you and I just sunk a boat and smashed up a pier in order to save some whales and starve some giants, so.

Listen--I used to tear things down for fun. And it was fun. And easy. But this trip, we've been doing something harder: We've been tearing things down for a purpose. To make way for something better. And we're not done yet.
What do you mean?
See, this is how I know I've been rubbing off on you: You're not seeing it.

We have a chance, right now, to get rid of the old to allow a better new. Yes, it'd be easier just to fight, and maybe we'd win and maybe we'd lose, and either way we'd go down in a blaze of glory. But if we combine my chaos with your rhetoric, I think--I know--we can do it.
Will you help me?

Rachel...
...I'm all ears.

So here's what I'm thinking...
Oooh, but what if we also tried to--

Shortly...

You're surrounded, humans! Come out and we will kill you quickly. Stay hidden, and we'll take our sweet time when we find you.

No need! I'm right here, Giants! But let me ask you a question...

...What makes you think ***we're*** your enemies?

Um, you ***ruined*** our food source ***and*** smashed up our boat?? That's what ***enemies*** do!

Now did I do that because we're ***enemies,*** or did I do that because I was trying to ***protect*** myself and what you were ***stealing?***

In fact, would you even ***have*** to eat our whales if you weren't ***ordered*** here in the first place??

What are you even doing here, Giants? The only source of food big enough for you on the continent can ***easily*** be interrupted, and only the poles are cold enough for you. Heck, most of North America isn't even ***habitable*** for you!

We were... we were gonna use our bodies to cool it down?

Please. You really expect me to believe that your bold new kingdom of Frost will flourish in ***humid Florida? Arid Texas? Sunny Mexico??*** The vast majority of this realm is ***supremely*** ill-suited to you! Is this some sort of punishment for you, or what?

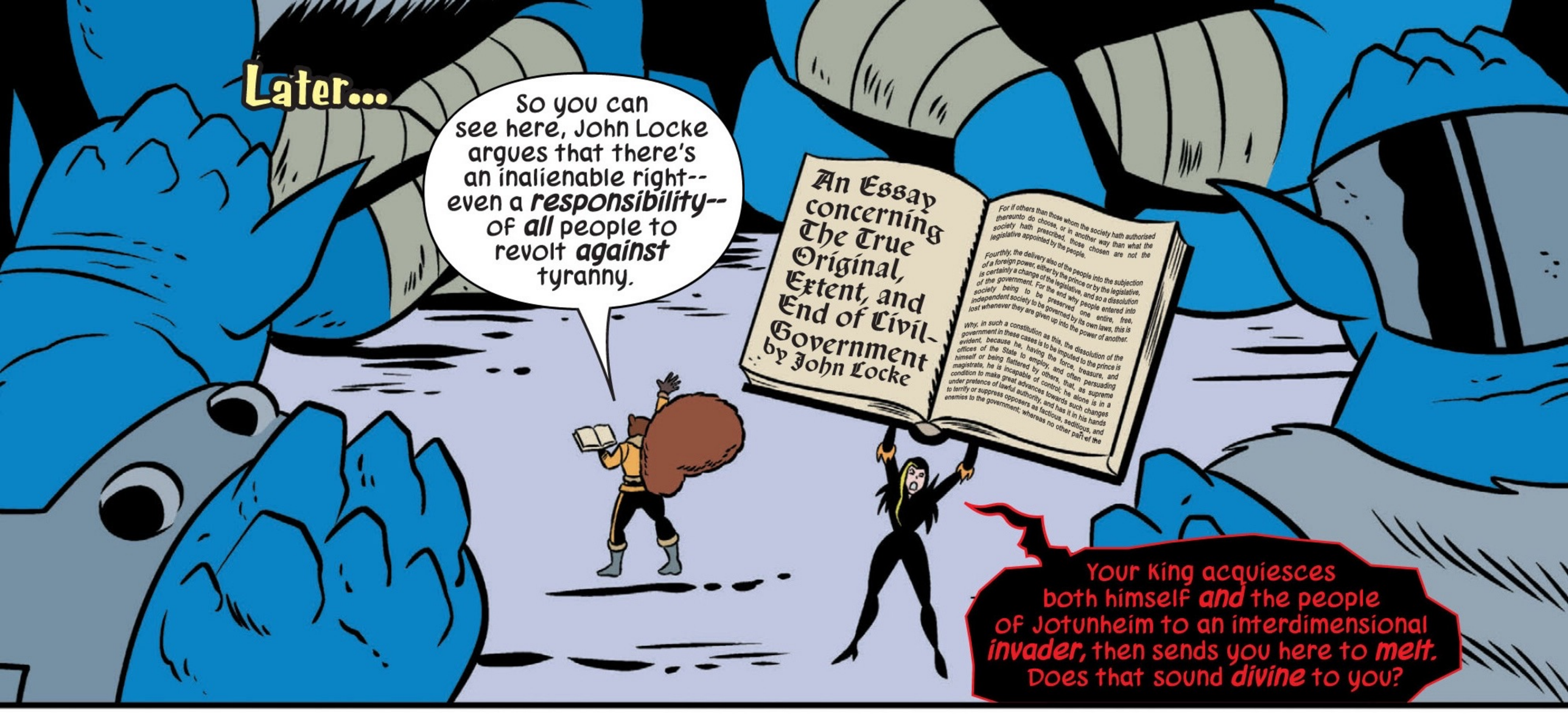
We are here because our ***king*** decrees it so!

He's our divine ruler! All he says and does is correct!

Ah! Your ***king.*** Now we get to the heart of the matter.

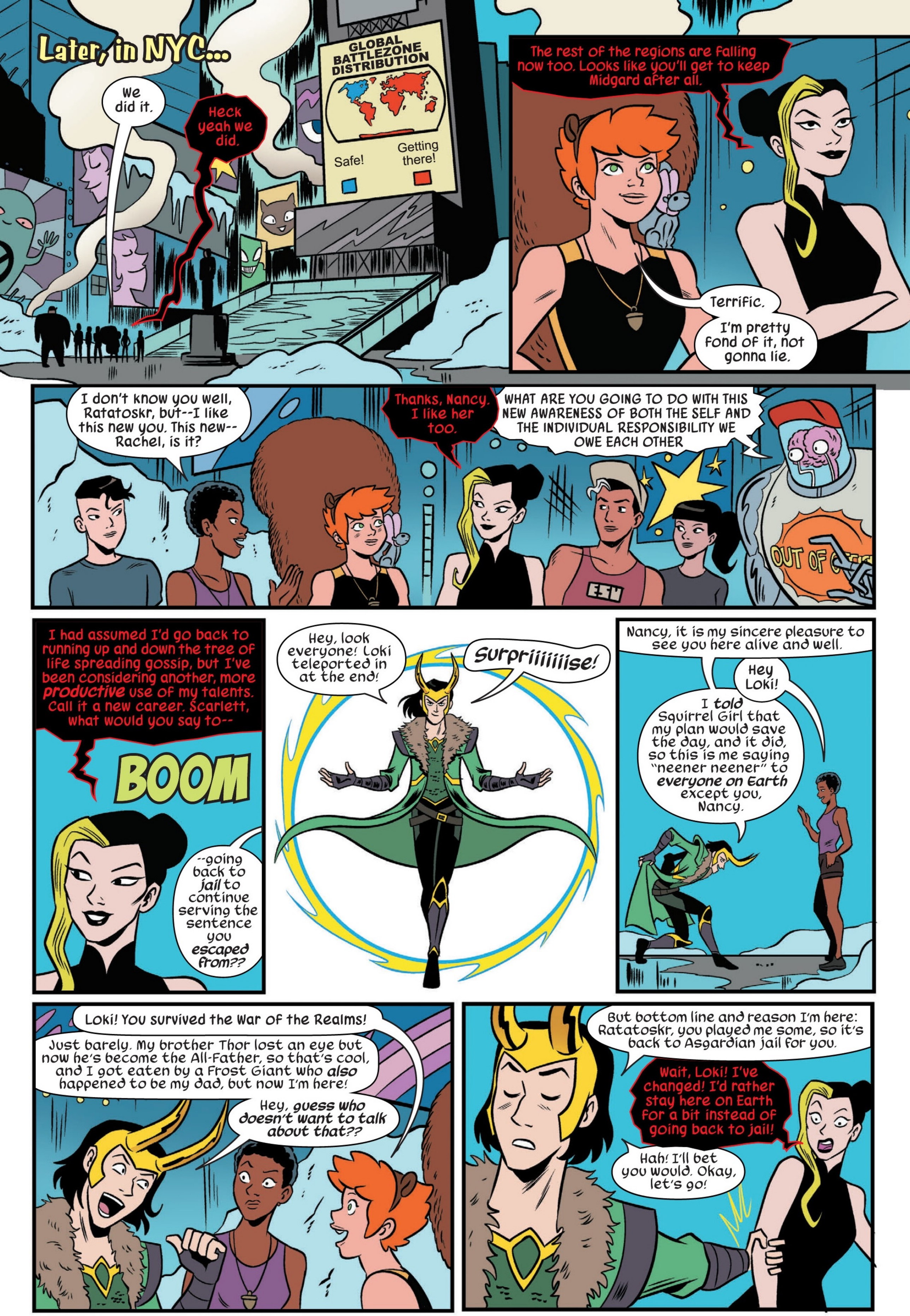
Let's talk about your king, shall we?

The more Ratatoskr uses her shape-shifting skills in imaginative ways, the happier I am. Will I be even ***more*** happy on the next page??



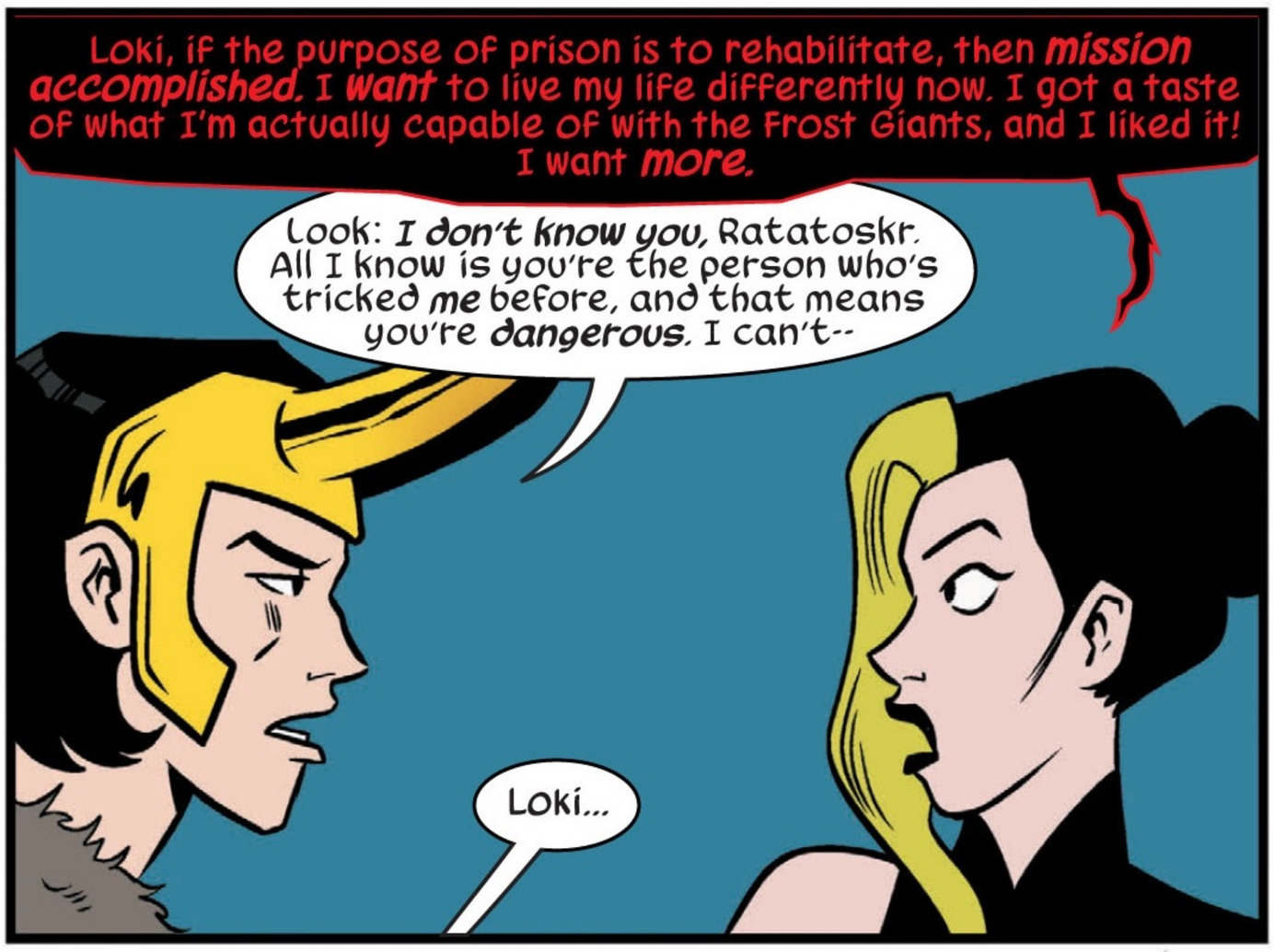
Update from the previous page: I am! I am extremely happy!!

...FOR TODAY, THE FROST GIANTS MARCH ON JOTUNHEIM!!
SMAK

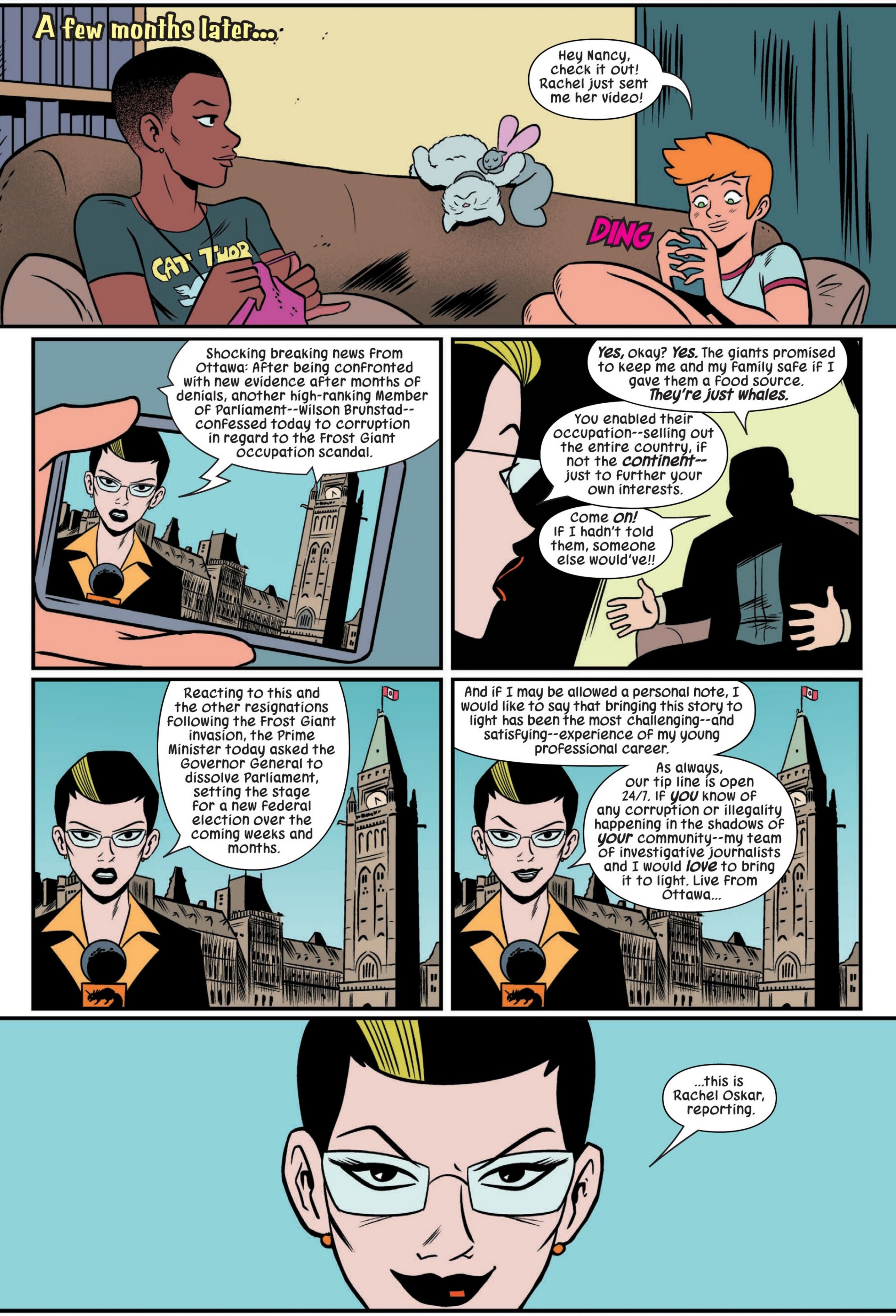


It was a busy time while you were gone! Maybe one day someone will summarize it in picto-narrative format, perhaps under the title "The War of the Realms"!

But until that day we will all just have to be satisfied with my one-sentence description of the events which I have already provided!



And I'm 100% certain Loki has simply always wanted to make an exit while saying "call me," and Thor never gave him the setup he needed.

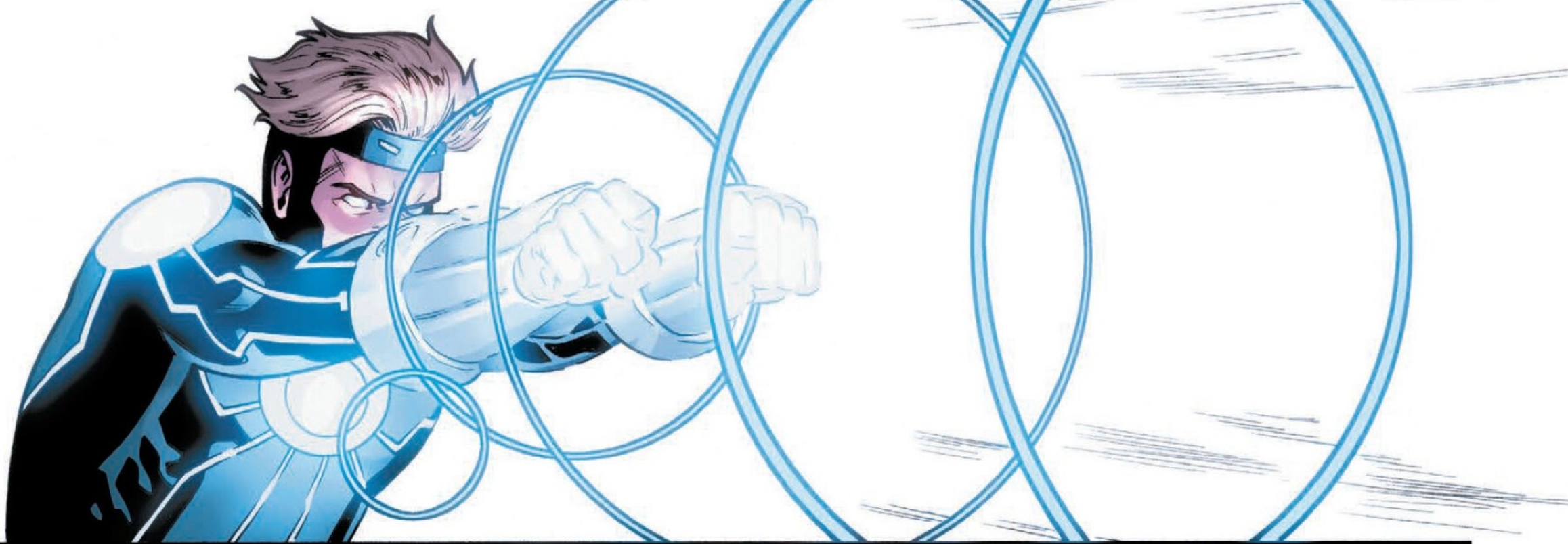

A few months later...
Hey Nancy, check it out! Rachel just sent me her video!
DING
Shocking breaking news from Ottawa: After being confronted with new evidence after months of denials, another high-ranking Member of Parliament--Wilson Brunstad--confessed today to corruption in regard to the Frost Giant occupation scandal.
Yes, okay? Yes. The giants promised to keep me and my family safe if I gave them a food source. They're just whales.
You enabled their occupation--selling out the entire country, if not the continent--just to further your own interests.
Come on! If I hadn't told them, someone else would've!!
Reacting to this and the other resignations following the Frost Giant invasion, the Prime Minister today asked the Governor General to dissolve Parliament, setting the stage for a new federal election over the coming weeks and months.
And if I may be allowed a personal note, I would like to say that bringing this story to light has been the most challenging--and satisfying--experience of my young professional career.
As always, our tip line is open 24/7. If you know of any corruption or illegality happening in the shadows of your community--my team of investigative journalists and I would love to bring it to light. Live from Ottawa...
...this is Rachel Oskar, reporting.

WAR OF THE REALMS:

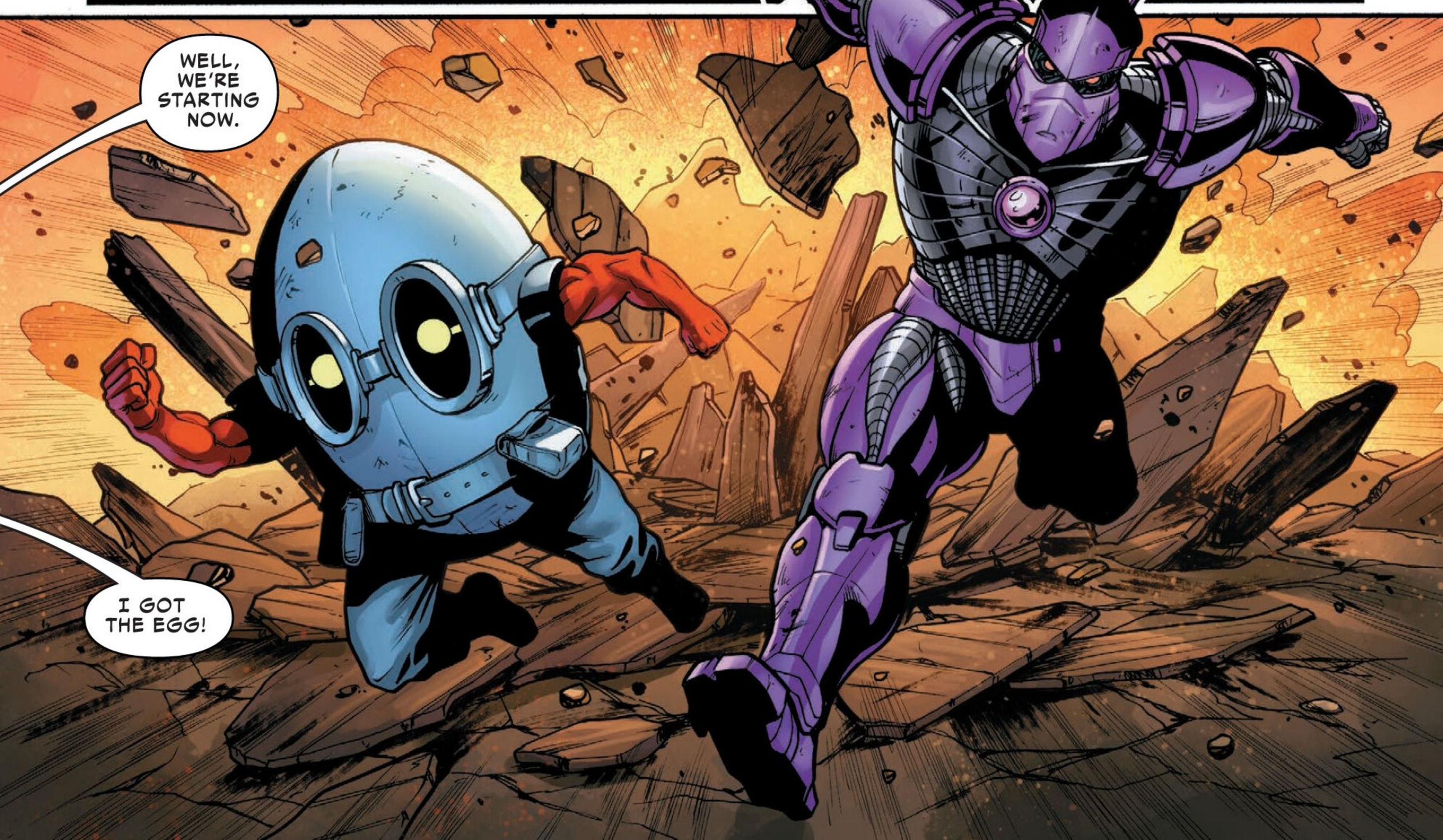
Uncanny X-Men #1

I CAN'T GET IT OUT OF MY HEAD.
PENNY FOR YOUR THOUGHTS, DANI?
"THIS IS THE WAY THE WORLD ENDS."
STRANGE WEATHER. IT FEELS LIKE...BAD THINGS ARE COMING.
FEELS TO ME LIKE THEY'VE BEEN HERE AWHILE.
WHEN I FIRST READ THAT POEM, I WAS A CHILD TRYING TO MAKE SENSE OF EVERYTHING WHILE CHARLES XAVIER STARED INTO MY MIND.
I WONDERED WHAT T.S. ELIOT MEANT WHEN HE WROTE THOSE WORDS. I WONDERED WHAT HE WAS THINKING ABOUT.
YOU SURE YOU'RE UP FOR THIS?
POWERS ARE BACK. LIFE IS BACK. I'VE NEVER BEEN MORE SURE OF ANYTHING...
WHAT ABOUT YOU, SCOTT?
I'M FINE. I'M NOT SUPPOSED TO USE MY POWERS, BUT WE HAVE MORE THAN ENOUGH STRENGTH FOR THE MISSION. I'M JUST ALONG FOR THE RIDE.
TONIGHT I JUST WONDER HOW HE KNEW.

WE GOOD?
YEAH, ALEX. IF EVERYONE'S READY, WE CAN GET IN--



HAVOK!
WHAT?! I THOUGHT WE WERE STARTING? SCOTT WAS DOING HIS BIG "STAY SAFE OUT THERE" SPEECH HE ALWAYS DOES WHEN WE START.

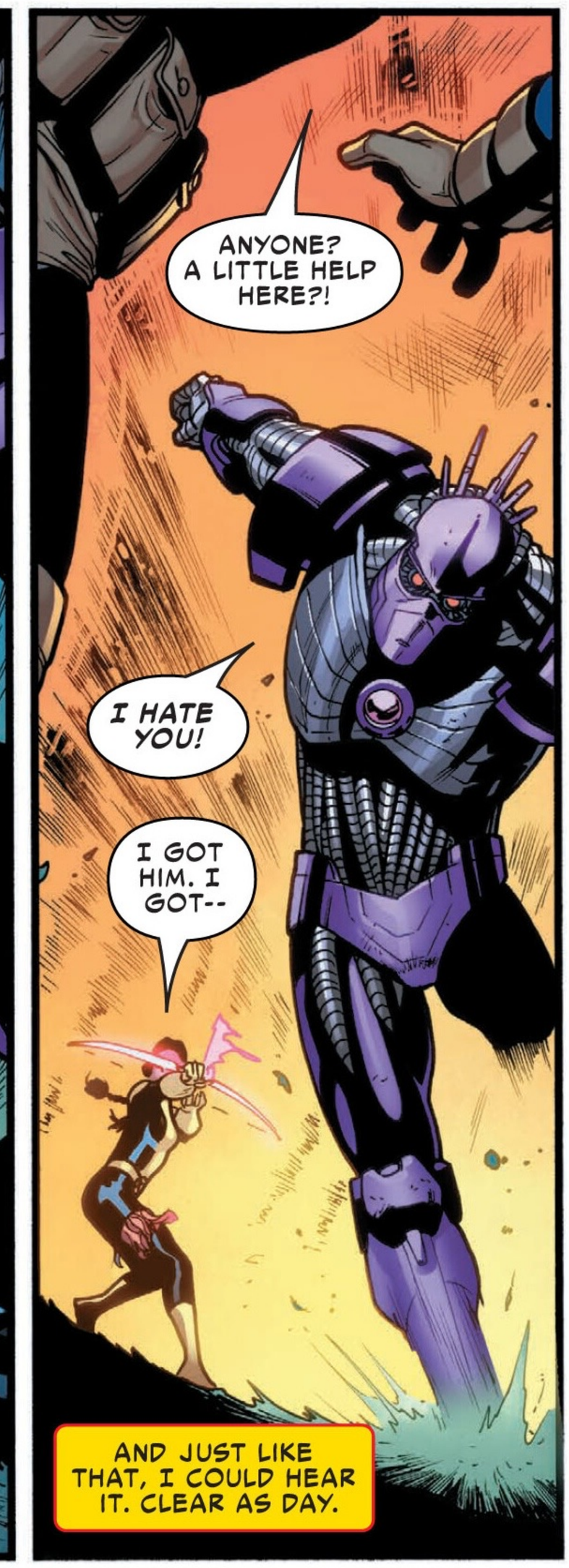

WELL, WE'RE STARTING NOW.
I GOT THE EGG!

REMEMBER, NOBODY BUILDS A STATUE OF YOU IF YOU GET KILLED BY VILLAINS THIS STUPID-LOOKING.

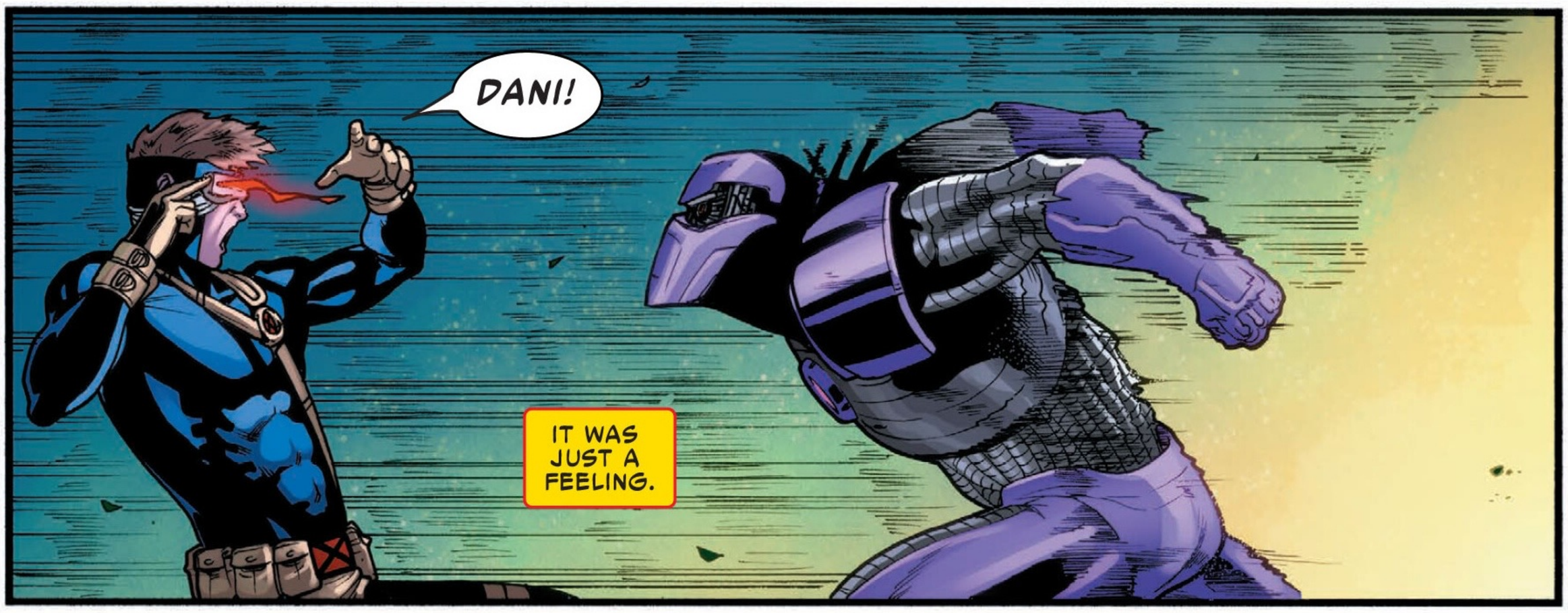
WHO IS GONNA BUILD STATUES OF *US?*

I JUST MEANT DON'T DIE.

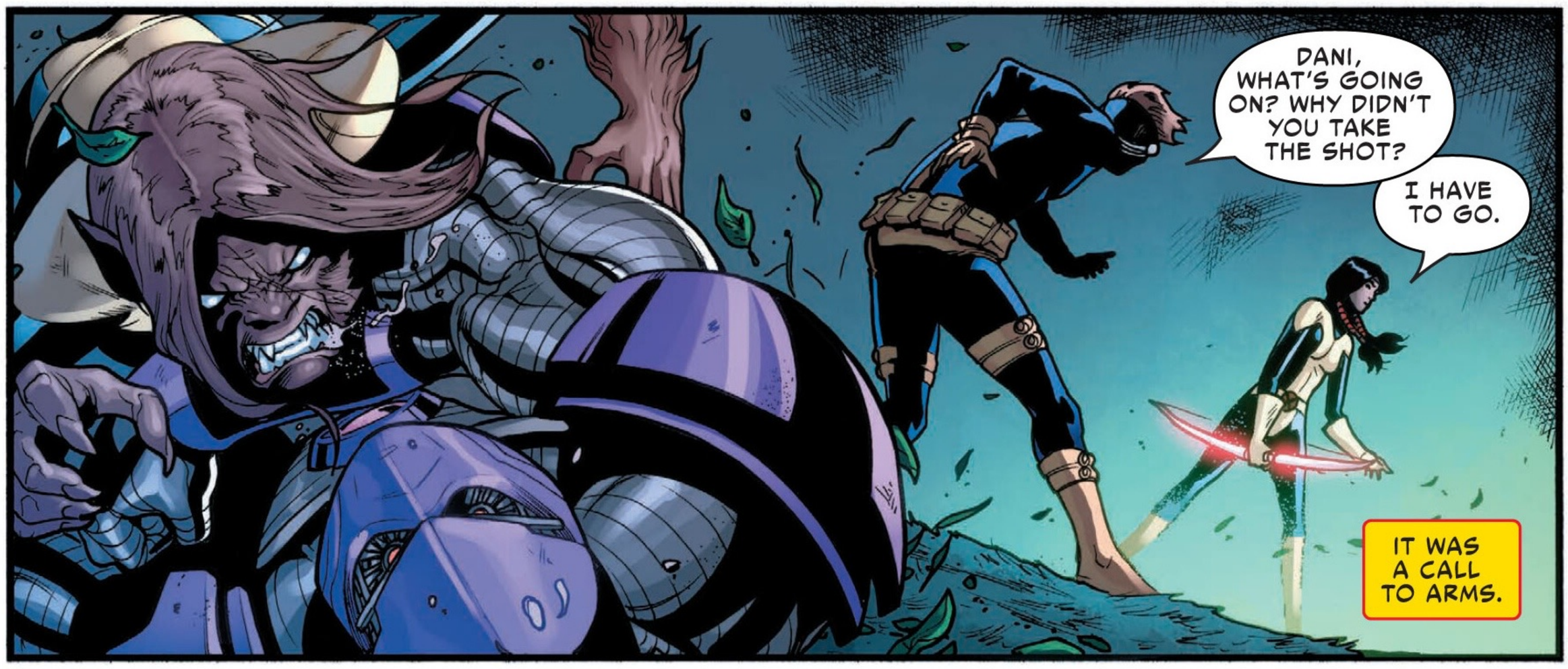
THEN SAY *THAT* INSTEAD OF TRYING TO BE CLEVER.



THERE WERE NO WORDS.
MIRAGE! DANI!
NO.


DANI!
IT WAS JUST A FEELING.

RRAAAH!
BUT I KNEW WHAT IT MEANT ALL THE SAME.


DANI, WHAT'S GOING ON? WHY DIDN'T YOU TAKE THE SHOT?
I HAVE TO GO.
IT WAS A CALL TO ARMS.

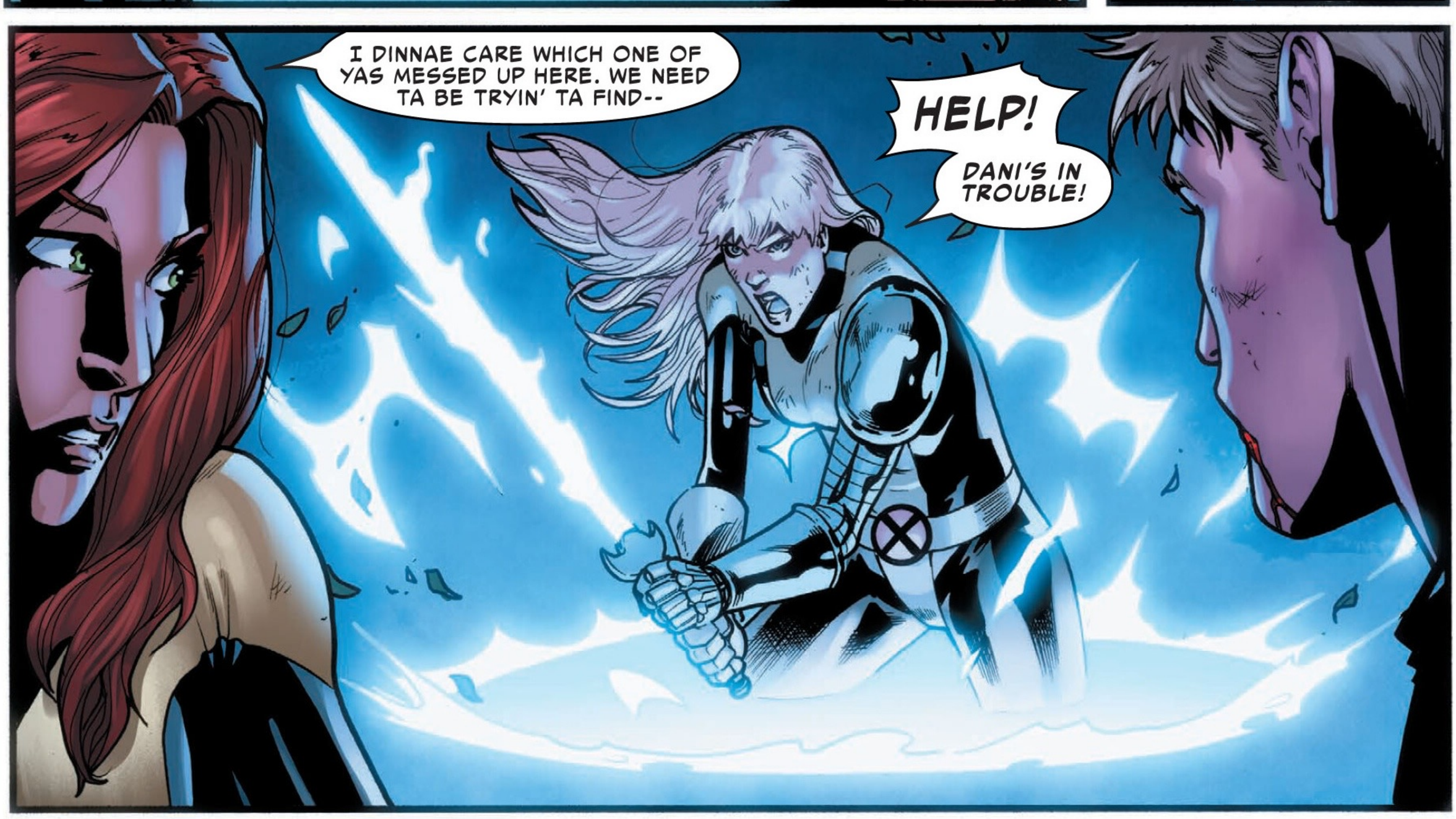
MADROX, GET OUT OF THE WAY!
FALL DOWN, YOU DUMB EGG!
WE ARE GOING TO SAVE THE MUTANT CHILDREN! YOU CAN'T STOP US!
JAMIE, WATCH--
OOOF!
I KNEW WHAT I HAD TO DO.
WELL, THAT SUCKED. WHEN I SAID "I GOT THE EGG," SOMEONE COULD HAVE TOLD ME THE EGG WAS THE TOUGHER ONE.
MAGIK, YOU THINK YOUR SWORD CAN GET THROUGH THAT ARMOR IF I DISTRACT IT?
MAGIK?
WE NEED TO GO!
I HAD TO GO.

35 MINUTES LATER.
PTOO!
THAT WAS A COMPLETE DISASTER!

WE'RE ALL LUCKY NOBODY DIED TONIGHT.
ENOUGH. WE GET IT, SCOTT.

YOU *GET IT?* WHAT DO YOU GET, ALEX? YOU USED TO BE A DAMNED TEAM LEADER. ACT LIKE IT.
YEAH, I *USED TO* BE. REMIND ME WHO WAS IN CHARGE JUST *NOW?*
AM I THE ONLY ONE NOTICING THAT WE WON?

I'LL TAKE MY SHARE OF RESPONSIBILITY FOR THIS MESS. BUT I CAN ONLY DO SO MUCH IF MY TEAM IS JUST GOING TO RUN AROUND LIKE THIS IS THEIR FIRST DAY IN THE DANGER ROOM.
A THIRD OF OUR SQUAD VANISHED MID-FIGHT!
YOU WANT TO BLAME JAMIE AND ME FOR THIS GOING SOUTH?
WE'RE STILL HERE. WHERE'S THE REST OF YOUR TEAM, *CAPTAIN?*


I DINNAE CARE WHICH ONE OF YAS MESSED UP HERE. WE NEED TA BE TRYIN' TA FIND--
HELP!
DANI'S IN TROUBLE!

MIDGARD.
THE WEST VILLAGE.
IS IT... SNOWING?
THA IS WHAT YER WORRIED ABOUT?

ANYONE KNOW WHAT'S HAPPENING RIGHT NOW?
MALEKITH, THE KING OF THE DARK ELVES HAS CONQUERED ALL OF THE KNOWN REALMS... EXCEPT OURS. THE ASGARDIANS' WAR HAS COME TO EARTH.
DOCTOR STRANGE HAS ALREADY CLEARED THE PEOPLE FROM THE CITY. IT IS THE FIRST TO FALL.
WHERE THE HELL ARE THE ASGARDIANS?

WHY DID YOU COME HERE IN THE FIRST PLACE?!
DANI BEGGED ME TO BRING HER HERE, BUT AS SOON AS WE ARRIVED, THEY SWARMED US AND WE GOT SEPARATED. I TRIED TO FIGHT MY WAY TO HER, BUT I LOST HER.
THEY'RE GOING TO OVERWHELM US. MAGIK, GET US OUT OF HERE NOW!
NO! WE NEED TO FIND DANI!
WE DON'T EVEN KNOW SHE'S ALIVE.
AH CAN STILL FEEL HER THROUGH OUR PSYCHIC BOND. IT'S FAINT. BUT SHE'S ALIVE OUT HERE.
GOOD ENOUGH FOR ME!
JAMIES! GET DOWN ON THREE. ONE... TWO...
...THREE!

I DID IT BECAUSE SHE SAID SHE HAD TO. AND I TRUST HER.
WHAT WAS DANI TRYING TO DO?
I DON'T KNOW.
YOU ABANDONED YOUR TEAM IN THE MIDDLE OF A MISSION AND YOU AREN'T EVEN SURE WHY?!
WOLFSBANE, YOU GOT ANYTHING?
AH GET TRACES OF HER...BUT CANNAE REACH HER AND AH DINNAE KNOW WHERE SHE IS.
LOOK! MORE FOOD!
WHOA!
MAGIK! YOU NEED TO GO BACK TO HARRY'S AND GET EVERYONE NOW!
YOU NEED ME--
IF WE'RE GOING TO FIND DANI, WE NEED THEM TOO. GO!

WHAT'S THE PLAN, BOSS?
WE'RE OUTNUMBERED, SO WE'RE BOXED IN ON THESE SMALL STREETS. WE NEED TO GET OUT TO SIXTH AVENUE WHERE WE CAN OUT-MANEUVER THEM.
HAVOK, DO SOMETHING DUMB.
ON IT!
ONE SHORTCUT THROUGH A BUILDING, COMING UP! EVERYONE IN!
HEY, WHAT'S THE NEXT MOVE?
I DON'T KNOW. I'M WINGING IT HERE, ALEX.
IT'S ALL RIGHT. YOU'RE BETTER AT THAT THAN ANYONE I KNOW.
MIDGARD IS OURS.
THIS TIME I'M NOT SO SURE THAT THINGS ARE GONNA BE OKAY.

YOU SHOULD HAVE RUN WITH THE REST!
THOOM
CRRAAC
LOOK OUT! RAHNE!

RRRAAAAAHH!

PARK

I JUST HIT HIM WITH EVERYTHING I HAD. HOW IS HE STILL STANDING?

FROST GIANTS ARE MAGICAL CREATURES. NORMAL RULES DON'T ALWAYS APPLY... IS THAT SOUND WHAT I THINK IT IS?

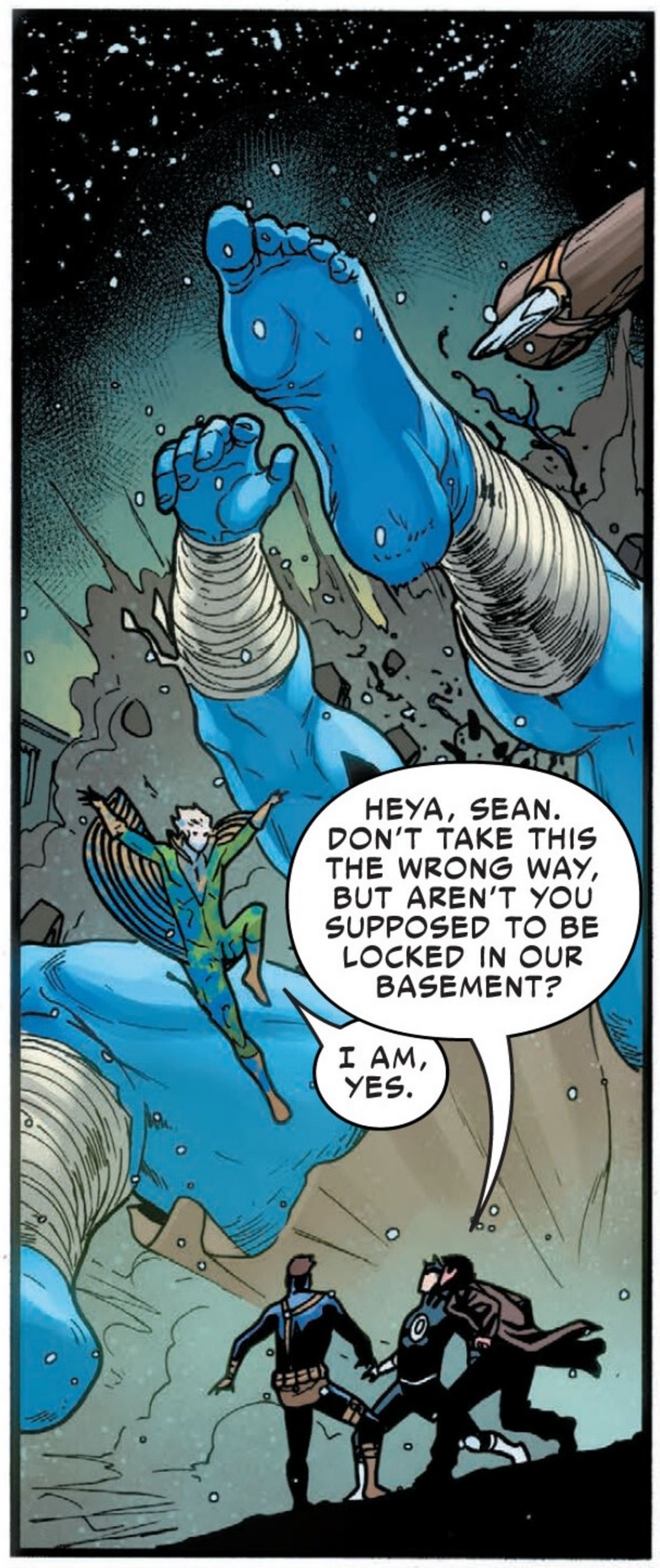
EEEEEEEEE

EEEEEEEEEE

EEEE

SHLORP!

EEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEE!!!


HEYA, SEAN. DON'T TAKE THIS THE WRONG WAY, BUT AREN'T YOU SUPPOSED TO BE LOCKED IN OUR BASEMENT?
I AM, YES.

YOU TOLD ME TO GET EVERYONE. I GOT EVERYONE I COULD.
WHERE'S LOGAN?
I DON'T KNOW. HE WAS ALREADY GONE WHEN I GOT THERE.

SO YOU BROUGHT HOPE INSTEAD?
WE NEED THE WHOLE TEAM.
SHE'S NOT ON OUR TEAM, MAGIK. SHE'S OUR PRISONER.

IN CASE YOU DIDN'T NOTICE, GRANDPA, THINGS ARE GOING PRETTY BAD HERE. AND YOU'RE STILL HOLDING ON TO YOUR LITTLE GRUDGE?

YOU SHOT ME IN THE FACE, HOPE. BECAUSE I TRIED TO STOP YOU FROM ASSASSINATING SOMEONE. IT'S A DECENT-SIZED GRUDGE.
AND IF WE DON'T STOP WHAT'S HAPPENING HERE NOW, NONE OF IT WILL MATTER. IF WE SURVIVE TODAY, YOU CAN STILL GROUND ME TOMORROW.
WHERE'S RAHNE?

SHE FELL IN THIS HOLE RIGHT BEFORE YOU GOT HERE, ALONG WITH ONE OF MY DUPES.
WHAT?!
IT'S DEEP AND IT SOUNDS LIKE THERE'S WATER. MAYBE A WATER MAIN OR OLD SEWER TUNNELS? WE DON'T KNOW IF SHE'S--

MAGIK! WAIT!

BANSHEE, STAY.
CHAMBER, YOU KNOW THE TUNNELS. YOU'RE COMING.

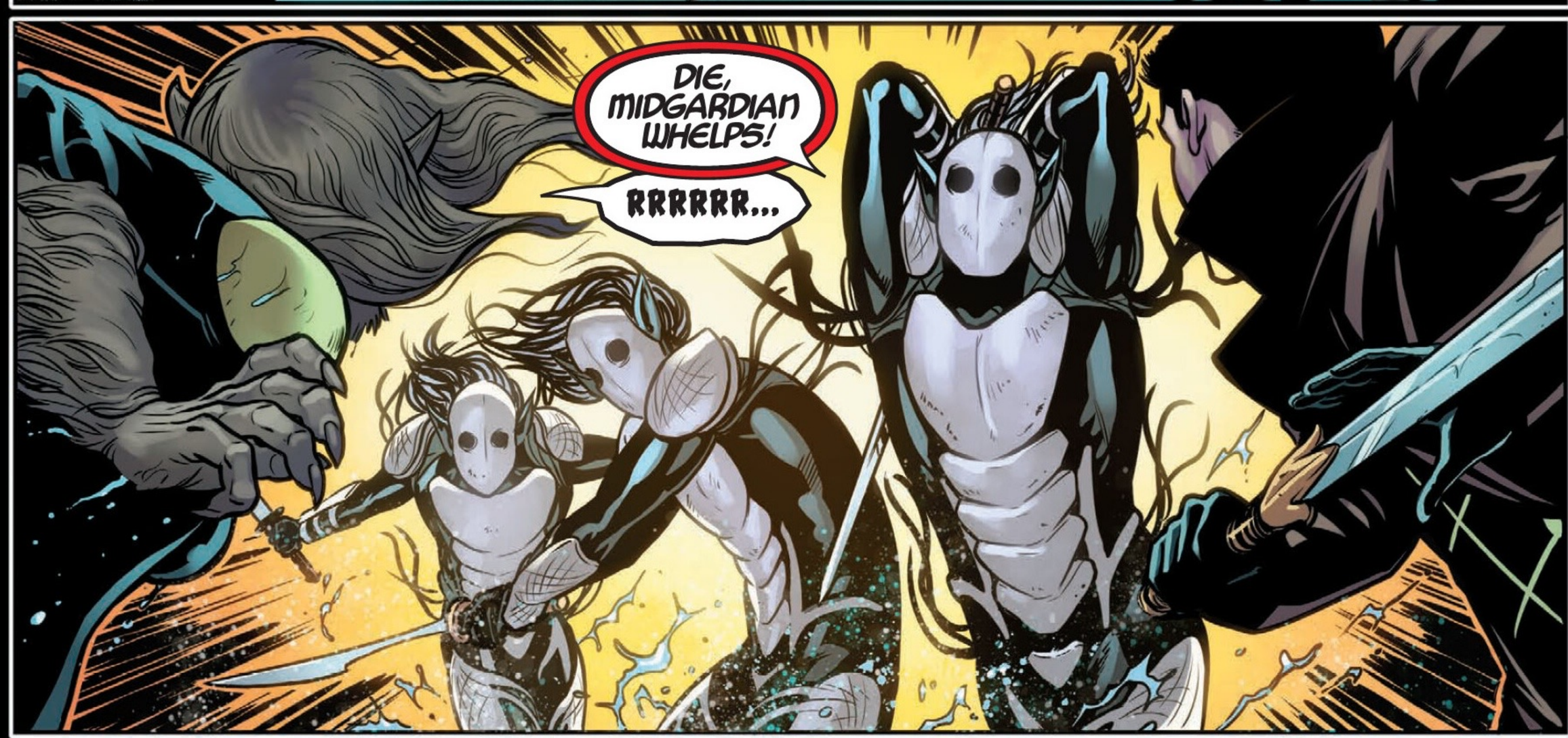
HOPE, WE DON'T KNOW WHAT'S DOWN THERE. YOU COULD BE WALKING INTO A TRAP. WE SHOULD STAY ABOVEGROUND AND USE THE BUILDINGS FOR COVER--
MAYBE YOU FORGOT...

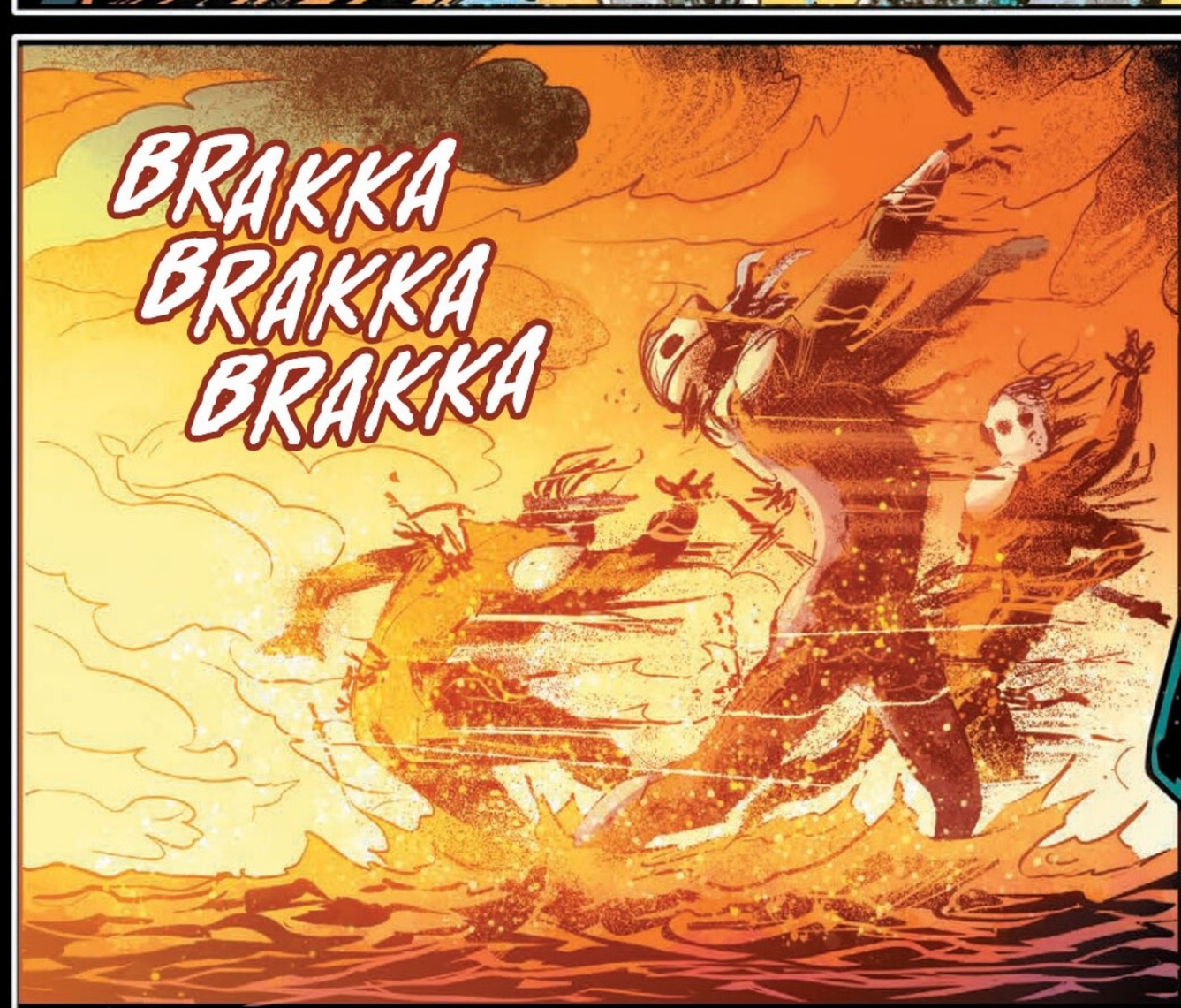
...I'M NOT ON YOUR TEAM. I GO WHERE MAGIK GOES.

SO... THAT WENT WELL.

TIDOM
WE HAVE TO GO. NOW.
AREN'T WE GOING AFTER THEM?
WE DON'T HAVE ANY IDEA WHAT'S DOWN THERE. OUR BEST CHANCE RIGHT NOW IS TO STAY UP HERE AND WAIT FOR THOR OR THE AVENGERS TO SHOW UP SO WE CAN COORDINATE WITH THEM.
WE HAVE TEAMMATES DOWN THERE!
MAGIK AND HOPE MADE CHOICES FOR THEMSELVES. MY JOB IS TO KEEP EVERYONE ELSE ALIVE RIGHT NOW.
AND RAHNE?
...IF SHE'S STILL ALIVE, MAGIK AND HOPE WILL GET HER OUT...

"...BUT WE HAVE TO GO, OR NONE OF US WILL MAKE IT OUT!"
AH CAN SMELL THEM IN EVERY DIRECTION. AH DINNAE KEN WHICH WAY TO GO.
WAIT... YOU HEAR SOMETHING?


DIE, MIDGARDIAN WHELPS!
RRRRRR...

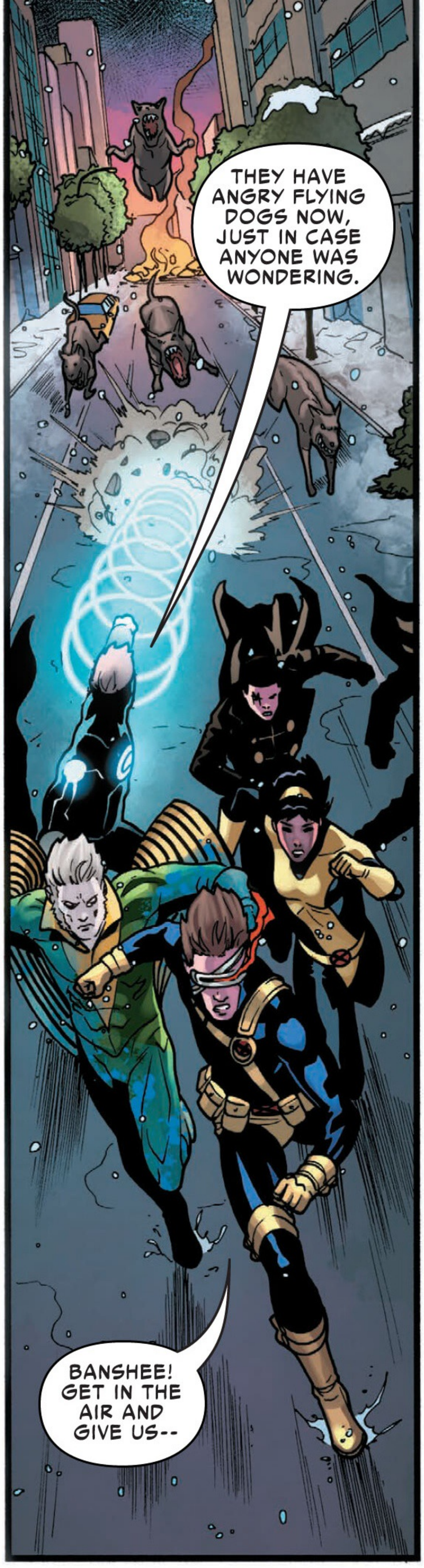

BRAKKA BRAKKA BRAKKA

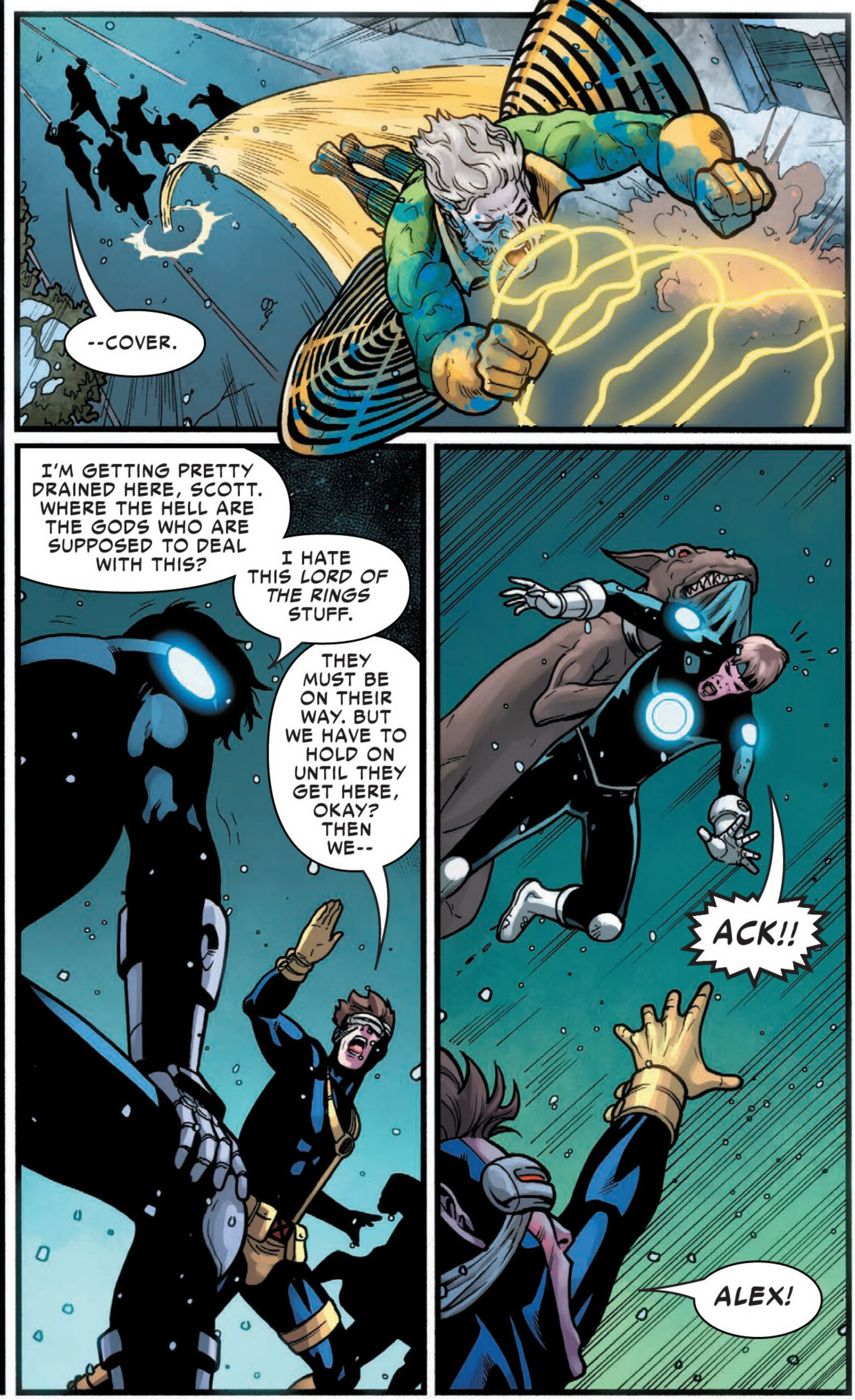
YOU'RE WELCOME.
NOW LET'S GET THE HELL OUT OF HERE.

AWESOME. HOW?
MAGIK CAN GET...
WAIT... WHERE IS SHE?

HERE THEY COME AGAIN.

FOR MALEKITH!
I'M OUT OF AMMO!
CLICK CLICK CLICK
I GOT 'EM.
YOU NEED TA POWER UP, LOVE. TAKE SOME OF WHAT I GOT FOR WHEN THEY COME BACK 'ROUND.
HOPE? ARE YOU OKAY?
THERE MUST BE SOMEONE ELSE NEARBY! I TAPPED INTO THEIR POWERS...I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S HAPPENING!
I THINK YOU JUST FOUND OUT WHAT IT FEELS LIKE TO BE ME.


THEY HAVE ANGRY FLYING DOGS NOW, JUST IN CASE ANYONE WAS WONDERING.
BANSHEE! GET IN THE AIR AND GIVE US--


--COVER.
I'M GETTING PRETTY DRAINED HERE, SCOTT. WHERE THE HELL ARE THE GODS WHO ARE SUPPOSED TO DEAL WITH THIS?
I HATE THIS *LORD OF THE RINGS* STUFF.
THEY MUST BE ON THEIR WAY. BUT WE HAVE TO HOLD ON UNTIL THEY GET HERE, OKAY? THEN WE--
ACK!!
ALEX!

THUNK
"THIS IS THE WAY THE WORLD ENDS..."

YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE COME HERE.
GLAD TO SEE YOU'RE OKAY, DANI. BUT WE HAVE TO FIND COVER AND WORK OUT A PLAN WHILE WE WAIT FOR REINFORCEMENTS.
NO ONE IS COMING. ASGARD HAS FALLEN. ALL OF THE OTHER REALMS HAVE FALLEN TO MALEKITH'S FORCES. I CAME WHEN ODIN SUMMONED THE VALKYRIES.
BUT I ARRIVED TOO LATE. MY SISTERS HAVE ALL FALLEN.
THEY WERE EARTH'S LAST HOPE.
"...NOT WITH A BANG BUT A WHIMPER."

WAR OF THE REALMS:

Uncanny X-Men #2

MIDGARD.
FLUSHING, QUEENS.
DON'T STOP!
THEY'RE GAINING!
NOWHERE TO RUN, HUMANS!
WE'RE NOT GONNA MAKE IT!
YOU'LL MAKE IT.

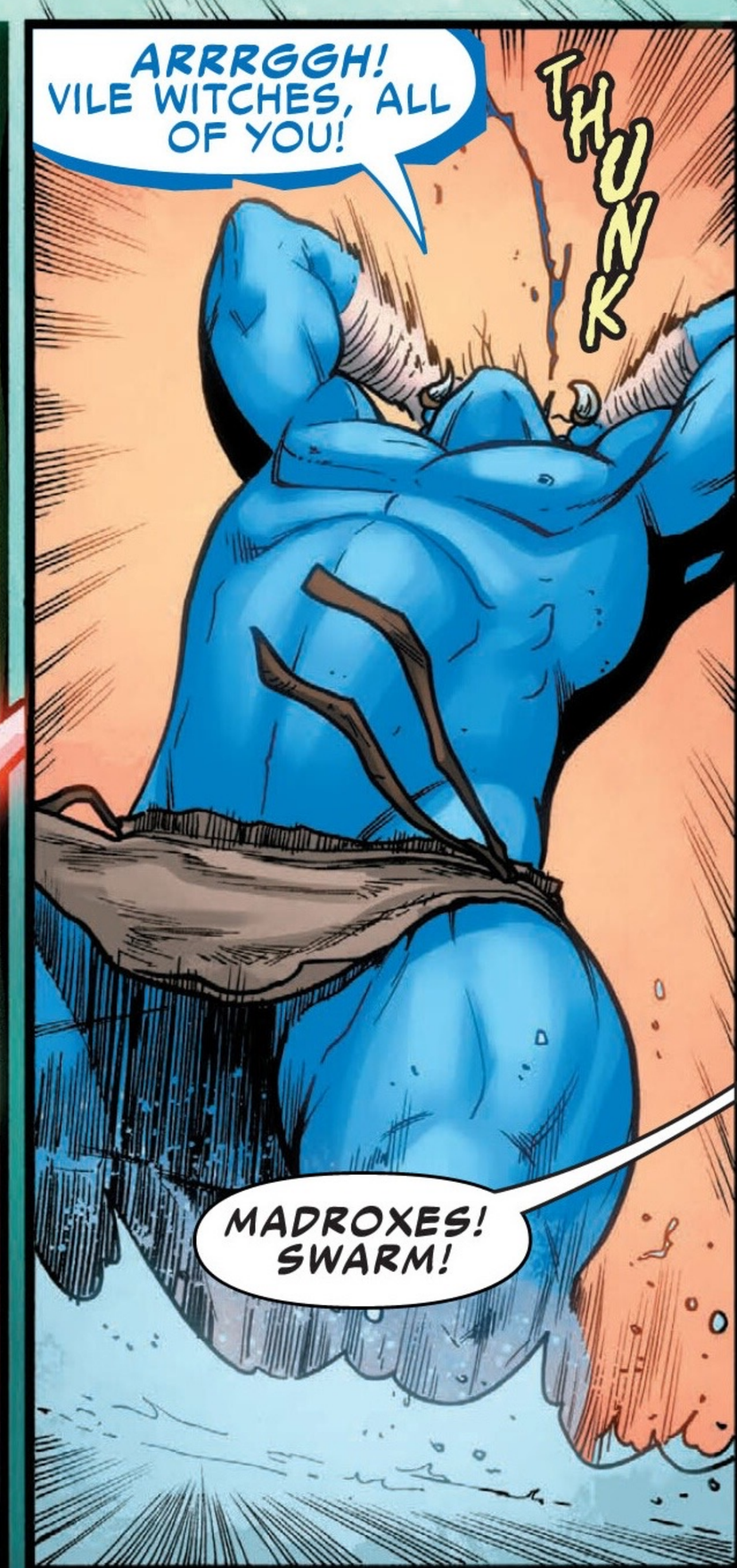
KEEP GOING. I'LL HANDLE THIS.
AH, WOLFKILLER MOONSTAR. THE LAST OF THE VALKYRIES. I WAS BEGINNING TO THINK YOU WERE BUT A LEGEND. BUT NOW I GET TO WATCH THE WILD HUNT DEVOUR YOU. THIS TRULY IS A--
CRRRNCH

A LITTLE HELP HERE?

JUST WAITING FOR THE WORD, DANI.

C'MERE, DOGGY!

ONCE MORE UNTO THE BREACH!



GOT HIM!
I NEVER THOUGHT I'D BE AN AX GUY, BUT I LOVE IT.
CAN I BORROW IT LATER?
MAYBE.
OFF ME!

NO, WAIT--

SCHUNK

WHAT... WHO ARE YOU?!
WE'RE THE X-MEN.
YOU'RE SAFE NOW. WE HAVE A CAMP AT THE BALLPARK.
THAT'S ALMOST A MILE FROM HERE! THEY HAVE BARRICADES AND PATROLS, AND THERE WILL BE MORE AFTER US ANY MINUTE. WE'LL NEVER MAKE IT.
LEAVE THAT TO US. EVERYONE UP FOR A RUN?
HEADS UP, BASE. WE'RE COMING IN FROM THE NORTH ON WILLETS POINT BOULEVARD. YOU WANNA DO YOUR LITTLE LIGHT SHOW FOR US?

I GOT YOU.
"LIGHT SHOW." WHAT AN--
FWSSSHHH

HSSS

GNAT! BEGONE!
YOU CANNOT ESCAPE KOGA THE DISEASED!
HEY, HAVOK? YOUR BROTHER UP? BECAUSE BANSHEE'S DOWN AND WE'RE COMING IN HOT. AND I DON'T THINK ANYONE WANTS TO GET CLOSE ENOUGH TO FIND OUT HOW OUR NEW FRIEND HERE GOT HIS NICKNAME.

HAVOK?!

HAVOK? BUDDY? YOU'RE NOT MAD ABOUT THAT "LIGHT SHOW" JOKE, ARE YOU? BECAUSE YOU'RE IN MY TOP-TEN FAVORITE X-MEN, PAL. HAVOK?!

ZARK

SORRY FOR THE DELAY, JAMIE. I WAS RESTING.
SEE YOU BACK AT BASE IN A FEW.

WELCOME TO FORT SYNDERGAARD.

WE HAVE OVER *300* REFUGEES LIVING HERE. THESE WALLS ARE THE ONLY THING KEEPING NEW YORK CITY FROM COMPLETELY FALLING TO THE FROST GIANTS. *WE* HANDLE SUPPLY RUNS AND RESCUE MISSIONS.

HAVOK HERE CLEARS THE PATH FOR US TO GET HOME, THE MADROXES MAN THE WALLS, BANSHEE HANDLES AIR SUPPORT AND CYCLOPS UP TOP TAKES CARE OF ANY GIANTS WE CAN'T HANDLE.

BUT SINCE HE GOT SHOT IN THE HEAD RECENTLY, EVERY TIME HE DOES THAT WE WORRY HIS HEAD MIGHT EXPLODE, SO WE'RE BEING VERY JUDICIOUS IN CALLING FOR HIS HELP. RIGHT, DANI?
OF COURSE.
AND I DON'T WANT JAMIE HAVING THE RADIO ANYMORE.
I DIDN'T THINK THE RUMORS WERE TRUE.
IF YOU DIDN'T THINK IT WAS REAL, OFFICER, WHY'D YOU COME?
THERE WAS NOWHERE ELSE TO GO.
WHEN THE HARLEM RIVER FROZE WE CROSSED DOWN TO LOOK FOR SURVIVORS OF THE INITIAL ATTACKS, ANYONE WE COULD HELP. WE DIDN'T FIND ANYONE.
JUST YOU GUYS? PRETTY BRAVE.
THERE WERE A HUNDRED OF US WHEN WE CAME DOWN.
I'M SORRY.
HELLO, I'M SCOTT SUMMERS. WELCOME.
WE'RE GLAD YOU MADE IT, SERGEANT. WE HAVE PLENTY OF FOOD, SPACE AND WORK THAT NEEDS DOING. HELP YOURSELF TO ANY OF IT.
HEY, HOW'S IT GOING? I'M-- WHOA!
BACK AWAY FROM THE PRIME!
WE HAVE TO BE VERY CAREFUL WITH JAMIE PRIME. HIS ARMY IS THE ONLY THING THAT KEEPS US FROM BEING OVERRUN.
FACT.
SORRY. I'M JUST NOT USED TO ALL OF THIS MUTIE STUFF.
"MUTIE." REAL NICE.
HE DIDN'T MEAN NOTHING BY IT. WE ALL APPRECIATE WHAT YOU'RE DOING AND WHAT THOSE OTHER MUTANTS OUT THERE ARE DOING.
OTHER MUTANTS?

COME BACK, LITTLE WOLF! WE HAVE BEEN LOOKING FOR YOU!
SHE'S NOT INTERESTED. TAKE A HINT, MATE.

HEY, BIG FELLA, WE GOT SOME QUESTIONS FOR YOU.
ANOTHER ONE? HA! I WILL ENJOY FEASTING ON YOUR BONES AS MUCH AS--

FWOOM

ARRRGGGHH!

DIE SCREAMING, INSECT!
NO, I--

NO!

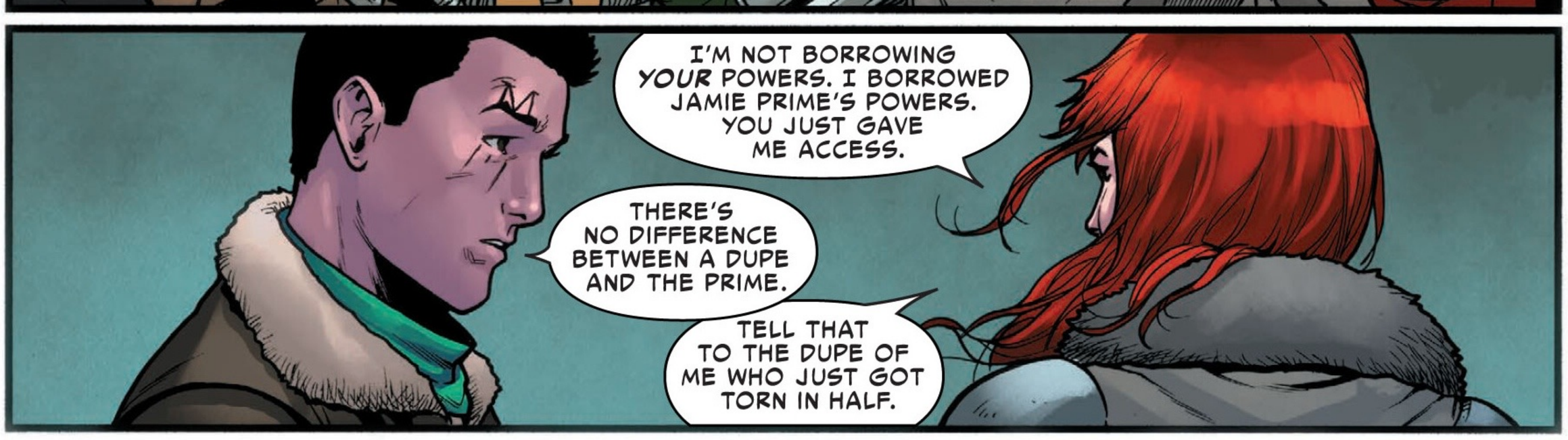
CRNCH
YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE COME HERE.
I DON'T THINK YOU WERE SUPPOSED TO KILL HIM, SUNSPOT.
WHOOPS.

THAT'S IT? THAT'S WOT YE GOT TO SAY FER YERSELF?
WE NEED TO CATCH ONE TA INTERROGATE 'EM, AND YE KEEP BLOODY KILLIN' 'EM, ROBERTO!
I FEEL LIKE "WHOOPS" MADE IT QUITE CLEAR THAT IT WAS A MISTAKE, RAHNE.

I SAW HIM KILL HOPE AND I JUST LOST IT.
YEAH. THAT SUCKED. SHOULD WE GO FIND ANOTHER ONE?

YOU COULD PRETEND TO BE MORE UPSET, CHAMBER.
SO COULD YOU, HOPE.
IF SHE DIDN'T WANT TO DIE, SHE SHOULD HAVE WAITED FOR MY COMMAND.

WE SHOULD GET MOVING. THE WILD HUNT ARE ON THEIR WAY.
IT DOESN'T SEEM FAIR THAT YOU CAN BORROW MY POWERS WHEN I CAN'T EVEN USE THEM.


I'M NOT BORROWING YOUR POWERS. I BORROWED JAMIE PRIME'S POWERS. YOU JUST GAVE ME ACCESS.
THERE'S NO DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A DUPE AND THE PRIME.
TELL THAT TO THE DUPE OF ME WHO JUST GOT TORN IN HALF.

IT IS A LITTLE UNNERVING THAT YOU DON'T CARE WHEN THEY GET KILLED.
THEY'RE NOT REAL PEOPLE.
THEN WHY DOES JAMIE CARE SO MUCH WHEN HIS DUPES DIE?
BECAUSE IT HURTS LIKE HELL...AND HE'S SOFT.

WOLF TRACKS. THEY CROSSED THIS WAY RECENTLY.

IT'S A SMALL GROUP. DISPATCH 'EM FAST BEFORE AN ALPHA SHOWS UP WIT' THE WHOLE PACK.

TOO LATE, LITTLE CUB.

E 105 ST
YOUR ALPHA WOLF IS HERE.
SABRETOOTH IS MINE!
LET'S DO THIS, GIRLY!

X-MEN! FALL BACK!
WOLFSBANE! WE HAVE TO GO!
NO! WE CAN TAKE HIM!
ROBERTO, DON'T!
WE CAN'T LEAVE HER!
THEN WE'LL ALL DIE!

C'MON, HOPE! FEELS LIKE A GOOD DAY TO GET KILLED, DON'T IT? DON'T BE SO SCARED.
I'M NOT AFRAID OF DYING...

I'M AFRAID OF DYING FOR NO REASON.

MIND IF WE STEP IN?

WE AIN'T DONE HERE, X-MEN. YOU'RE RUNNING OUT OF PLACES TO HIDE. THE WHOLE CITY IS OURS. AND NEXT TIME WE MEET, YOU AIN'T GONNA BE SO LUCKY.

GET YOUR *GAME OF THRONES*-COSPLAYING BUTTS BACK HERE!
ALEX! LET THEM GO. WE HAD LUCK AND THE ELEMENT OF SURPRISE ON OUR SIDE. I DON'T WISH TO SEE WHAT HAPPENS WHEN WE LOSE BOTH.

IS THAT...*SEAN?* SHOULDN'T HE COME BACK TOO?
BANSHEE KIND OF DOES HIS OWN THING THESE DAYS. BUT HE ALWAYS COMES BACK. I THINK BECAUSE WE FEED HIM.

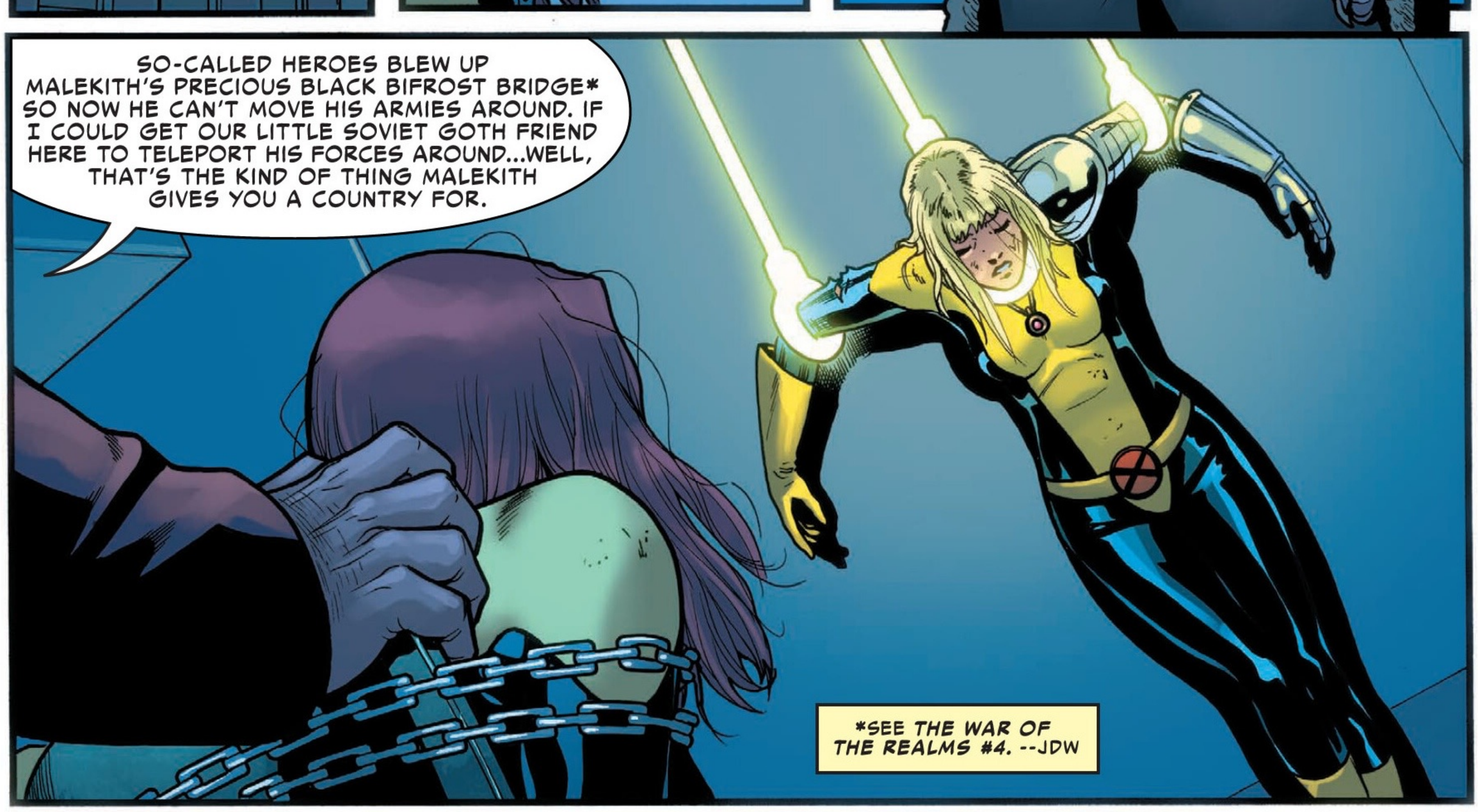
ROBERTO! WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
I WAS IN JERSEY WHEN THE CITY WAS ATTACKED. I MADE MY WAY IN BUT MISSED THE BATTLE. BEEN WITH THESE FOOLS EVER SINCE.
I'M GLAD TO SEE YOU.
ME TOO, SHAN. ME TOO.

NICE TO SEE YOU AGAIN, DANI. AND I'M SORRY ABOUT THE VALKYRIES.
THEIR LOSS WON'T BE IN VAIN.
LET ME GUESS...YOU'RE THE SAFE HAVEN IN QUEENS WE'VE BEEN HEARING ABOUT?
WE ARE.

I WASN'T SURE IT WAS TRUE, BUT I SHOULD HAVE GUESSED. WHERE'S EVERYONE ELSE? WHERE'S 'YANA?
SHE ISN'T WITH YOU?
NO, IT'S JUST THE FIVE OF US.
FIVE? *UMM,* ROBERTO...

"WHERE'S RAHNE?"

STARK UNLIMITED, MANHATTAN. HOURS LATER.



US. YOU, ME...AND OUR SON. DEATH IS NOT SO CRUEL AS TO KEEP A MOTHER FROM HER SON FOREVER.

HELLO, MOTHER.

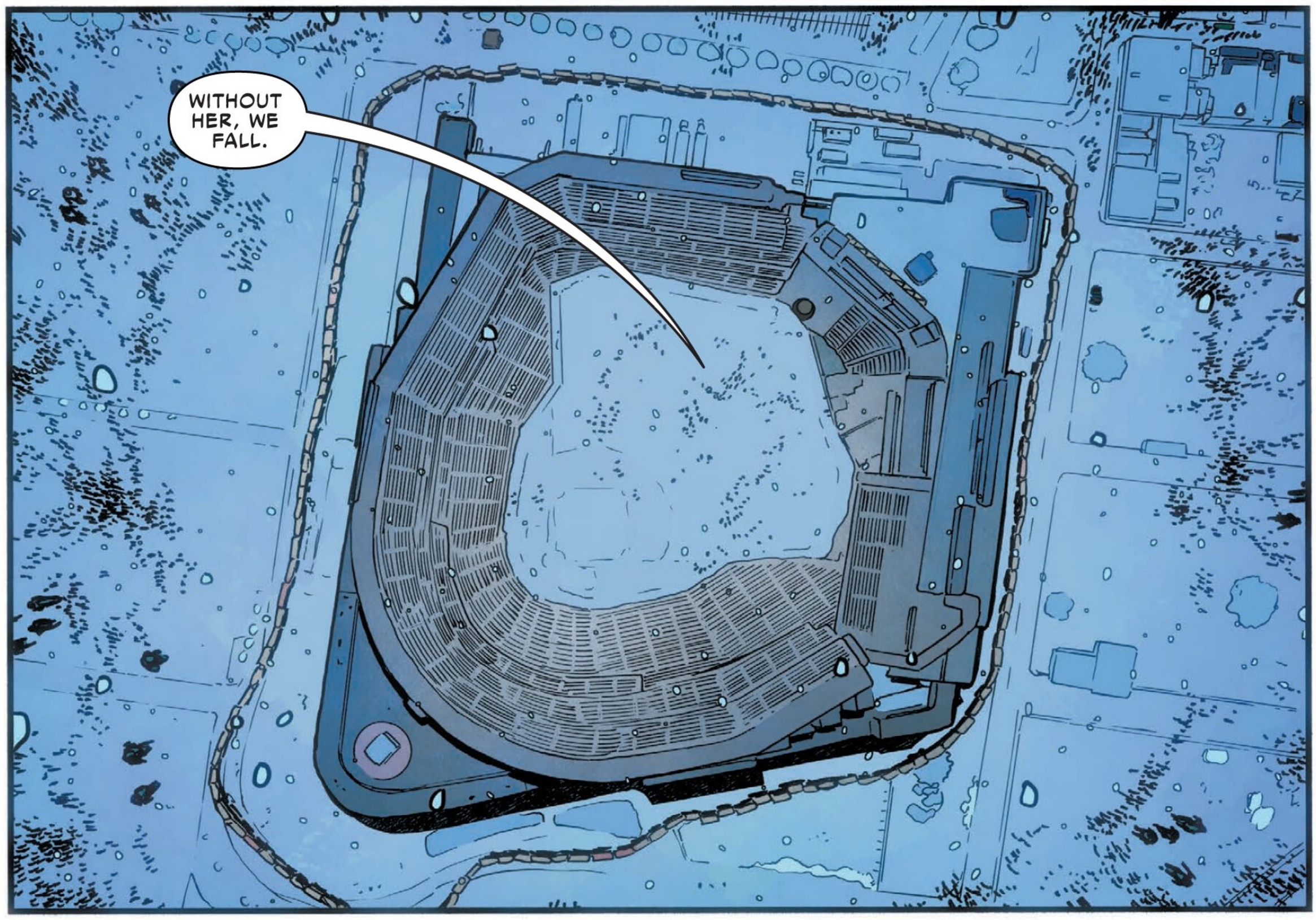
TIER?!

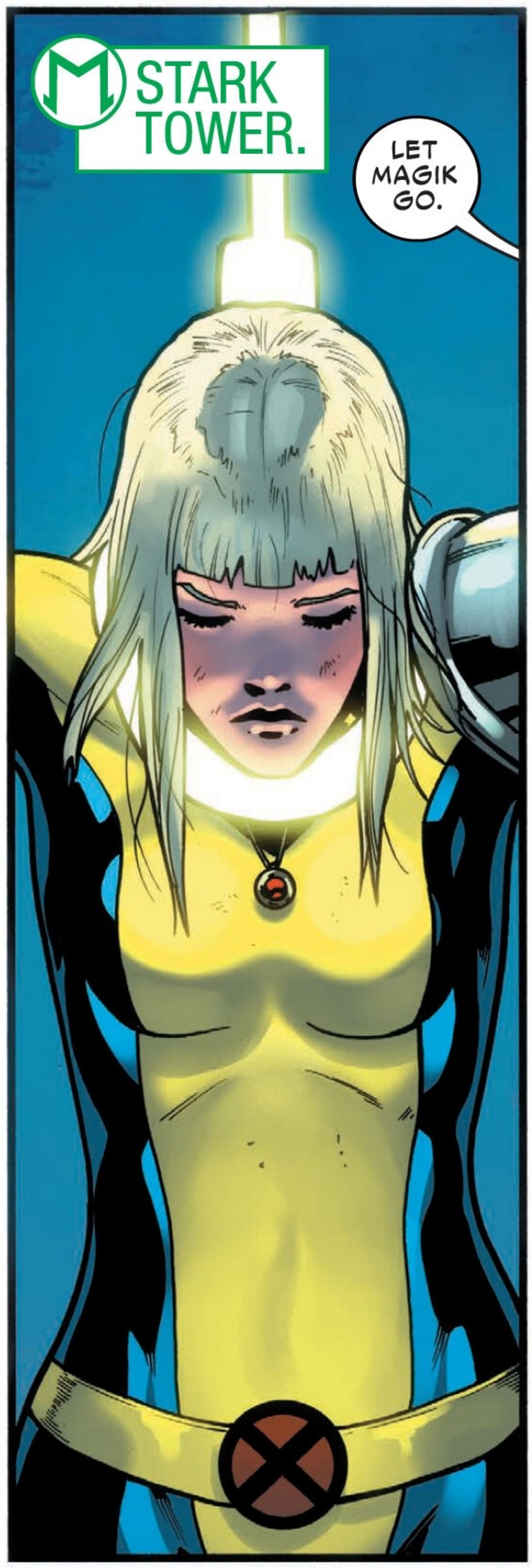
WAR OF THE REALMS:

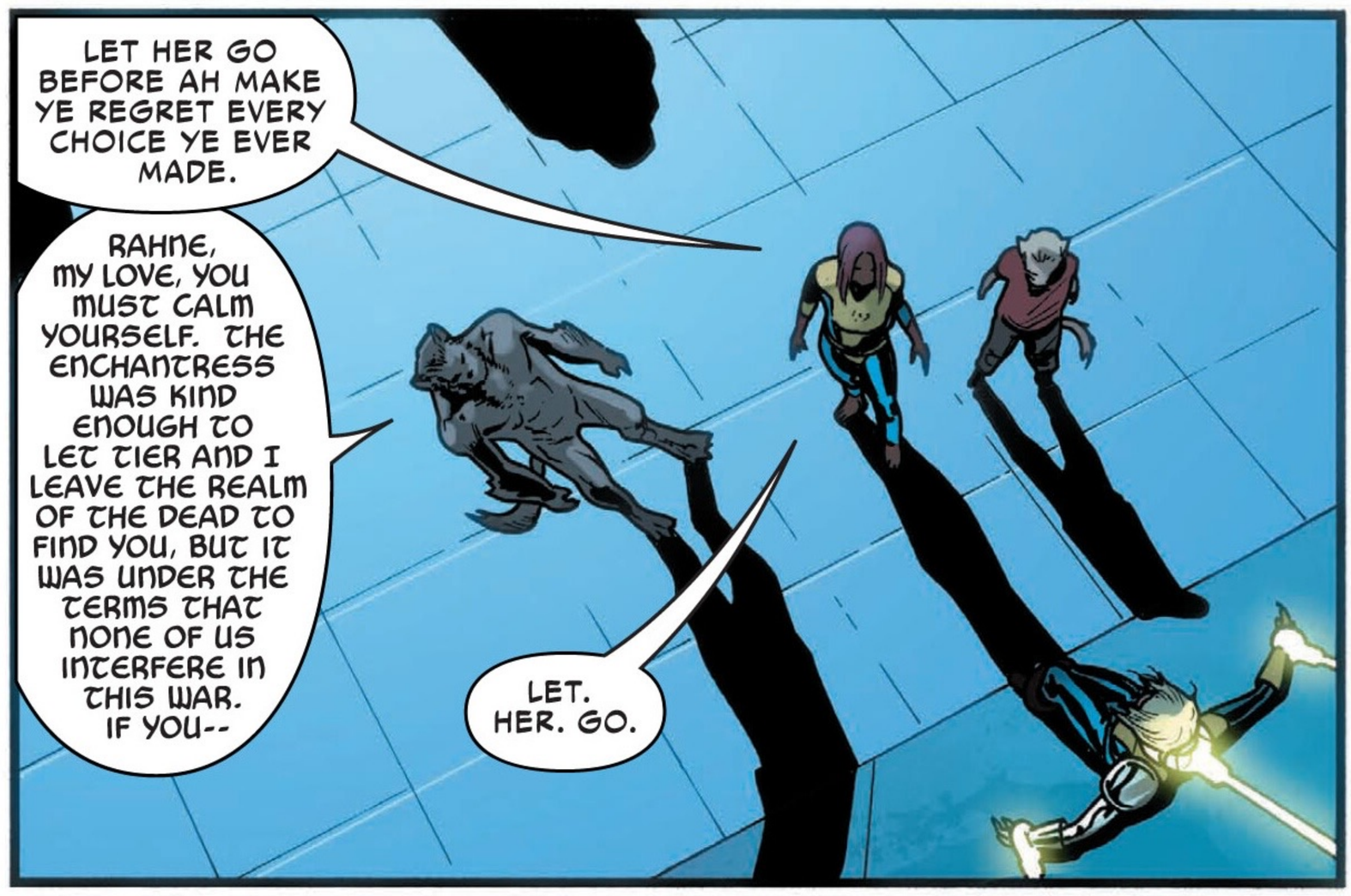
Uncanny X-Men #3

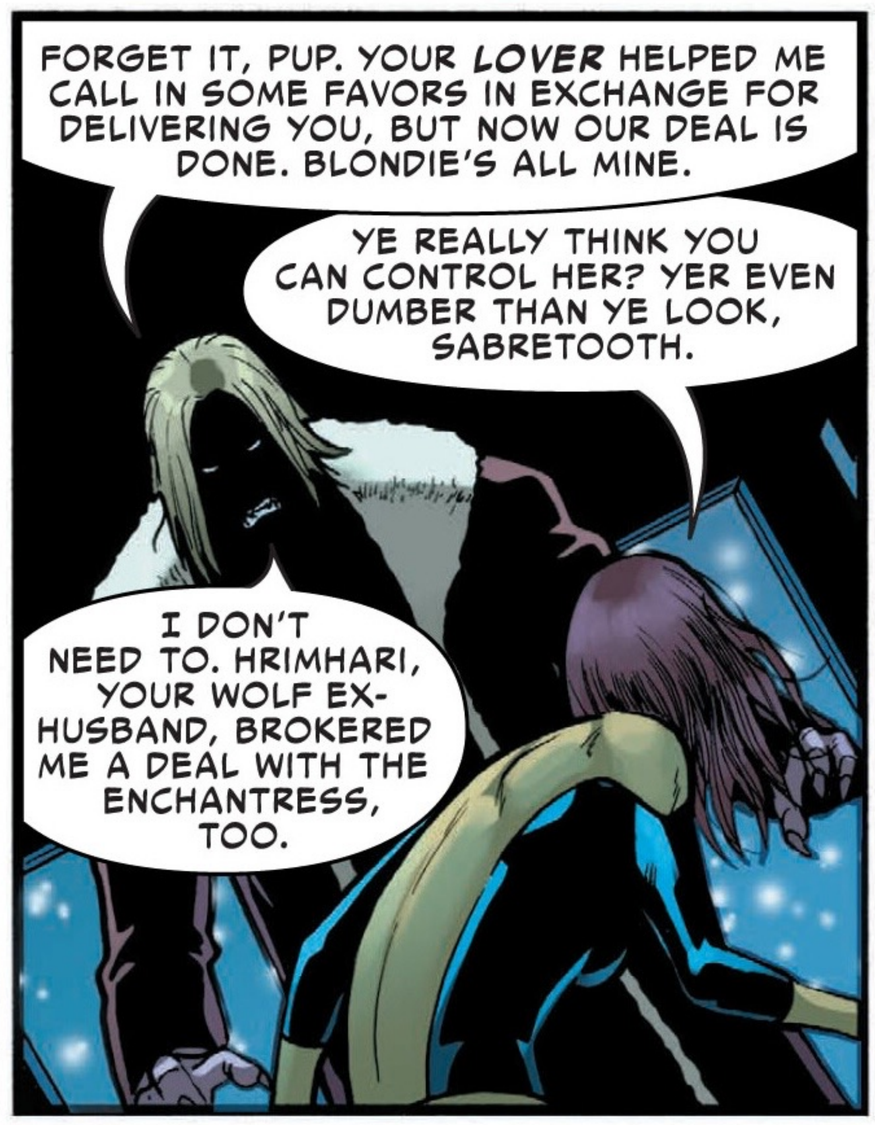
FORT SYNDERGAARD.
FLUSHING, QUEENS.
GLAD YOU ALL MADE IT. IT'S BEEN--
--ROBERTO?
HEY THERE, SCOTT! NICE TO SEE YOU BACK. I RAN INTO THESE FOLKS OUT THERE AND THEY SAID YOU COULD USE A HAND.

WE CAN USE ANY HELP WE CAN GET. IT'S GETTING BAD HERE.
IT'S BAD EVERYWHERE.
I KNOW YOU LOST RAHNE ON THIS MISSION, BUT I HAVE TO ASK. STILL NO SIGN OF ILLYANA? WE NEED HER.
WE'RE STILL LOOKING, BUT NO SIGN OF HER YET. HOW DIRE IS IT?
HOME RUN
407

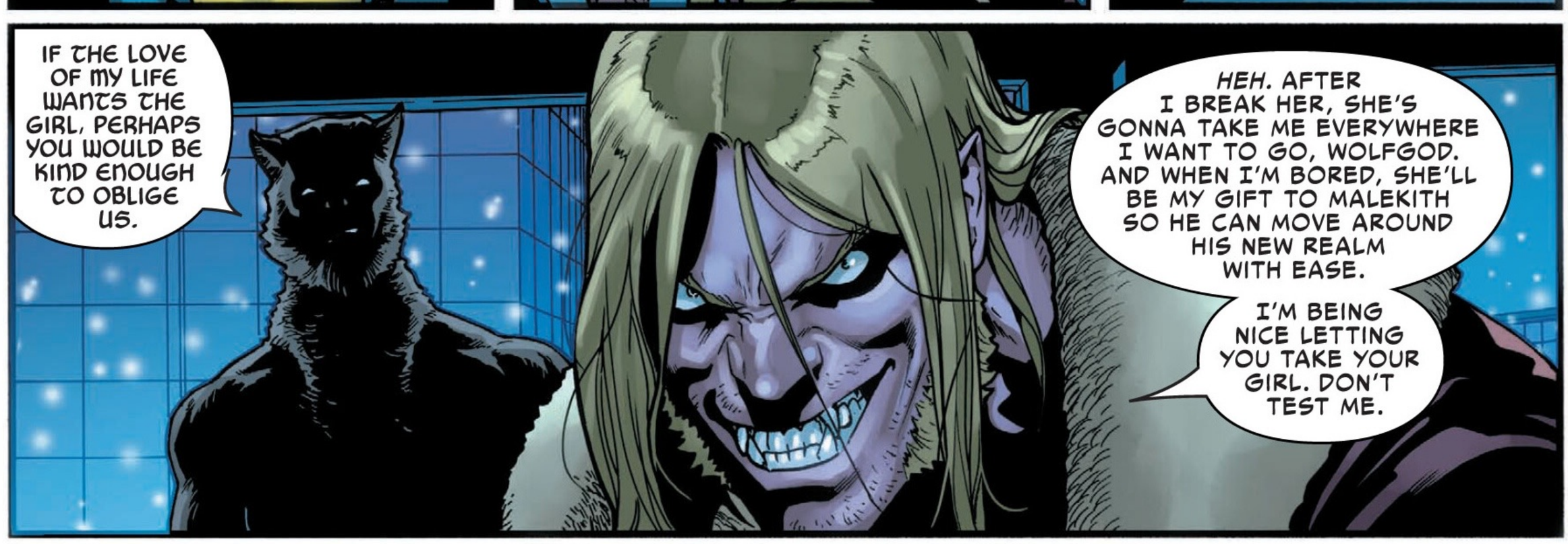

WITHOUT HER, WE FALL.


STARK TOWER.
LET MAGIK GO.


LET HER GO BEFORE AH MAKE YE REGRET EVERY CHOICE YE EVER MADE.
RAHNE, MY LOVE, YOU MUST CALM YOURSELF. THE ENCHANTRESS WAS KIND ENOUGH TO LET TIER AND I LEAVE THE REALM OF THE DEAD TO FIND YOU, BUT IT WAS UNDER THE TERMS THAT NONE OF US INTERFERE IN THIS WAR. IF YOU--
LET. HER. GO.


FORGET IT, PUP. YOUR LOVER HELPED ME CALL IN SOME FAVORS IN EXCHANGE FOR DELIVERING YOU, BUT NOW OUR DEAL IS DONE. BLONDIE'S ALL MINE.
YE REALLY THINK YOU CAN CONTROL HER? YER EVEN DUMBER THAN YE LOOK, SABRETOOTH.
I DON'T NEED TO. HRIMHARI, YOUR WOLF EX-HUSBAND, BROKERED ME A DEAL WITH THE ENCHANTRESS, TOO.

THIS LITTLE BEAUTY MEANS THE ONLY SPELLS YOUR STUPID WITCH FRIEND IS USING ARE THE ONES I TELL HER TO.


IF THE LOVE OF MY LIFE WANTS THE GIRL, PERHAPS YOU WOULD BE KIND ENOUGH TO OBLIGE US.
HEH. AFTER I BREAK HER, SHE'S GONNA TAKE ME EVERYWHERE I WANT TO GO, WOLFGOD. AND WHEN I'M BORED, SHE'LL BE MY GIFT TO MALEKITH SO HE CAN MOVE AROUND HIS NEW REALM WITH EASE.
I'M BEING NICE LETTING YOU TAKE YOUR GIRL. DON'T TEST ME.

RRAAAH!

OF COURSE I COULD JUST SETTLE OUR DEBT RIGHT NOW IF YOU WANTED, PUP.
OOOF!
ENOUGH!
IF YOU WISH TO TEST YOURSELF AGAINST A GOD, YOU'RE MORE THAN WELCOME, VICTOR. I THINK YOU'LL FIND YOURSELF WANTING.
YOU ALREADY DIED ONCE. YOU'LL FIND I'M PRETTY HARD TO KILL.
SO I'VE HEARD.
IF MY LOVE WANTS THE WITCH, WE'RE TAKING HER.
OVER... ...ACK...MY... DEAD... BODY...
SMASH
NO. JUST YOUR MANGLED ONE.

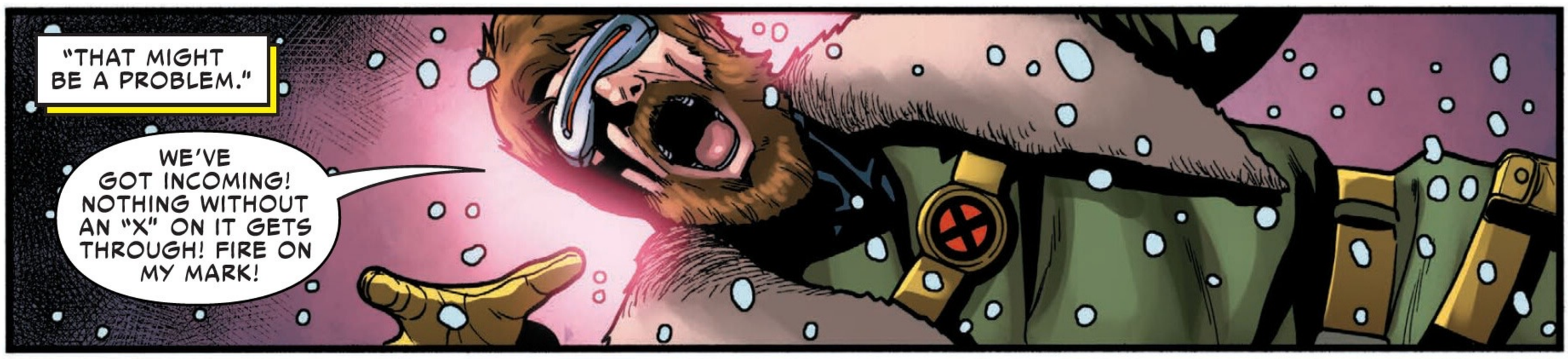
MANHATTAN.
SEVERAL HOURS LATER.
IS IT HIM?
IT WAS HIM. AND HE WAS INJURED, BUT THAT WON'T LAST LONG. SABRETOOTH IS ON THE MOVE BUT NO SIGN OF RAHNE OR ILLYANA.
MAYBE WE SHOULD ASK HIM IN PERSON.
WE MIGHT GET MORE ANSWERS GOING BACKWARD. SEEING WHERE HE WAS INSTEAD OF WHERE HE'S GOING?
WHATEVER WE'RE DOING, WE NEED TO DO IT NOW. THEY'RE CLOSING IN.
YOU'RE RIGHT, HOPE. LET'S MOVE, PEOPLE. WE'LL FOLLOW THIS TRAIL UP MADISON AND SEE WHAT HE WAS DOING.

TOO LATE! WE'RE CUT OFF.
DRAW THEM IN AND THEN WE PICK THEIR WEAKEST SIDE AND FOCUS THERE. CUT THROUGH THEIR RANKS AND RUN FOR COVER. ON MY SIGNAL...

SNIFF
SNIFF
DID I MISS SOMETHING? WHAT THE HECK JUST HAPPENED?

THAT WAS PROBABLY US. WOLVES GET UNEASY WHEN ONE OF THEIR GODS SHOWS UP.

RESCUING US FROM OUR RESCUE. TYPICAL 'YANA.
YOU TOOK TOO LONG, ROBERTO.
WELL, YOU GET TO SHOW OFF AGAIN NOW AND TELEPORT US TO QUEENS.


"THAT MIGHT BE A PROBLEM."
WE'VE GOT INCOMING! NOTHING WITHOUT AN "X" ON IT GETS THROUGH! FIRE ON MY MARK!

FIRE!

WELCOME BACK.
WE WERE GETTING WORRIED.

THE FROST GIANTS ARE GATHERING. BUT I SEE YOU FOUND OUR PEOPLE.
THEY SORT OF FOUND US.
AND YOU PICKED UP A COUPLE NEW REFUGEES, I SEE.

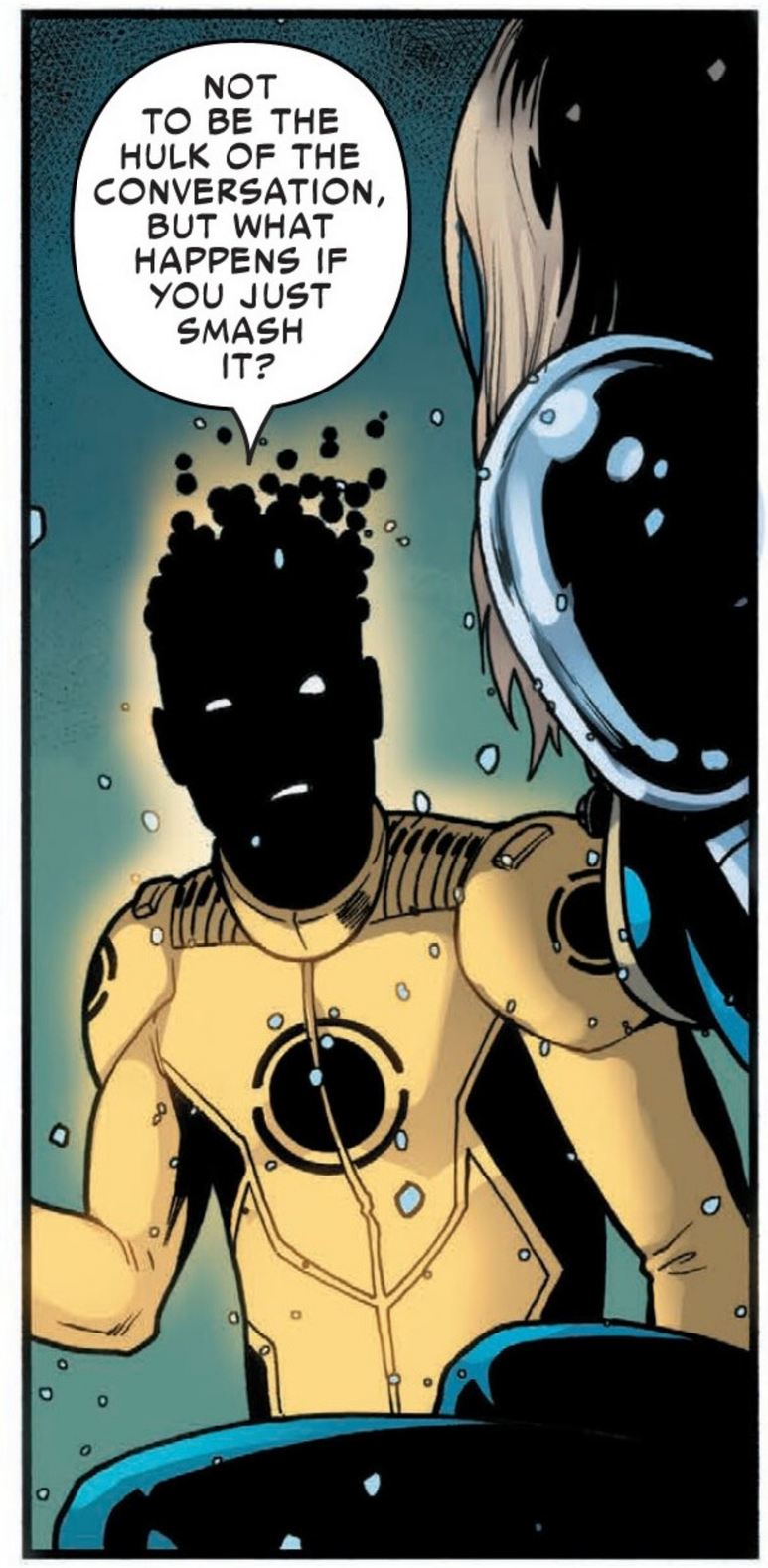
SCOTT, THIS IS...MAH FAMILY. HRIMHARI AND MAH SON, TIER.
OF COURSE. WE'RE HONORED TO HAVE YOU. WHAT'S OURS IS YOURS.
THANK YOU, CYCLOPS.

I'M NOT GOING TO LIE AND SAY THAT WE COULDN'T USE YOU IN THIS FIGHT.
THAT WON'T BE POSSIBLE. I HAVE GIVEN MY WORD TO THE ENCHANTRESS THAT MY PACK WILL NOT BE CHOOSING SIDES IN THIS WAR AND I HAVE PUT THAT TO THE TEST TO GET HERE.
WE ARE HERE SIMPLY TO MAKE SURE ILLYANA ARRIVED SAFELY AND FOR RAHNE TO SAY HER FAREWELLS.
COME SUNUP WE WILL BE GONE.

HOURS LATER.
SO YOU'VE JUST BEEN COLLECTING PEOPLE HERE?

THIS IS HUMANITY'S LAST STRONGHOLD IN NEW YORK. WE'VE BEEN ABLE TO HOLD OFF THEIR ADVANCES, BUT EVERY DAY THE FROST GIANTS GET A LITTLE BRAVER. IT'S JUST A MATTER OF TIME NOW. WE TOLD ALL THESE PEOPLE TO COME HERE BECAUSE WE KNEW WE COULD DEFEND IT...FOR A WHILE.
WHAT WAS THE PLAN AFTER THEY ALL GOT HERE?
YOU WERE.

WE WANTED TO BRING THEM TO SAFETY, BUT NONE OF US KNOW WHERE THAT IS ANYMORE. WE HOPED WHEN WE FOUND YOU, YOU COULD GET US THERE.
I'M AFRAID THAT WHATEVER SPELL OR CURSE THIS ROCK PUT ON ME MEANS I'M COMPLETELY CUT OFF FROM MY POWERS. I'M JUST ANOTHER SOLDIER WITH A SWORD.
WE COULD ALWAYS USE MORE OF THOSE TOO.


NOT TO BE THE HULK OF THE CONVERSATION, BUT WHAT HAPPENS IF YOU JUST SMASH IT?

WHILE IT MAY BE POSSIBLE TO SMASH IT, AS YOU SAID, KNOWING HER I CAN GUARANTEE THE ENCHANTRESS GAVE THE GEM A WAY TO DEFEND ITSELF. IT WOULD BE VERY DANGEROUS FOR YOU TO TRY.
OH YEAH? THEN MAYBE THE WOLF GOD WHO PUT THIS CURSE ON MY FRIEND WANTS TO GIVE IT A GO?
I AM SORRY FOR MY ROLE IN THIS. I HAVE TOLD ILLYANA AS MUCH.
BUT THE DEALS I MADE WERE THE ONLY WAY I COULD BE REUNITED WITH MY TRUE LOVE. IF THINGS COULD HAVE BEEN ANOTHER--

QUIET!

THEY'RE COMING!

X-MEN! MAN YOUR BATTLE STATIONS!
STEADY! HOLD YOUR GROUND!
C'MON, YE BLOODY TOSSERS!

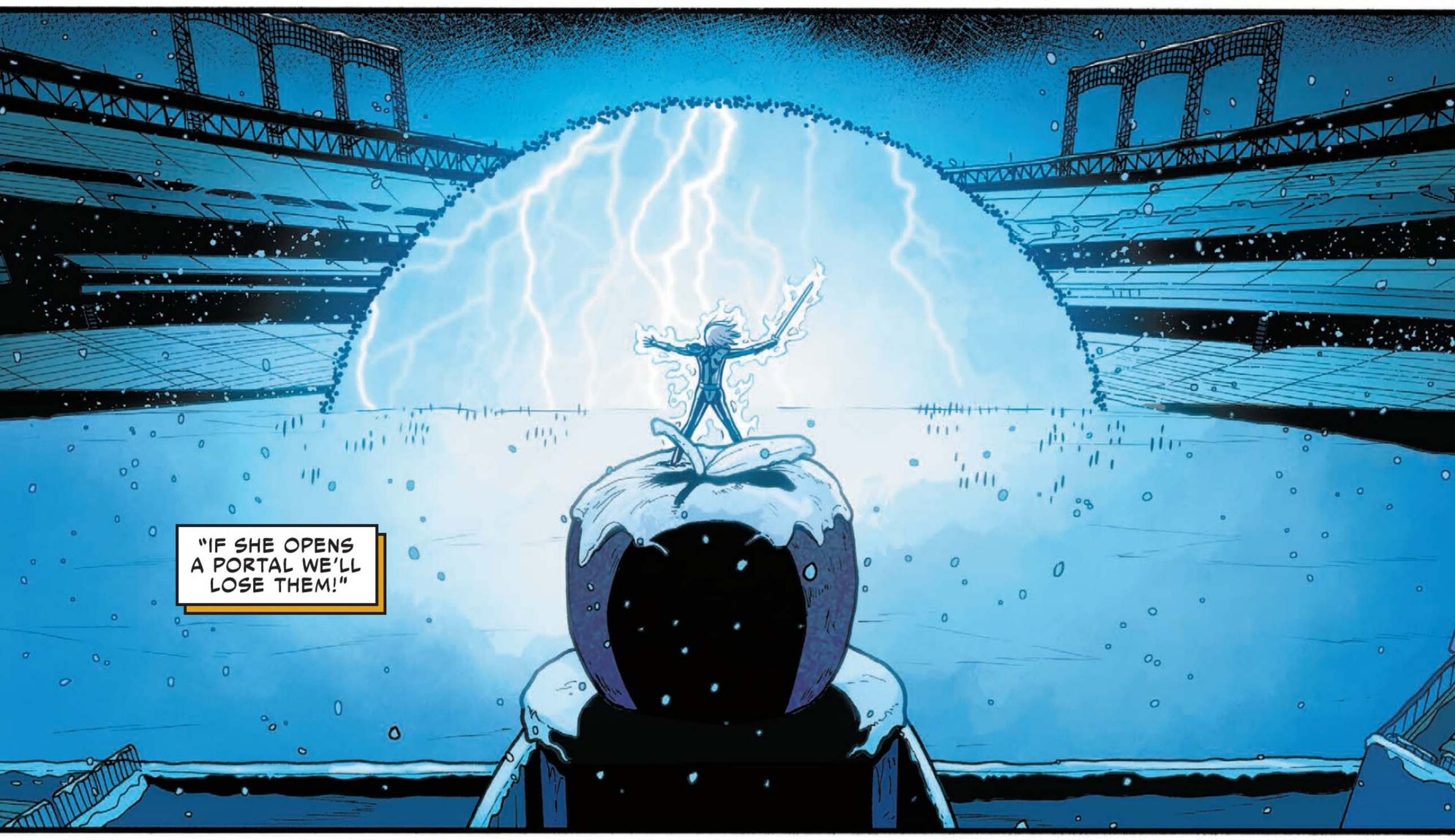
GIVE 'EM HELL, X-MEN!

LOOK OUT!
SMASH
THEY'VE BREACHED THE WALL! GET ALL CIVILIANS INSIDE THE STADIUM! FALL BACK!
RAHNE, NO. I SWORE TO THE ENCHANTRESS THAT IF WE WERE REUNITED YOU WOULDN'T DO THIS.
PEOPLE ARE DYIN'!
YOUR FRIENDS WILL HAVE TO SAVE THEM. BUT IF YOU DO THIS, SHE WILL TEAR US APART.

NOBODY SURVIVES! NEW YORK FALLS TONIGHT!
NOBODY GETS THROUGH US, OKAY?
GOT IT!
MAGIK, THEY'RE ALL GOING TO DIE! WE NEED TO GET THEM OUT OF HERE!
THERE'S NOWHERE TO GO. WE'RE SURROUNDED...
WE'LL SEE!
ROBERTO, DON'T--
SAVE THEM, ILLYANA.
HUH. THAT WASN'T SO BAD AFTER ALL--

WHAKATHOOM

KILL THEM ALL, BUT THE BLOND GIRL IS MINE!


"IF SHE OPENS A PORTAL WE'LL LOSE THEM!"

THE LAST OF THE CIVILIANS ARE THROUGH! X-MEN, GET INSIDE! WE'RE LEAVING!

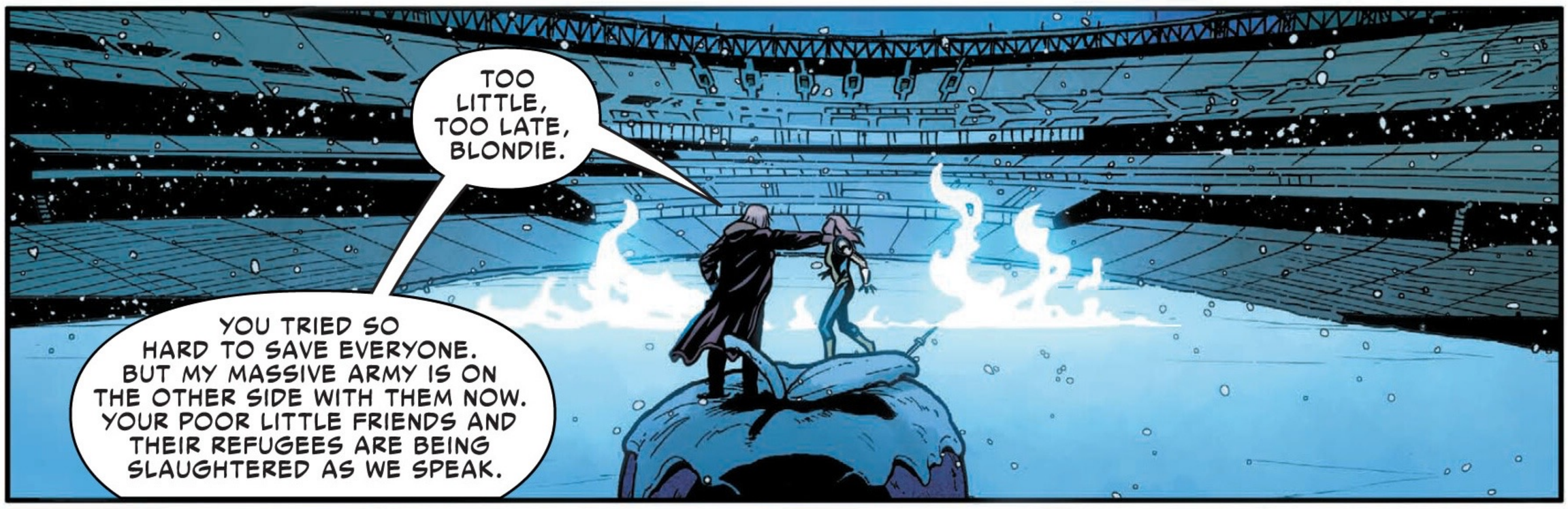
DON'T YOU DARE CLOSE THAT PORTAL, BLONDIE! MALEKITH'S ARMY ISN'T DONE WITH YOU X-MEN OR YOUR LITTLE REFUGEES.

THEY'RE COMING! MAGIK, CLOSE THE PORTAL! NOW!

EVERYONE IN! NO HUMAN SHALL ESCAPE MALEKITH'S WRATH!

WAIT! WHERE DID THE HUMANS ALL GO?
SO... HOT. WHERE ARE WE?

SORRY. IT'S JUST US DUPES HERE. SHOULD HAVE PAID CLOSER ATTENTION TO WHO YOU WERE CHASING.
GOOD NEWS IS YOU JUST GOT A FREE TRIP TO LIMBO. BAD NEWS--IT'S ONE WAY.
WELCOME TO HELL, YOU DUMB--


TOO LITTLE, TOO LATE, BLONDIE.
YOU TRIED SO HARD TO SAVE EVERYONE. BUT MY MASSIVE ARMY IS ON THE OTHER SIDE WITH THEM NOW. YOUR POOR LITTLE FRIENDS AND THEIR REFUGEES ARE BEING SLAUGHTERED AS WE SPEAK.

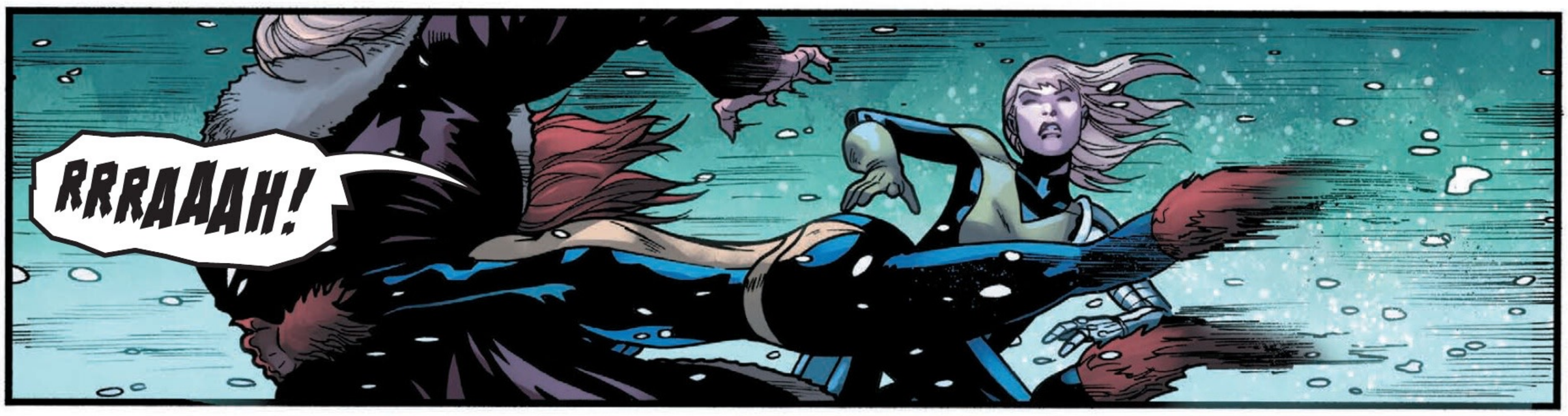
AND YOU'RE MINE NOW. WITH YOU UNDER MY... WHY THE HELL ARE YOU SMILING?
LOOK AGAIN.

WHAT THE--
YOU HAD SUCH A *MASSIVE* ARMY COMING AFTER ALL THESE *SAD* PEOPLE. TOO MANY SOLDIERS FOR *POOR LITTLE* KARMA AND MIRAGE TO CREATE AN ILLUSION THEY'D ALL BELIEVE.
BUT THEY *CAN* MAKE EVERYONE OVERLOOK A COUPLE HUNDRED PEOPLE STANDING IN PLAIN SIGHT.

THROW IN A GLOWING PORTAL TO LIMBO, A FEW DUPES IN BORROWED CLOTHING AND A GENERAL STUPID ENOUGH TO SEND HIS TROOPS CHARGING BLINDLY INTO THE UNKNOWN AND... TA-DA!
CONGRATULATIONS, SABRETOOTH. HOW DO YOU THINK MALEKITH WILL REWARD YOU FOR LOSING HIS ARMY?

I STILL HAVE MORE THAN ENOUGH WOLVES TO DEAL WITH YOUR FRIENDS.

YOU MAY HAVE JUST GOTTEN ME KILLED, GIRL, BUT YOU'LL DIE FIRST!


RRRAAAH!

RAHNE, MY LOVE, NO! I SWORE TO HELA!
THIS IS NOT OUR FIGHT!
MOTHER!

SHOULD HAVE LEFT WITH HIM WHEN YOU HAD THE CHANCE. YOUR FRIENDS WILL DIE ANYWAY, BUT NOW YOUR FAMILY HAS TO WATCH ME KILL YOU BEFORE THEY GO BACK TO HEL ALONE.

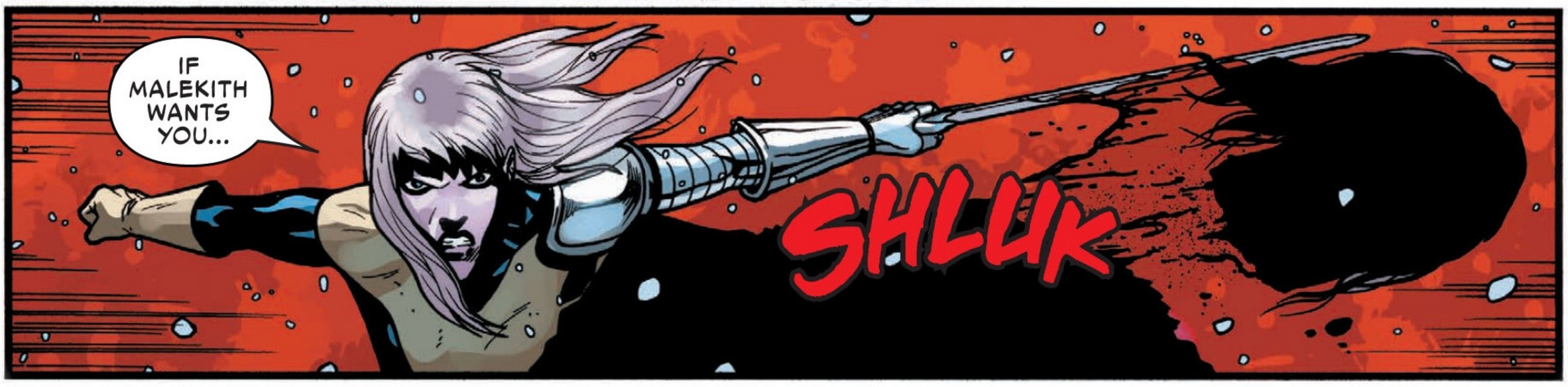
ARRRGH!

PTOO!

AH AM NOW THE ALPHA WOLF! AH COMMAND YE TO STOP!

GOOD BOYS.

MAGIK, WAIT--


IF MALEKITH WANTS YOU...
SHLUK

...HE CAN COME ASK ME WHERE I SENT YOUR HEAD.

HRIMHARI, I'M SORRY--
I MADE A DEAL TO MOVE HEVEN AND MIDGARD TO BRING MY RAHNE DROP AND MY TIER DROP TOGETHER. BUT YOU MADE YOUR CHOICE, SWEET RAHNE.
WE STILL CAN BE TOGETHER.
WE CANNOT. TIER AND I MUST RETURN TO THE REALM OF THE DEAD NOW. A PROMISE MADE TO THE ENCHANTRESS IS NOT SOMETHING TO GO BACK ON.

HRIMHARI! PLEASE!
MOTHER!
I HOPE WE CAN MEET AGAIN IN YOUR NEXT LIFE, MY LOVE.

DAYS LATER.
MANHATTAN.
SHE'S STILL OUT THERE? WE HAVE TO GO. NOW.
AH CANNAE MAKE HER LEAVE THEM. AH THINK SHE'S CRACKIN' UP.
THE WAR'S OVER, RAHNE. OUR SIDE WON. THAT'S GOTTA COUNT FOR SOMETHING, RIGHT?
WE WON...AN' LOOKIT WOT WE GIT FER IT. ROBERTO'S GONE. NOTHIN'S CHANGED FER US. WE'RE HIDIN'. BACK TA BEIN' FUGITIVES. AH DINNAE HOW MUCH MORE WINNIN' WE CAN TAKE.
DO YE EVER WONDER WHY WE DO THIS ALL, SHAN? WHY WE RISK OUR LIVES, WHY WE DIE, IF EVERYONE STILL HATES US WHEN IT'S OVER. WHY DO WE KEEP FIGHTIN' IF IT'S NEVER GONNA GET BETTER FOR US?
DON'T BE SILLY, RAHNE...
WE'VE NEVER BEEN FIGHTING FOR US.
IT'S TIME TO GO NOW, DANI.
I CAN'T LEAVE THEM.
THE AUTHORITIES WILL TAKE THEIR BODIES. BUT YOU CAN'T BE HERE WHEN THEY ARRIVE. YOU'VE DONE ALL YOU CAN NOW.
DO YOU EVEN UNDERSTAND WHAT HAPPENED?! I'M THE LAST OF THE VALKYRIES! IT'S MY JOB TO GET THEM TO VALHALLA. IT'S MY JOB TO TAKE THEM HOME.
BUT YOU CAN'T DO IT, CAN YOU? YOUR POWERS ARE FADING. I CAN TELL. YOU'RE LOSING YOUR CONNECTION.
MAYBE IF I FIND THOR... MAYBE HE CAN HELP ME. I CAN RETURN TO VALHALLA AND TAKE EVERYONE. I CAN STAY THERE AND REBUILD.
NO, SWEETHEART. YOU'RE NEEDED HERE.
I HAVE TO. I NEED TO BE WITH THEM. THEY ARE MY SISTERS...

...AND YOU'RE MY BROTHER.
I KNOW. I LOVE YOU, DANI. BUT YOU'VE ALREADY LOST ONE FAMILY.
DON'T LOSE ANOTHER.
WE'LL MEET AGAIN SOON. I KNOW IT. BUT FOR NOW, THIS WORLD STILL NEEDS THE X-MEN.

Venom #13

WE'RE NOT DYING OUT HERE.
I'VE GOTTA KEEP REMINDING MYSELF OF THAT.
WE'RE NOT DYING.
OF COURSE, SURVIVING'S NOT QUITE AS EASY AS IT ONCE WAS.
MY SYMBIOTE, MY OTHER, IS GONE.
ONCE UPON A TIME, I MIGHT HAVE FELT ISOLATED AND ALONE.
BUT I AIN'T ALONE ANYMORE.
EDDIE-- WHERE ARE WE GOING?
JUST KEEP COOL, DYLAN.
I'M TAKING YOU SOMEPLACE SAFE.
THE KID'S MINE...BUT HE DOESN'T KNOW THAT.
WITH THE SKY FALLING--FOR REAL--NO SENSE IN FURTHER RUINING HIS DAY.
FOR NOW, HE THINKS I'M HIS BIG BROTHER.
EITHER WAY, HE'S LOOKING TO ME TO SAVE HIS ASS.
GUESS THAT MEANS I'M BEHIND THE STEERING WHEEL.
THE EMERGENCY BRAKES ARE OUT.
MY LIFE'S BEEN BARRELING STRAIGHT INTO HELL FOR A WHILE NOW.

ABOUT TIME THE *REST* OF THE WORLD CAUGHT UP.

EDDIE--

KEEP IT *DOWN*, KID.

KREEEEE--?

THE NEWS SAID IT'S ASGARD--
--FREAKING ASGARD!--
--WAGING WAR AGAINST EARTH!
I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON, KID.
IT'S BAD, WHATEVER IT IS.
AND WE'VE GOT TO BURY OUR HEADS UNTIL IT BLOWS OVER.
I KNOW A PLACE NEAR HERE.
A FRIEND HAS A KIND OF SAFE HOUSE.
WE GET THERE, LOCK THE DOORS AND WAIT FOR THE--
YEEARRGGH!
LEAVE US ALONE!
PLEASE!
LISTEN TO THAT!
THERE'S NO SWEETER SOUND IN ALL THE REALMS!
MIDGARD DIES SCREAMING!
DYLAN--HIDE. KEEP YOUR HEAD DOWN.
I'M GONNA SEE IF I CAN HELP.
H-HELP?!
EDDIE, WHAT CAN YOU DO? YOU'RE NOT VENOM ANYMORE!
YEAH, BUT SYMBIOTE OR NOT--

"--I'M STILL TEN KINDS OF STUPID."

HEY!

LEAVE 'EM ALONE!

WHOEVER YOU ARE--CUT AND RUN.

THIS DOESN'T NEED TO GET MESSY.

YOU DON'T WANT THE KIND OF TROUBLE A GUY LIKE ME CAN--

WHHU--

LOOK, BROTHERS! A *HERO!*

OOOOOH! IS HE ONE OF THE MIGHTY *AVENGERS* WE'VE HEARD SO MUCH ABOUT?

SO FEARSOME! MAYBE WE SHOULD FLEE!

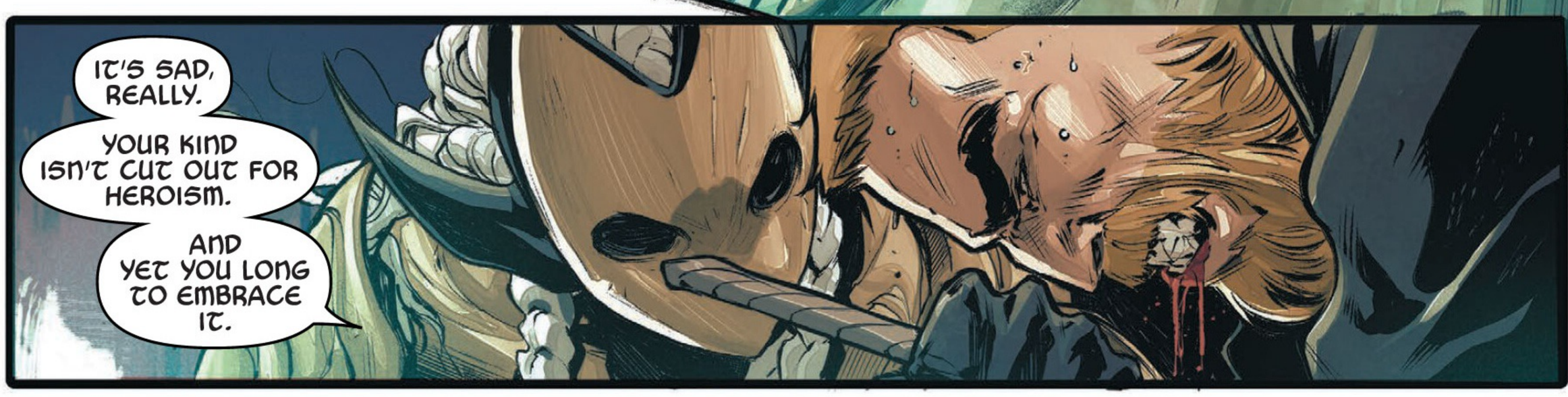
THREE AGAINST ONE?

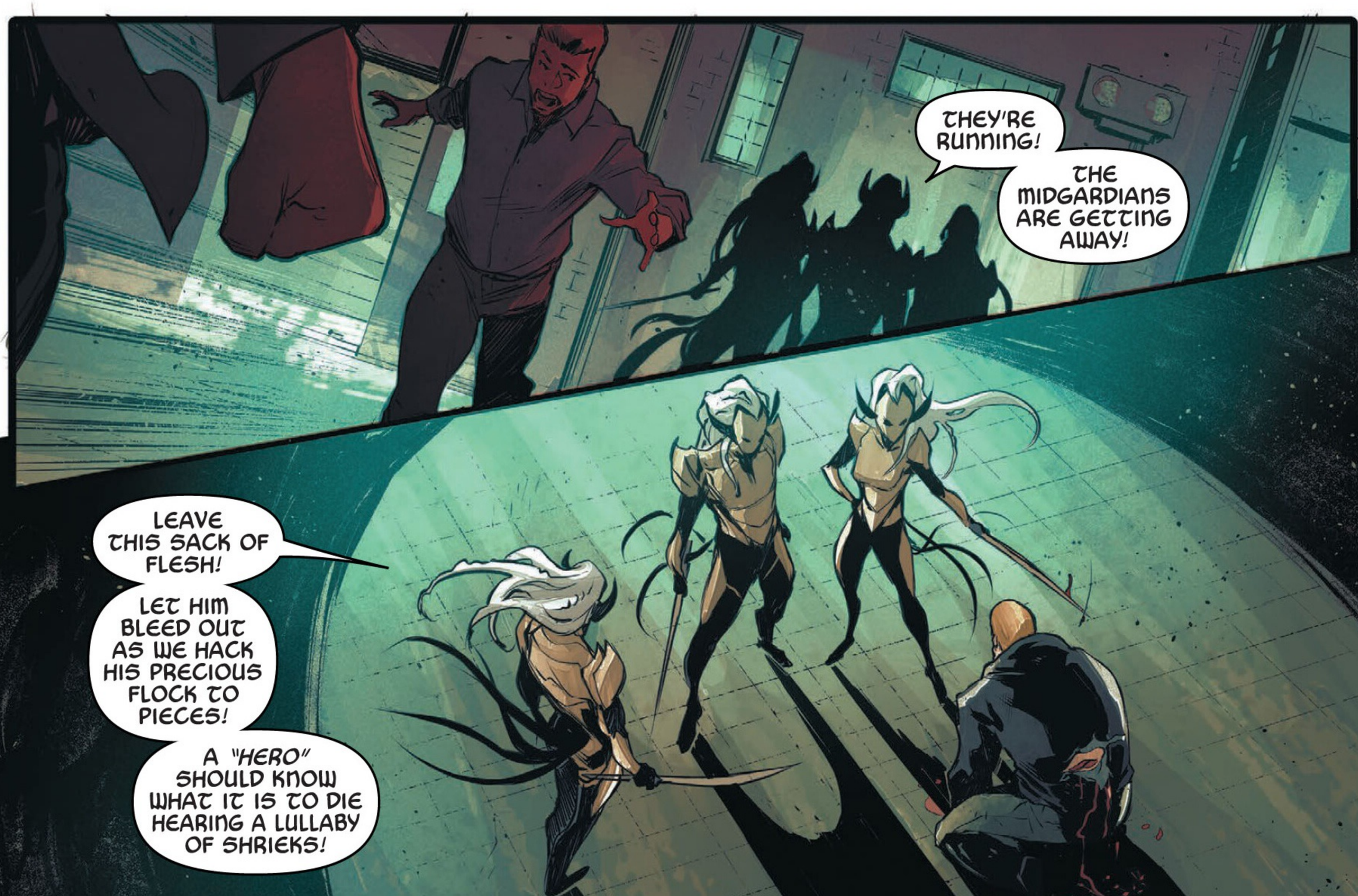
THAT'S A PUNK MOVE!

THOK

AGGGH!
THEREIN LIES THE PROBLEM, MAN OF MIDGARD.
SLLLLSH

HEROES DIE.
PAINFULLY.
PITIFULLY.
SHKKT
NGGGHH!


IT'S SAD, REALLY.
YOUR KIND ISN'T CUT OUT FOR HEROISM.
AND YET YOU LONG TO EMBRACE IT.


THEY'RE RUNNING!
THE MIDGARDIANS ARE GETTING AWAY!
LEAVE THIS SACK OF FLESH!
LET HIM BLEED OUT AS WE HACK HIS PRECIOUS FLOCK TO PIECES!
A "HERO" SHOULD KNOW WHAT IT IS TO DIE HEARING A LULLABY OF SHRIEKS!

I TOLD THE OTHERS.

I WARNED THEM THAT THERE MIGHT BE PREY HIDING IN THE SHADOWS.

THEY WOULD NOT LISTEN.

AND SO THEY'VE MISSED A SPOT OF FUN.

O-OKAY.

HEY.

YOU'VE GOT ME...

...I GIVE UP.

NEITHER DO I.
SCHNAP
Y-YOU KILLED HIM!
YOU JUST...BROKE HIS NECK!
HE DIDN'T GIVE ME...NNN... MUCH CHOICE.
YOU'RE HURT!
EDDIE, YOU'RE BLEEDING!
GOTTA GET TO REX'S SAFE HOUSE.*
*AS SEEN WAY BACK IN VENOM #1, TRUE BELIEVERS! --DEVIN STEVENSON OF MIDGARD
WE'RE NOT DYING OUT HERE.
AT LEAST... DYLAN ISN'T.
NOW THAT IS INTERESTING!
A WOULD-BE WARRIOR.
FULL OF PURPOSE. FULL OF RAGE.
BUT WITHOUT WEAPON AND ARMOR.
CAREFUL.
NOW IS NOT THE TIME FOR YOUR GAMES OF CORRUPTION.
NONSENSE, SISTERS.
AMONGST ALL THIS AWFULNESS...

"...THERE'S PLENTY OF TIME FOR A BIT OF SPORT."

THIS PLACE... DOESN'T LOOK LIKE MUCH TO ME.

GOT A FEW ***HIDDEN AMENITIES.***

USED T-TO BELONG TO A GUY NAMED REX STRICKLAND.

F-FRIEND OF MINE.

CH-CLICK

SHHHHHHH

HE KNEW HOW TO SURVIVE.

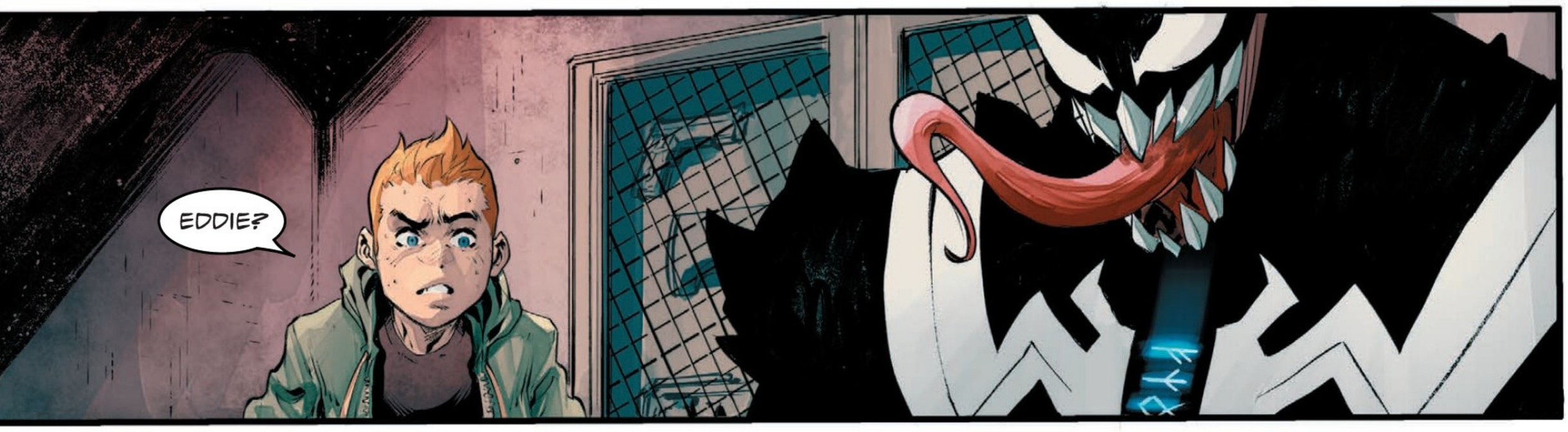
WHOA.

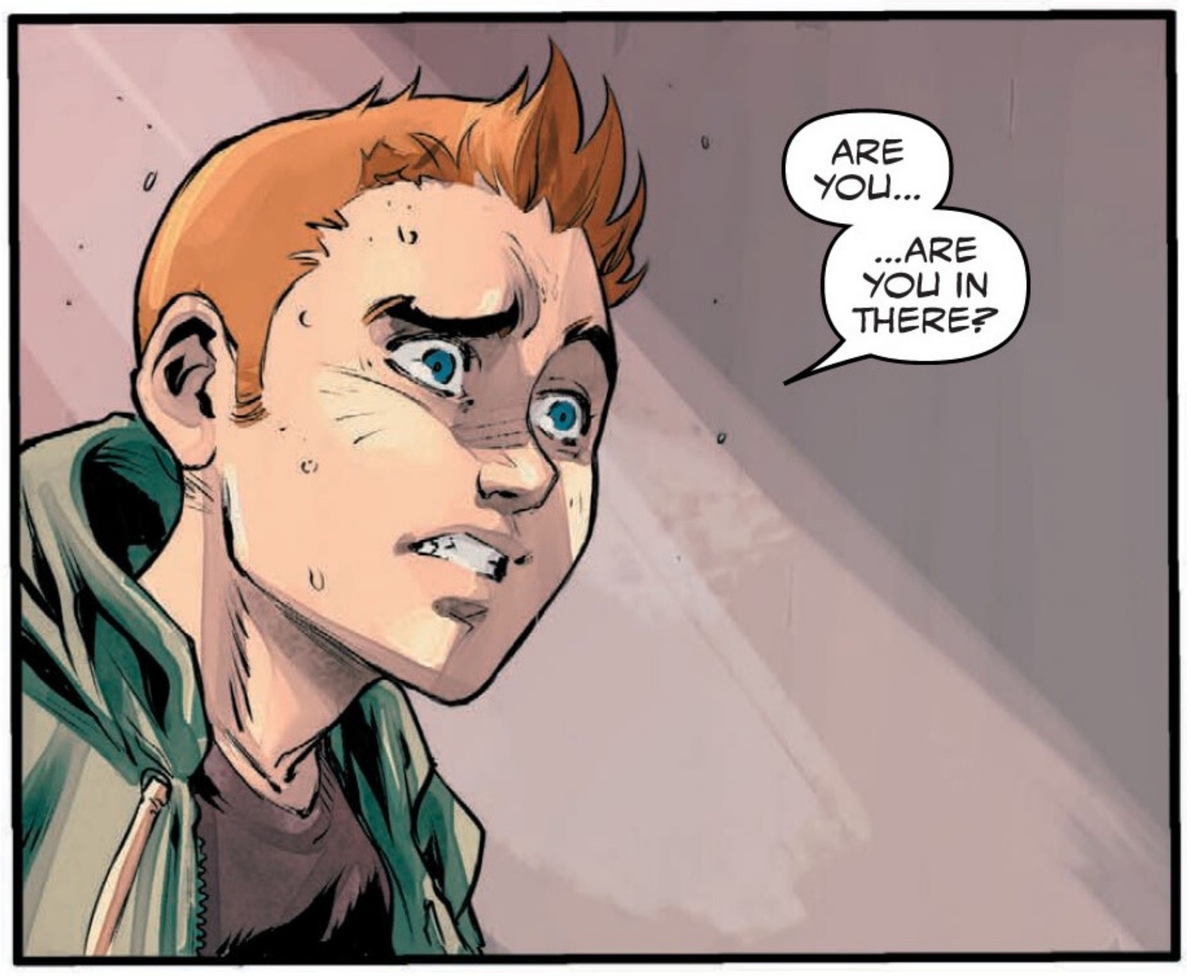
THAT'S A LOT OF GUNS.

YOU DON'T THINK EARTHLY WEAPONS WILL HELP YOU, DO YOU?
NO, NO.
YOU MUST KNOW YOUR SITUATION IS MUCH MORE DIRE THAN THAT.
WHO THE HELL--
AH!
A DEMONSTRATION, YES?
NYAA--
BESIDES-- IT'S NOT A FIREARM THAT YOU WANT, IS IT...EDDIE?

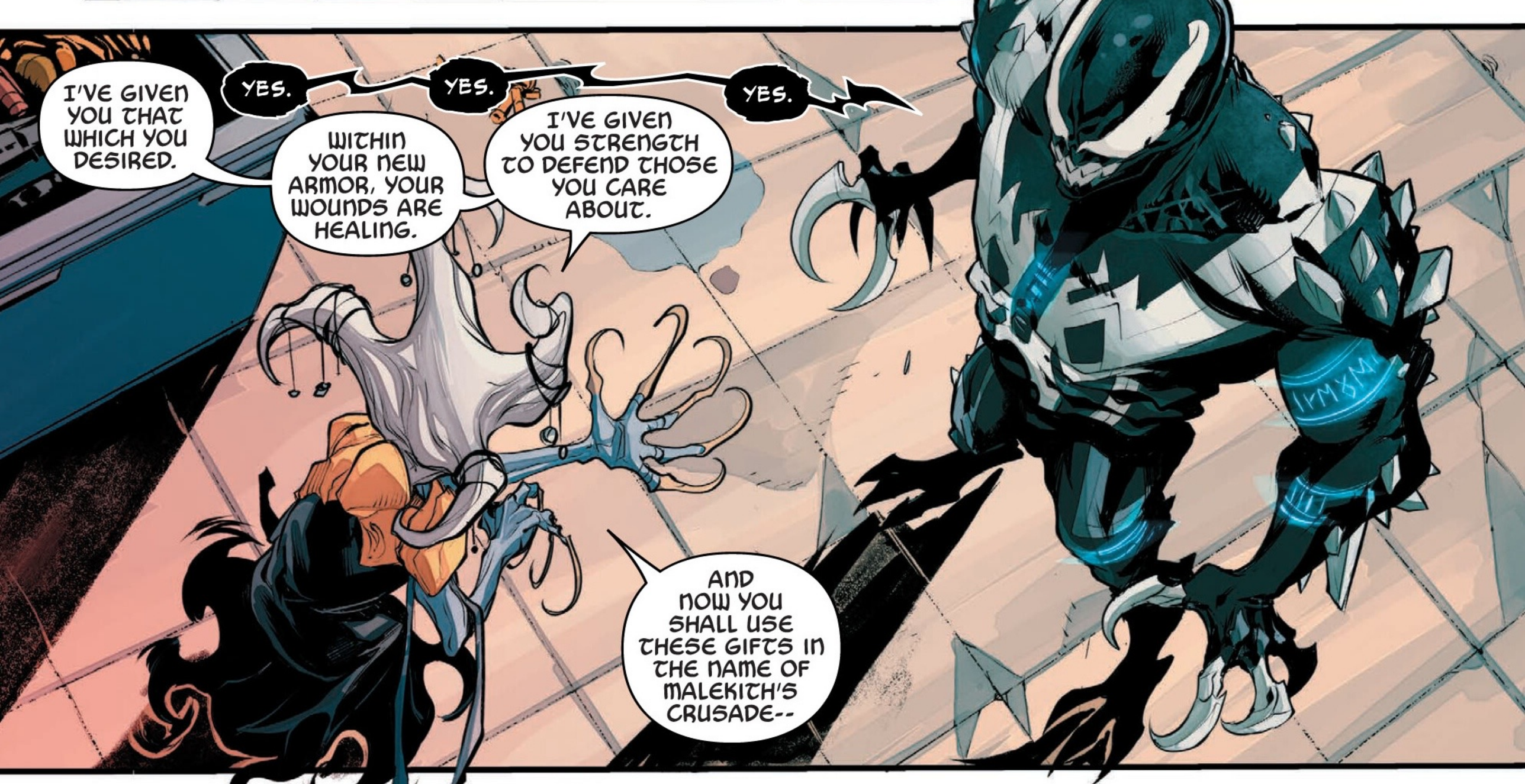
IT'S THIS.
A ROCK?
YOU ALL MAY KNOW MY NAME, BUT YOU DON'T KNOW ME.
...BECAUSE I'D RATHER HAVE A GUN.
NOT A ROCK, BUT A STONE.
A DREAMSTONE.
QUITE RARE AND HIGHLY PRIZED AMONG MY PEOPLE.
THEY ARE TREASURES...
...THEY ARE INSTRUMENTS OF DELIGHT...
...OR OF TORTURE...
THEY GIVE LIFE TO DREAMS... TO DESIRES...TO FEARS.
THIS ONE, OF COURSE, HAS BEEN ATTUNED TO A SPECIFIC PURPOSE.
WEAPONS.
W-WEAPONS?
EDDIE-- I DON'T TRUST THIS LADY.
I KNOW THE WEAPON YOU DESIRE.
TAKE THE STONE AND YOU SHALL HAVE IT.
I SHALL GIVE YOU A PURPOSE WITH WHICH TO WIELD IT.

WELL...
...THIS IS DIFFERENT...
...SAME...
...BUT DIFFERENT.


EDDIE?


ARE YOU...
...ARE YOU IN THERE?

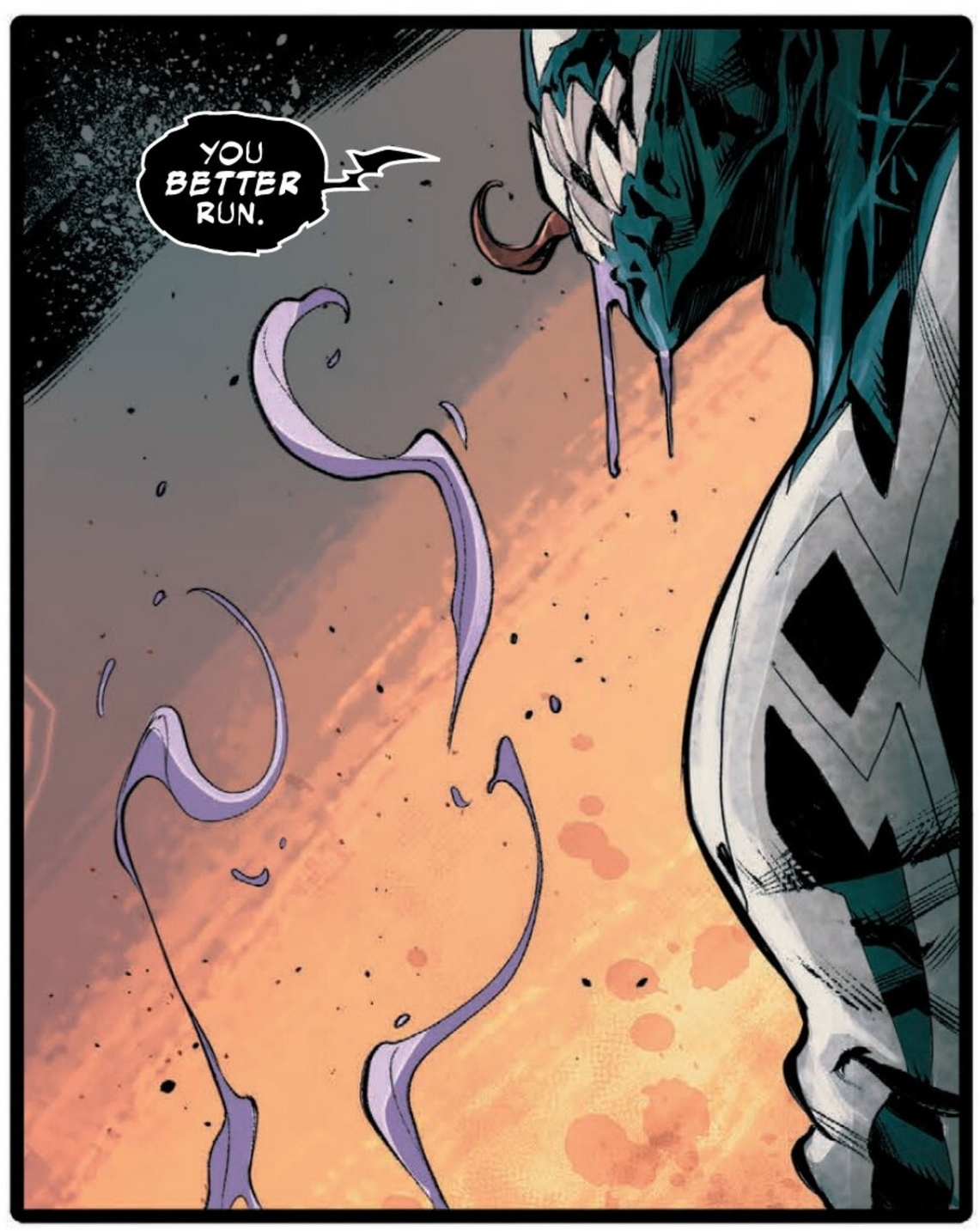
IT'S ME.
IT'S EDDIE.
I'M ALL RIGHT.
BETTER THAN ALL RIGHT.


I'VE GIVEN YOU THAT WHICH YOU DESIRED.
YES.
YES.
YES.
WITHIN YOUR NEW ARMOR, YOUR WOUNDS ARE HEALING.
I'VE GIVEN YOU STRENGTH TO DEFEND THOSE YOU CARE ABOUT.
AND NOW YOU SHALL USE THESE GIFTS IN THE NAME OF MALEKITH'S CRUSADE--

REAARGGH!
CHWOMP
NAH.

N-NO!
NO!
WHY DID I NOT FORESEE THIS?

I MUST-- AWAY!


YOU BETTER RUN.

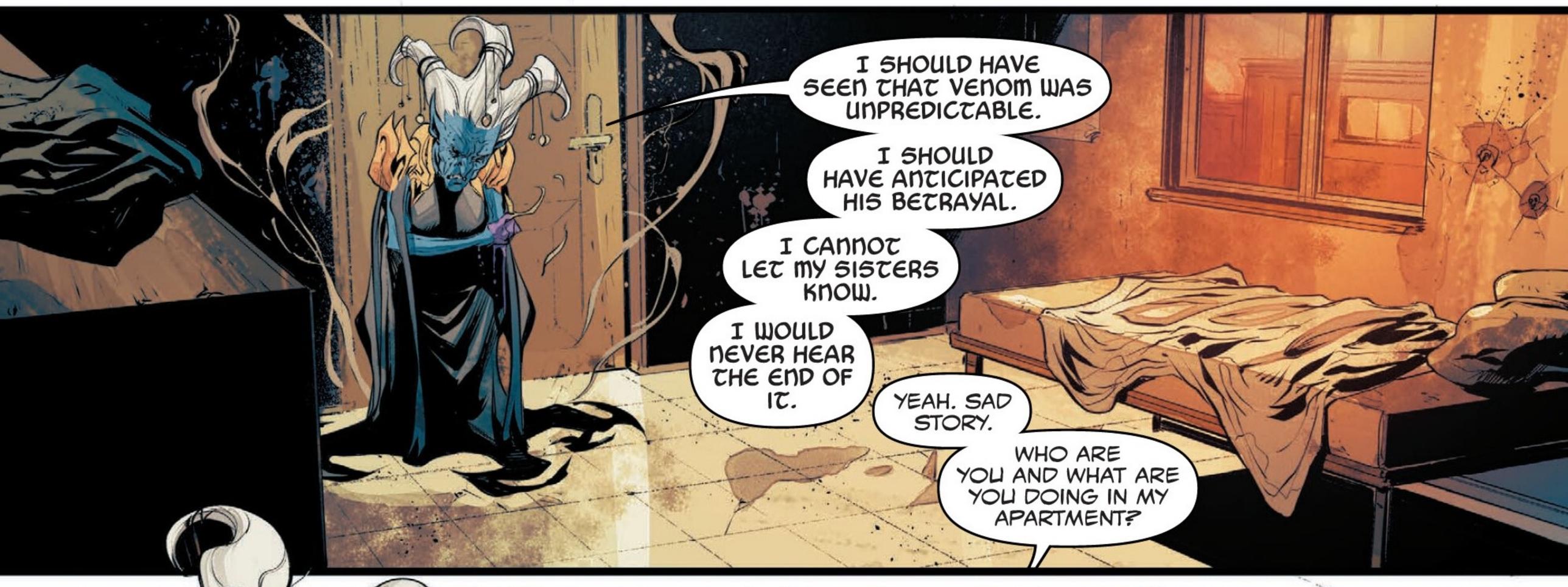
I LIED TO THE KID.

MAYBE I'VE GOT MORE PARENTAL INSTINCTS THAN I THOUGHT.

PROTECTING INNOCENTS...
...SURE...
...THE TRIED-AND-TRUE SONG AND DANCE...
...BUT THERE'S MORE...
PLACE THE NEXT SHOT BETWEEN HIS EYES...
...AND I'LL COMMIT MY NEXT THREE MURDERS IN YOUR NAME.
BAH!
FORGET THESE GAMES!
...A NEED...
I WANT SUPPER!
...TO HUNT...
...TO KILL...
...HITTING ME LIKE A JACKHAMMER BEHIND THE EYES...
DIDN'T I TELL YOU?
YOU DON'T WANT THE KIND OF TROUBLE A GUY LIKE ME CAN DELIVER.
...AND I EITHER INDULGE IT OR LET IT SWALLOW ME WHOLE.

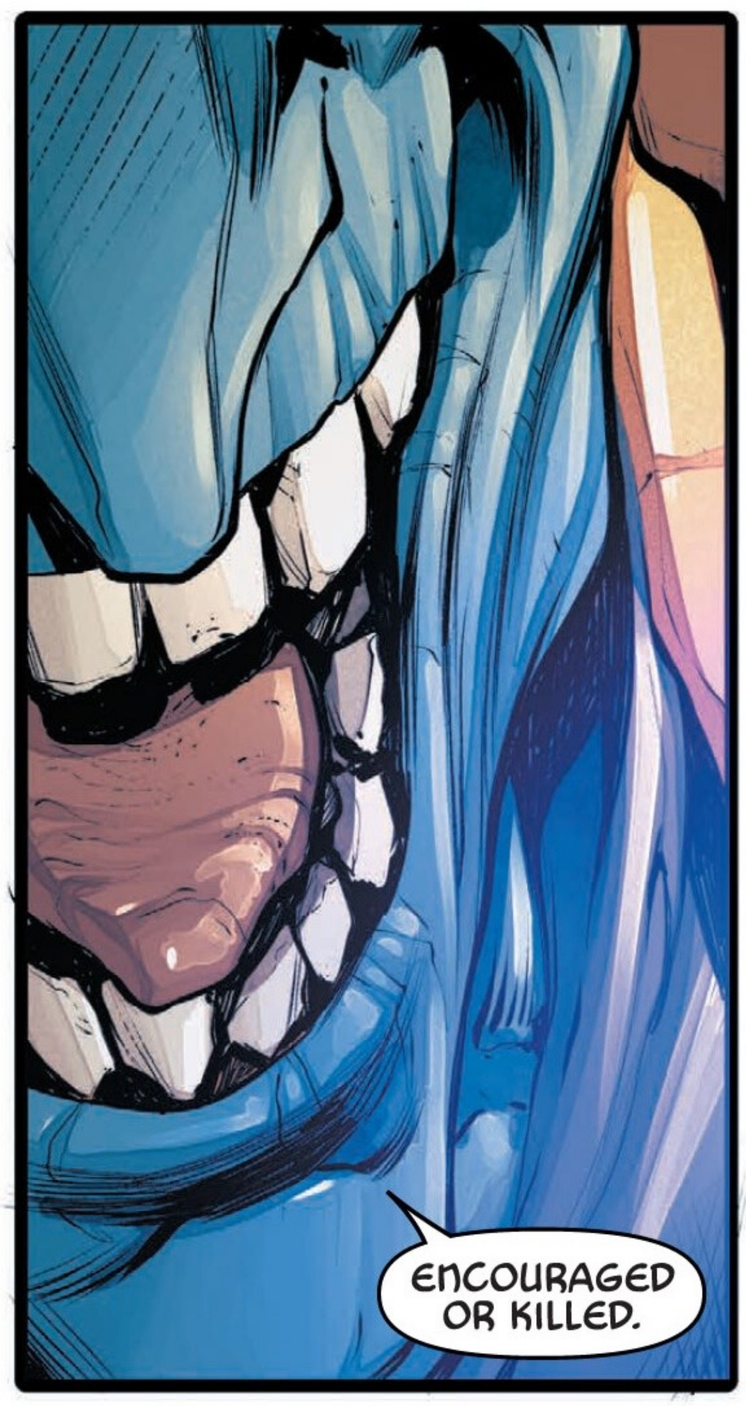
VOICES IN MY HEAD I CAN HANDLE.
ALIEN IMPULSES ARE OLD HAT.
KRA-RAK
THIS AIN'T LIKE THAT.
THERE'S ONLY ONE VOICE IN MY HEAD.
MINE.
YOU'RE A BIG, MEAN FELLA, AIN'T YA?
COME ON, THEN.
I BET YOUR BLOOD TASTES LIKE MULLED--
IT'S AMPLIFIED A THOUSAND TIMES OVER.
SLLLLSH
AND IT'S SCREAMING.
KILL... KILL... KILL!

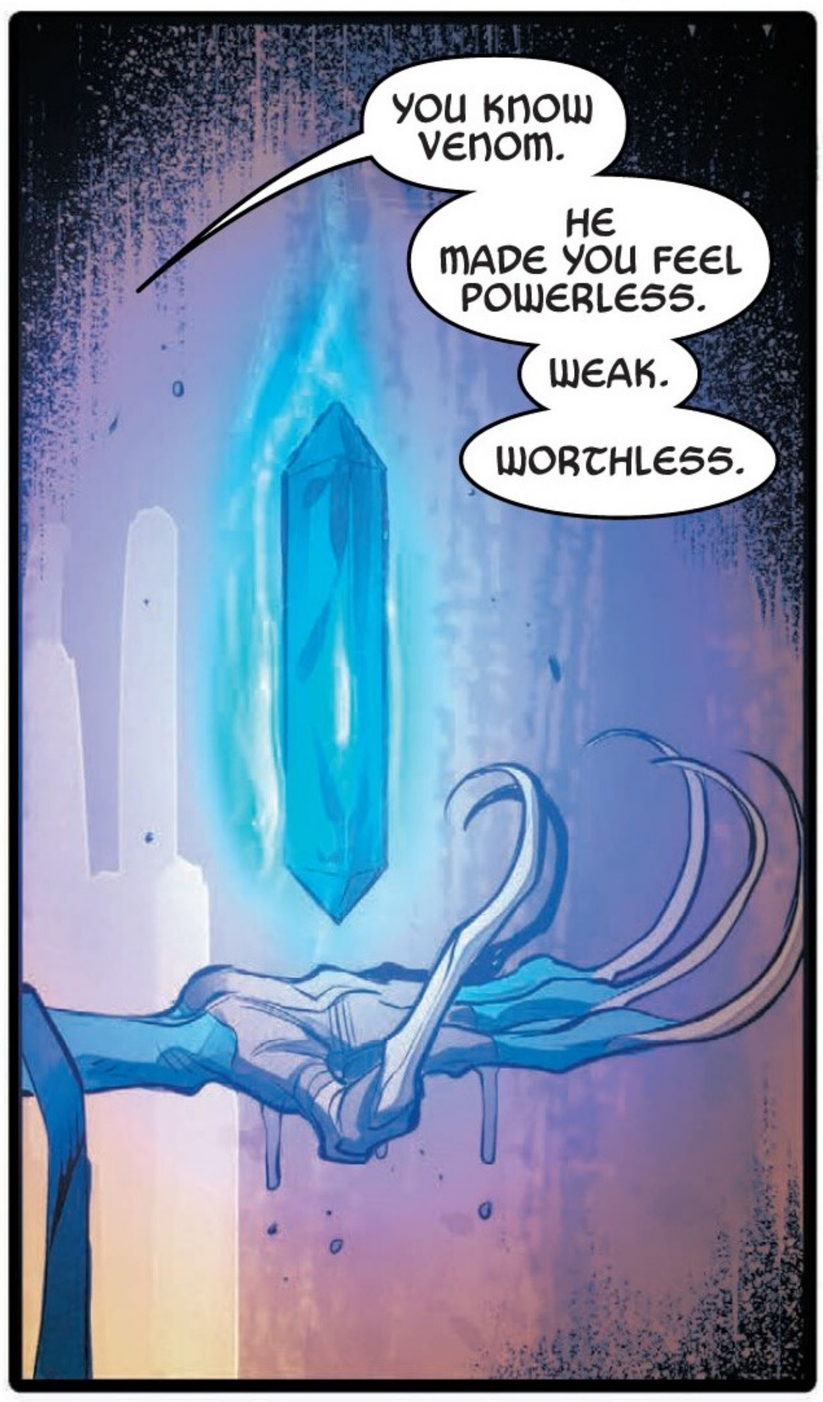
IT SCARES ME.
THIS IS MY VOICE.
I USED THAT WITCH'S DREAMSTONE TO WILL THIS SUIT INTO EXISTENCE.
AND IT'S SO FULL OF ANGER.
SO FULL OF HATE.
KILL.
KILL.
KILL.
WHO... ARE YOU?
WE ARE...
NO.
NOT "WE."
I...AM VENOM.


I SHOULD HAVE SEEN THAT VENOM WAS UNPREDICTABLE.
I SHOULD HAVE ANTICIPATED HIS BETRAYAL.
I CANNOT LET MY SISTERS KNOW.
I WOULD NEVER HEAR THE END OF IT.
YEAH. SAD STORY.
WHO ARE YOU AND WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN MY APARTMENT?

I CAN GIVE YOU A GIFT.
I DON'T TAKE GIFTS FROM STRANGERS WITH EYES IN THEIR HAIR.

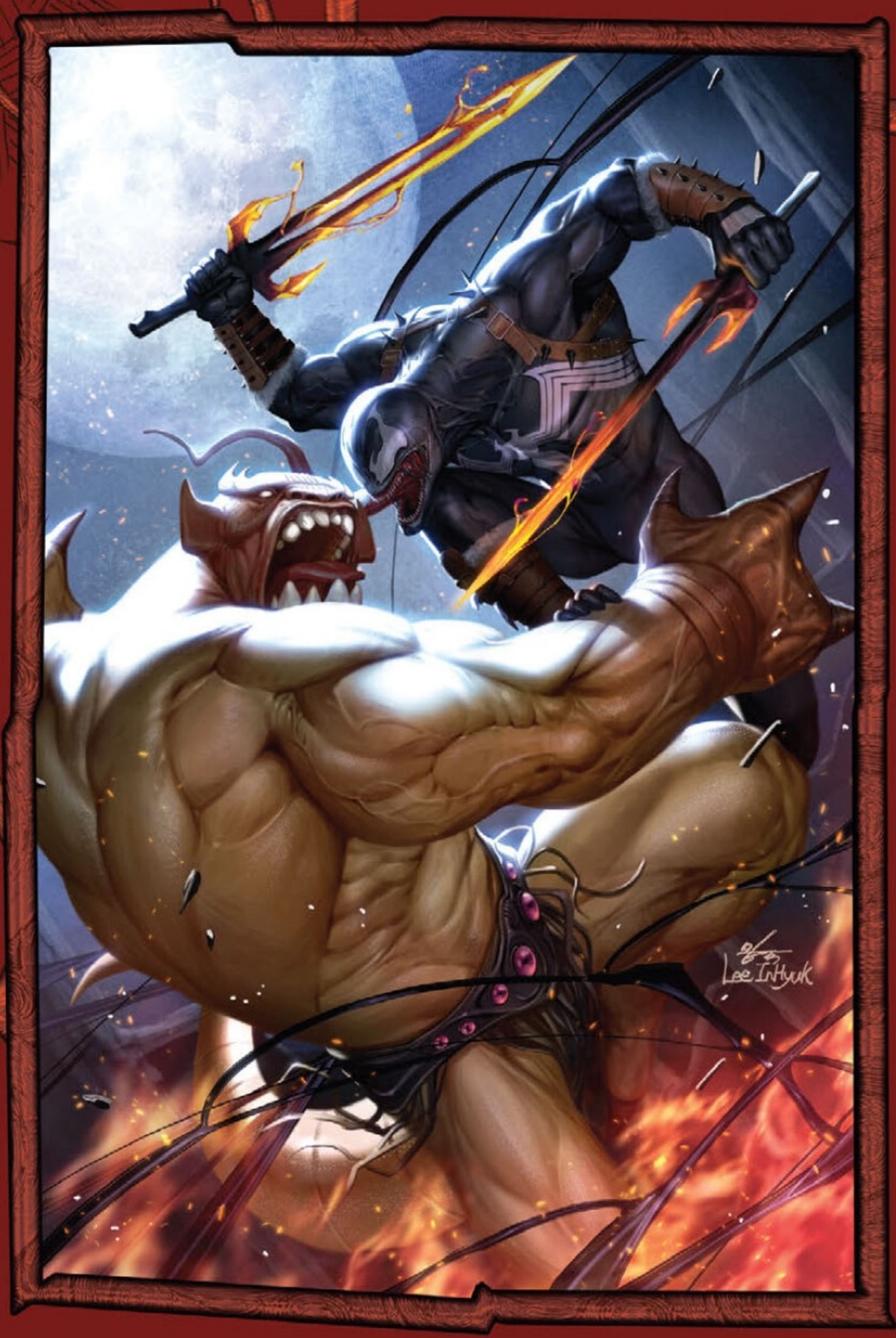
YOUR WORLD IS BURNING.
AND VENOM WILL YET BE A FINE AGENT OF CHAOS.
BUT I THINK HE NEEDS TO BE... ENCOURAGED.


ENCOURAGED OR KILLED.


YOU KNOW VENOM.
HE MADE YOU FEEL POWERLESS.
WEAK.
WORTHLESS.

BUT IF YOU AGREE TO SERVE ME...
...IF YOU AID ME IN TURNING OR DESTROYING VENOM...
...I CAN MAKE YOUR DREAMS COME TRUE.
WELL... SINCE YOU PUT IT THAT WAY.

DON'T MIND IF I DO.



VENOM #13 VARIANT BY

InHyuk Lee

WAR OF THE REALMS:
WAR SCROLLS #1 VARIANT BY

Andrea Sorrentino

WAR OF THE REALMS OMEGA VARIANT BY

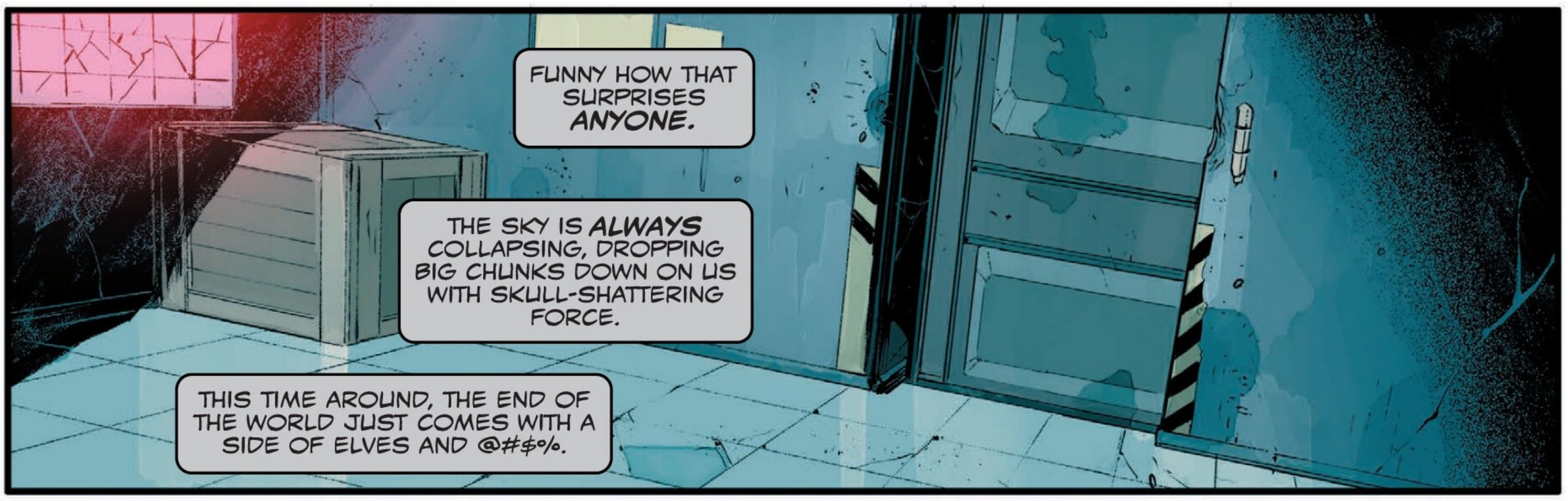
David Yardin & Rachelle Rosenberg

WAR OF THE REALMS OMEGA VARIANT BY

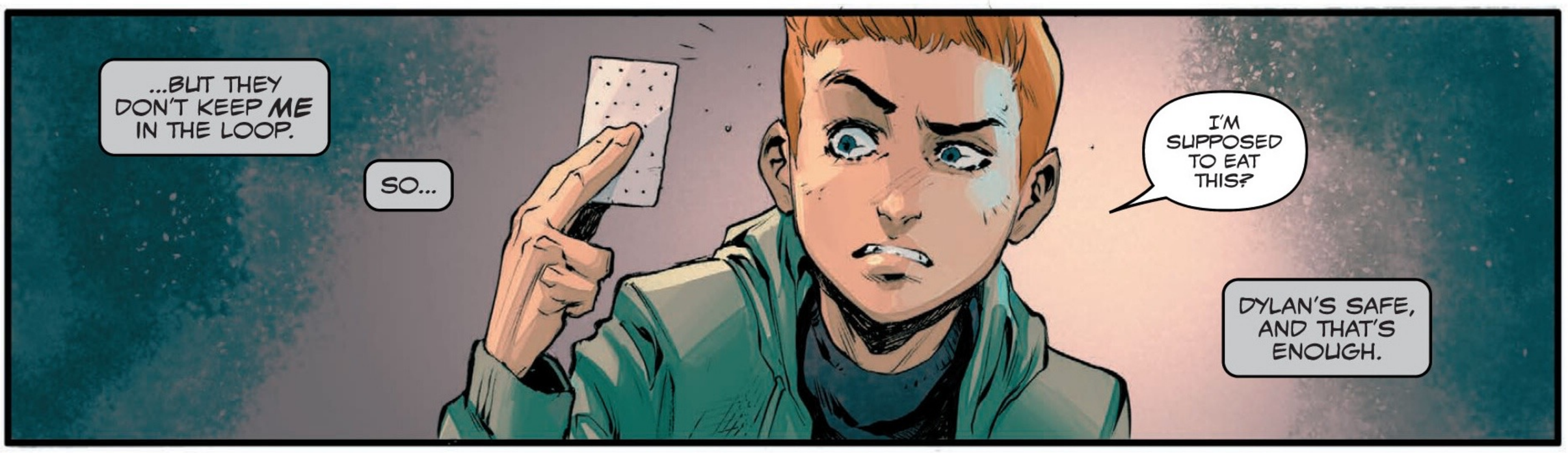
Ron Garney & Matt Milla

Venom #14

GOTTA REMIND MYSELF...THE KID'S SAFE. DYLAN IS SAFE.
THERE ARE OTHER PEOPLE WHO NEED MY HELP.
OTHERS WHO ARE AFRAID BECAUSE THE SKY IS FALLING.


FUNNY HOW THAT SURPRISES ANYONE.
THE SKY IS ALWAYS COLLAPSING, DROPPING BIG CHUNKS DOWN ON US WITH SKULL-SHATTERING FORCE.
THIS TIME AROUND, THE END OF THE WORLD JUST COMES WITH A SIDE OF ELVES AND @#$%.

HELL IF I KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON.
THE AVENGERS PROBABLY HAVE THE LOWDOWN.
THE X-MEN...
...EVEN THE DAMNED CHAMPIONS...


...BUT THEY DON'T KEEP ME IN THE LOOP.
SO...
I'M SUPPOSED TO EAT THIS?
DYLAN'S SAFE, AND THAT'S ENOUGH.

HE JUST NEEDS TO KEEP HIS HEAD DOWN...
...TO WAIT...

...FOR THE MONSTERS TO GO AWAY.
SKREEOONKK
WHAT IS THAT THING?
IS IT SAVING US?
WHO CARES? JUST-- RUN!
MONSTERS... LIKE ME.
THE SUIT MAY LOOK SORTA LIKE AN ALIEN SYMBIOTE...
...BUT IT WAS GIVEN TO ME BY SOME OLD WITCH WHO WANTED TO USE ME AS A WEAPON.
I NEED ANGER TO KEEP ME... TO KEEP THE SUIT...MOVING.
I GOTTA STAY PISSED.

SHOULD BE EASY ENOUGH.

WA-THOOOM

ROXXON.

BIG-TIME CORPORATION WITH THEIR OWN PRIVATE ARMY.

THEY COULD BE HOLDING THE LINE AGAINST THE SWORD-AND-SORCERY TYPES.

THEY COULD BE ***HELPING.***

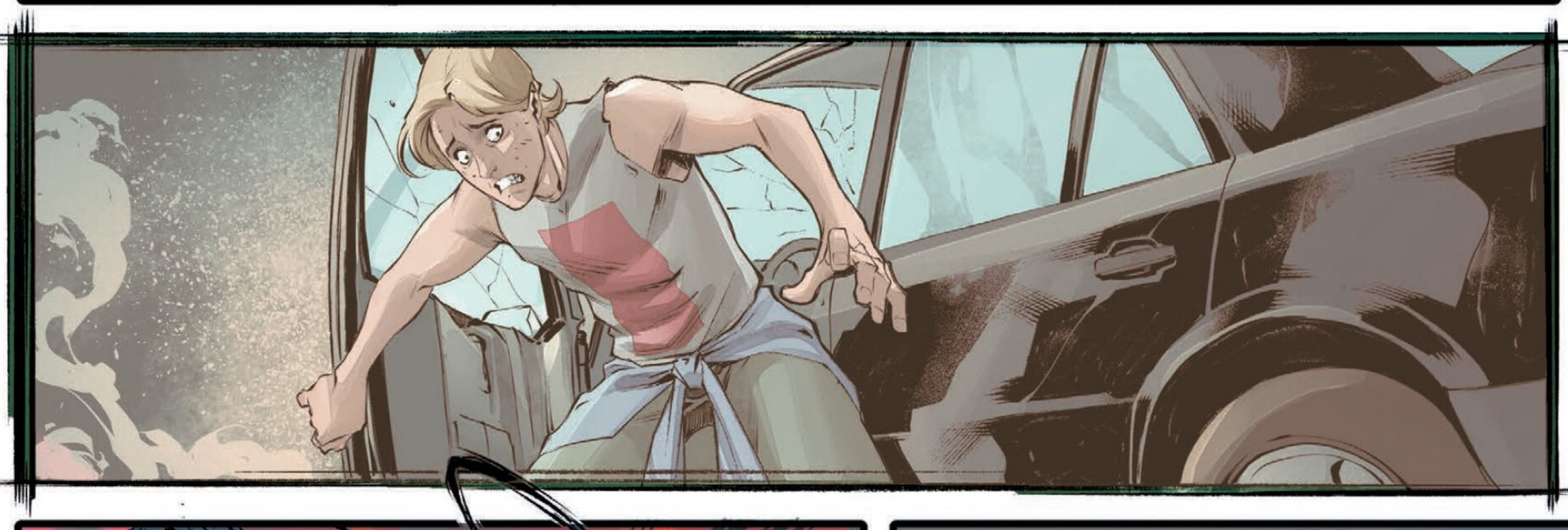
INSTEAD, THEY'RE USING THEIR MILITARY-GRADE HARDWARE TO ***CLEAR A PATH*** FOR MIDDLE-EARTH.

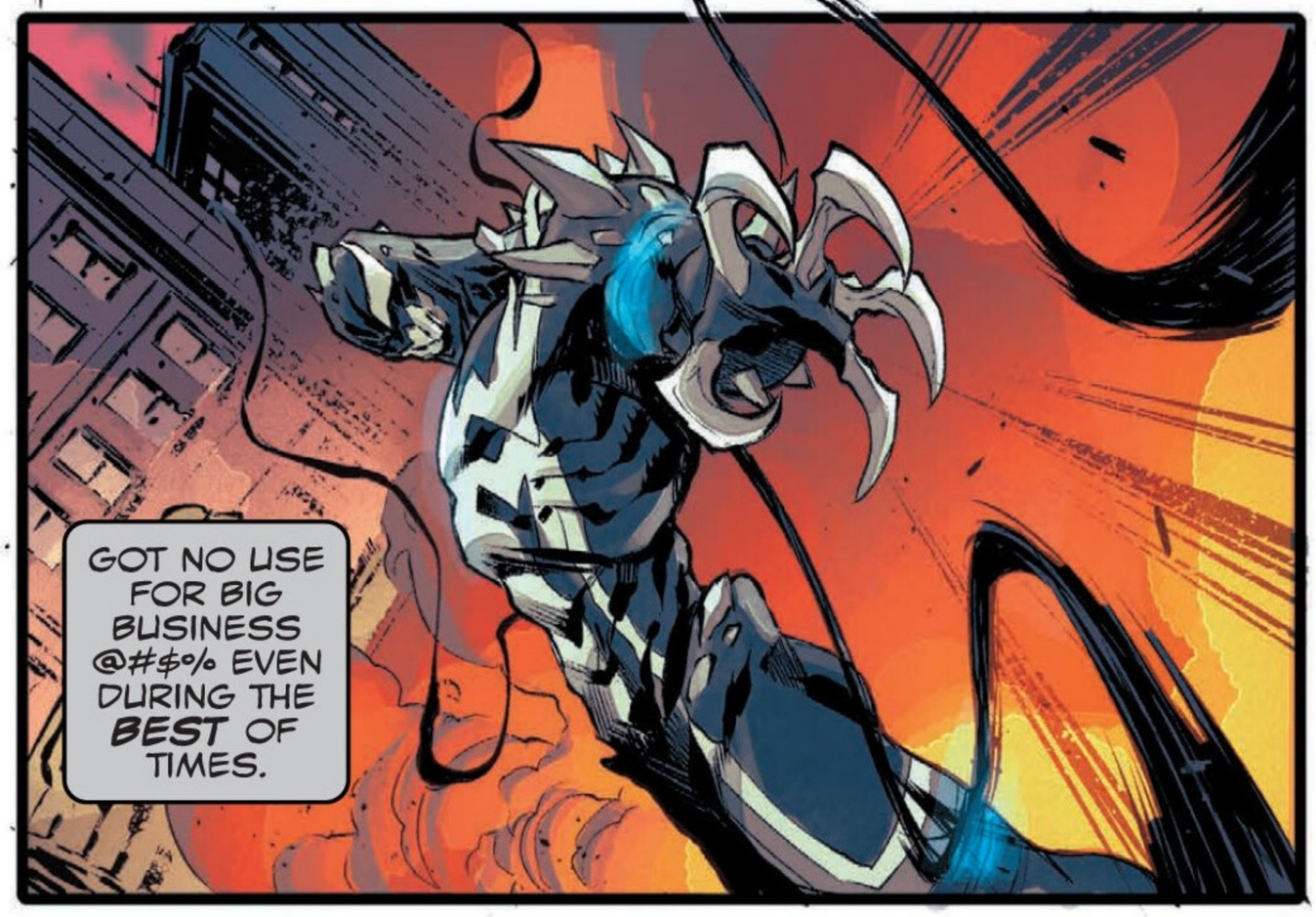
OH...OH, GOD!

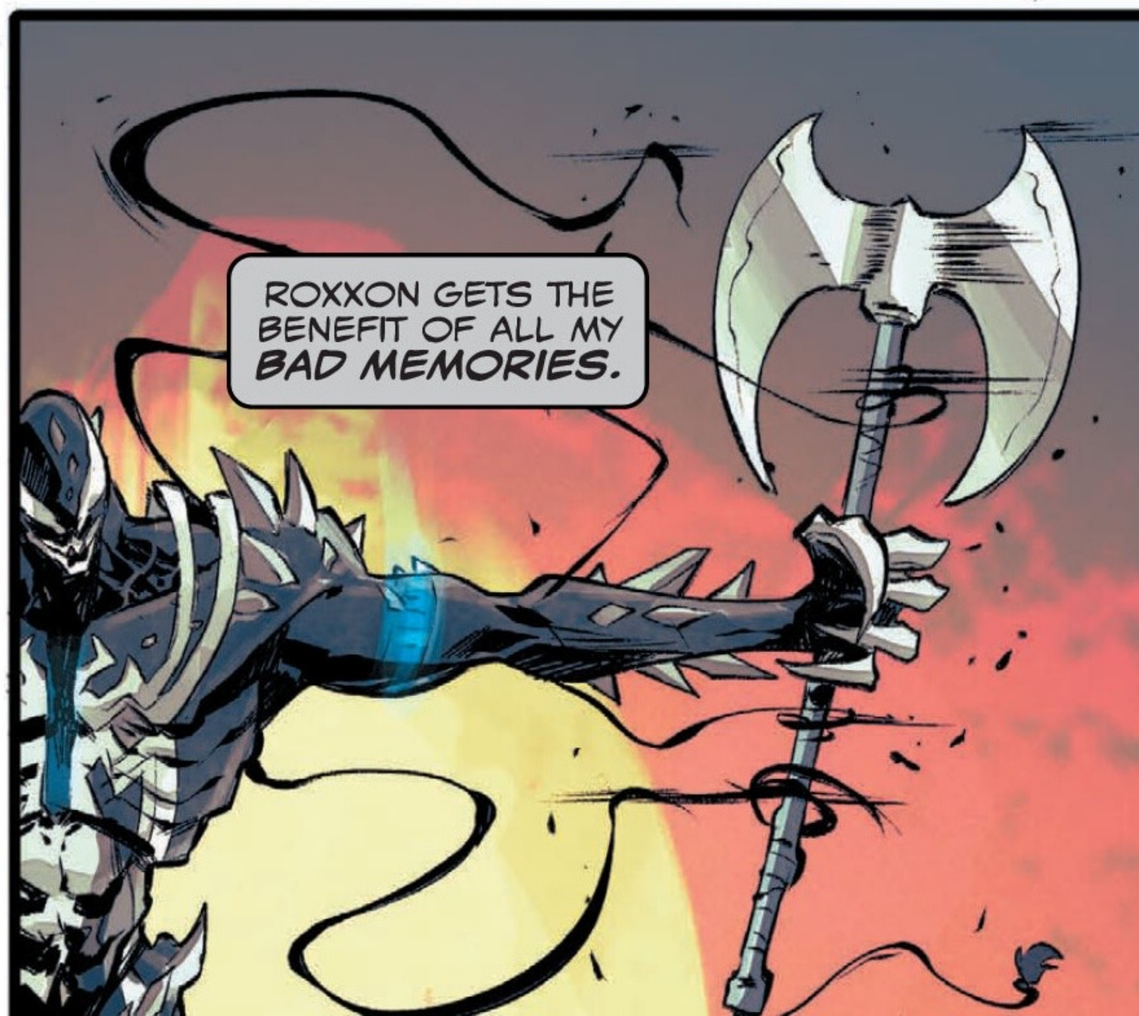
IT'S ***VENOM!***

H-HE TORE UP MY TANK!

WORKS FOR ME.

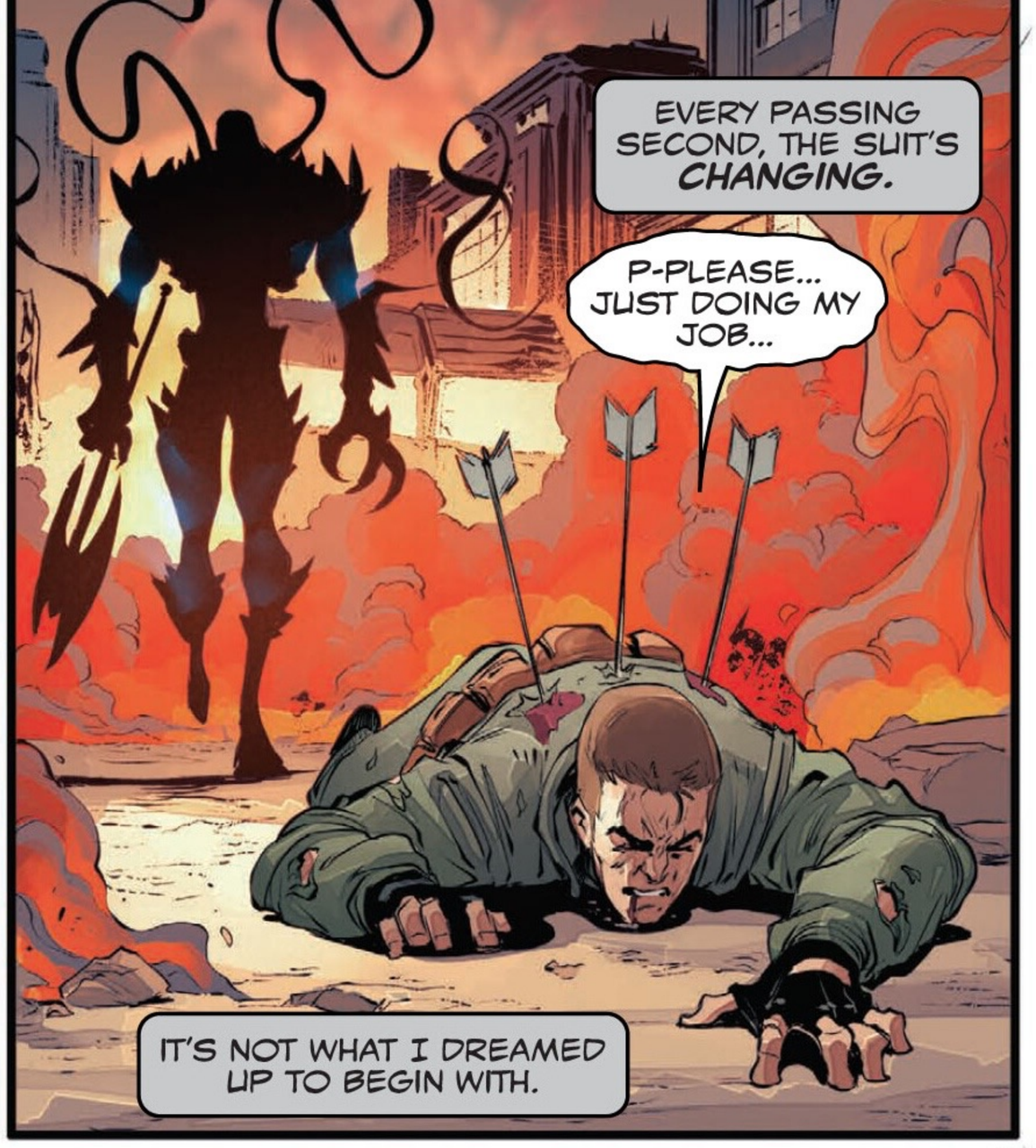


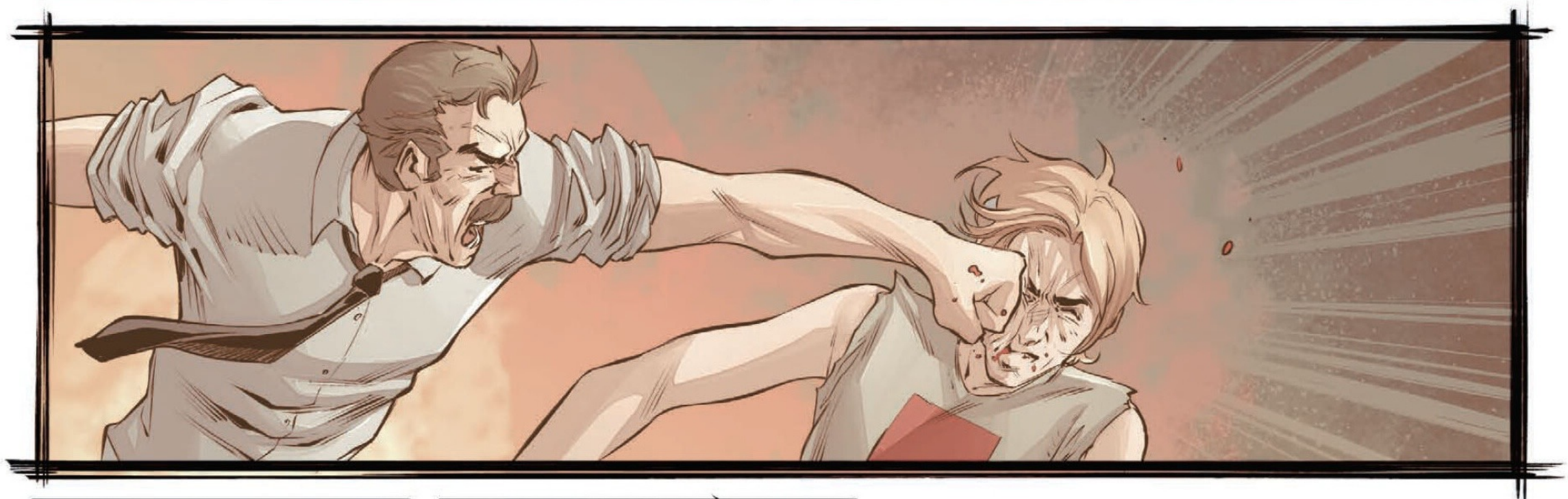




SHRAAANKT
ALL THE NASTINESS I'VE ENDURED... CHANNELED INTO THE SUIT.
MAKE IT WORK FOR ME FOR A CHANGE.
MOVE! MOVE! MOVE!
GET CLEAR BEFORE--
KILL, KILL, KILL.
THE MESSAGE THROBS IN MY SKULL LIKE A BLOOD PRESSURE HEADACHE.
IT'S LIKE A BABY BIRD BEGGING FOR FOOD.
THUNK TH-THUNK THUNK
WANTS ME TO FEED IT.

TOO FAR ONE WAY, I'M SLOW, SLUGGISH, NEAR USELESS.
MAYDAY! MAYDAY!
TOO FAR THE OTHER-- AND WHO KNOWS WHAT I'LL BECOME?


EVERY PASSING SECOND, THE SUIT'S CHANGING.
P-PLEASE... JUST DOING MY JOB...
IT'S NOT WHAT I DREAMED UP TO BEGIN WITH.



FEELS LIKE BANDAGES...
...WRAPPED TOO TIGHT...
...CUTTING OFF CIRCULATION...

...CUTTING OFF EVERYTHING...
...BUT RAGE.
SCHUNK

THWOOOOSH
ARRRGGH!

OOOOH. DID THAT HURT?
LET ME GET THIS STRAIGHT.
YOU USED AN ELVEN ARTIFACT TO GIVE YOURSELF THE SUIT OF YOUR DREAMS.
ALL THE STRENGTH, THE FEROCITY, THE POWER.
AND--EVEN WITH THE BREADTH OF YOUR IMAGINATION AT HAND--YOU STILL MADE YOURSELF VULNERABLE TO FIRE.
I BET THAT SAYS SOMETHING ABOUT YOU, HUH?
JACK O'LANTERN.
MISS ME?
HIS POWERS HAVE BEEN AUGMENTED LIKE MINE.
GUESS THAT OLD WITCH HAS BEEN BUSY.

FRRAAASH

HE'S NOT THE FIRST LOWLIFE TO WEAR THE OL' PUMPKIN HEAD.

JUST SOME **PUNK** WHO STUMBLED ONTO A SUPER VILLAIN'S DISCARDED GEAR.

LAST TIME I RAN INTO HIM, I LEFT HIM BLEEDING AND SCREAMING IN AN ALLEY.*

RNN--

*WAY BACK IN **VENOM #1**, TRUE BELIEVERS! --DEV

GONNA TAKE YOUR **EYE**, MEATHEAD.

JUST LIKE YOU TOOK MINE.

SHOULDA FINISHED HIM OFF.

SIC 'EM.

RAAWHF! RAAAGH!

DOGS!

THE BASTARD BROUGHT DOGS WITH HIM!

NOT JUST DOGS--BUT SOME SORT OF FANTASY-WORLD ***HELLHOUNDS!***

JACK'S PLAYING GAMES.

LEADING ME ON A *MERRY CHASE.*

HE'S NEVER BEEN THE STAND-UP-AND-FIGHT SORT. NOT HIM OR ANY OF THE OTHER JACK O'LANTERNS.

LET HIM RUN.

I'LL FIND HIM.

AS LONG AS HE DOESN'T LEAD ME TOO FAR FROM THE SAFE HOUSE...TOO FAR FROM DYLAN.

NO.

SUIT *HATES* THE TASTE OF *CONCERN.*

OF...

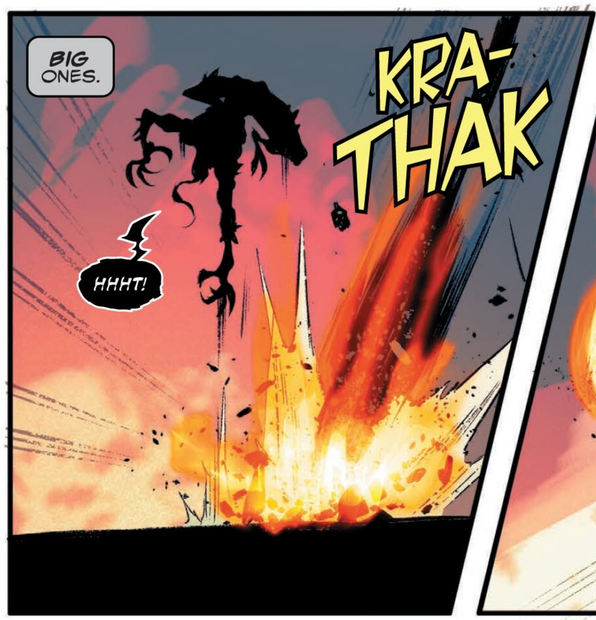
...WHATEVER THE HELL I'M FEELING.

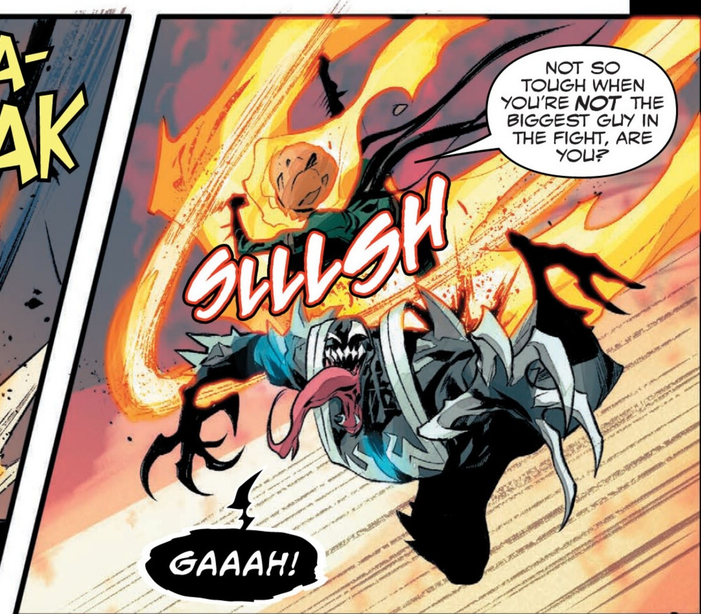
FOCUS ON THE *BAD* TIMES INSTEAD. FOCUS ON--

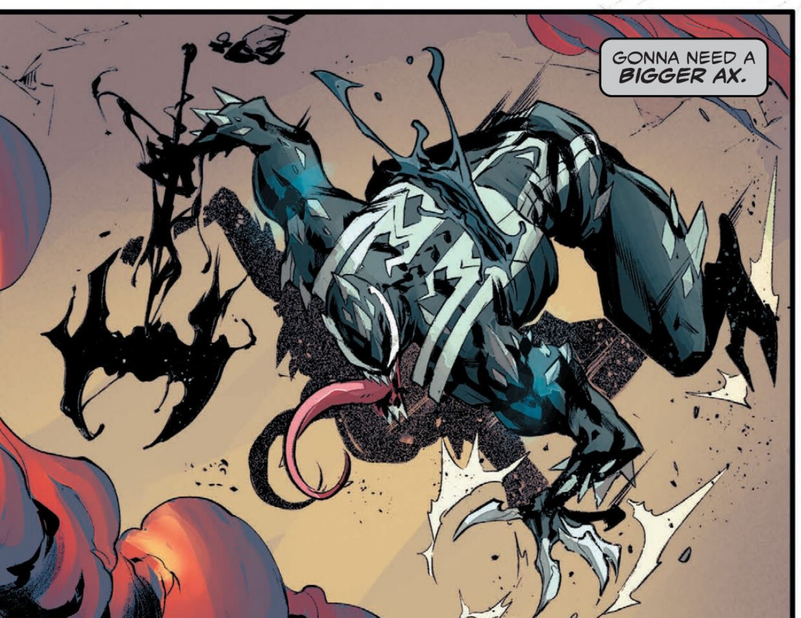
UNNGH!

SMASH

UH-OH!
LOOKS LIKE SOMEONE'S ABOUT TO GET BUM RUSHED.
FEE FI FO FUM.
I KNOW THREE DUDES WHO'RE GONNA SQUISH VE-NOM.
JACK'S GOT A LOT OF FRIENDS.


BIG ONES.
KRA-THAK
HHHT!


NOT SO TOUGH WHEN YOU'RE NOT THE BIGGEST GUY IN THE FIGHT, ARE YOU?
SLLSH
GAAAH!


GONNA NEED A BIGGER AX.

HAHAHAHA HAHAHAHA
AH, THE WEE MAN'S GOT HIMSELF SOME TOYS!
WATCH YOURSELF, BOYS!
HE MIGHT SCRATCH US!

GIANTS.
TOO BIG TO FIGHT.
AT LEAST... LIKE THIS.
AND JUST LIKE THAT, I CAN FEEL THE WITCH'S MAGIC SURGING THROUGH ME. THROUGH MY BONES.
PLUMMING MY PSYCHE--MY MEMORIES--FOR WHATEVER IT WAS THAT MADE VENOM, VENOM.
AND I FEEL IT. NOT JUST THE MAGIC STRETCHING MY FRAME, BREAKING AND HEALING MY BONES A THOUSAND TIMES OVER IN A SECOND...
ALL THE PAIN.
THE HATE.
JEALOUSY.
HUMILIATION.
BETRAYAL.
THAT'LL WORK.

SUIT WANTS RAGE?
WANTS DARKNESS?
RAAAAGH!
I'VE GOT PLENTY TO SPARE.
SGGGKKLT
THOUGHT MY ALIEN SYMBIOTE WAS THE ONE CORRUPTING ME ALL THIS TIME...
...NOW I'M NOT SO SURE.
MMM. MINTY.

FEELS...
KRANGH
...GOOD.
PUTTING ALL THE BAD THINGS THAT HAVE HAPPENED TO ME...
...THE DEFEATS, THE FAILURES, THE SCREWUPS...
...TO USE FOR A CHANGE.
DOING SOMETHING PRODUCTIVE WITH ALL THE NEGATIVITY.
SHRP GLGKT SHAGKT
ALMOST FEELS... FUN!
SHRA-BOOM

YOU DIDN'T FORGET ABOUT LITTLE OL' ME, DID YOU, BIG FELLA?
BOOM
HEEHA HAHEEHAA HEE!
MISSED ME!
SUIT'S SLOW. I CAN FEEL IT.
BOOM
RRRRR--
YOU KNOW WHAT THEY SAY...
...THE STUPIDER THEY ARE...
...THE HARDER THEY FALL!

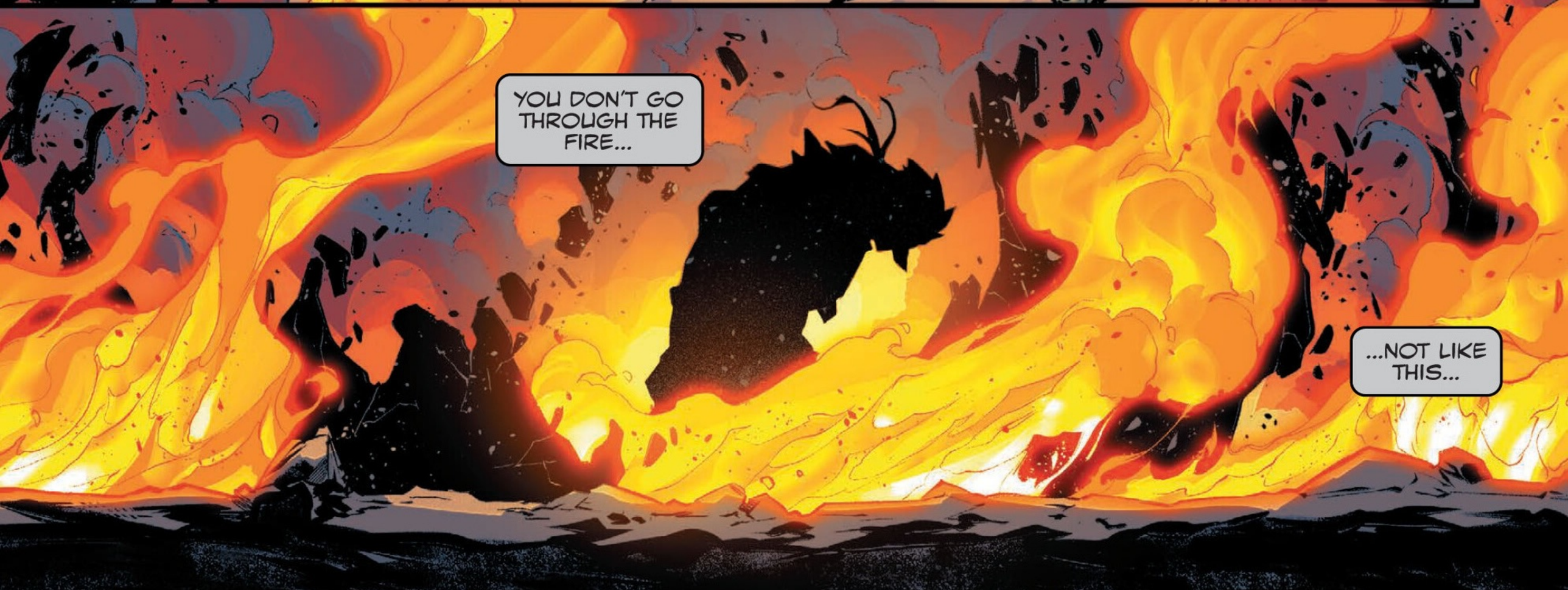
BURNS!

RIGHT DOWN TO THE BONE!
DOWN MY THROAT!

CAN FEEL THE MAGIC WORKING OVERTIME TO PROTECT ME!

CAN FEEL IT BURNING THROUGH THE ***ABILITIES*** IT LEARNED FROM MEMORIES OF THE SYMBIOTE.

TO ***HEAL.***

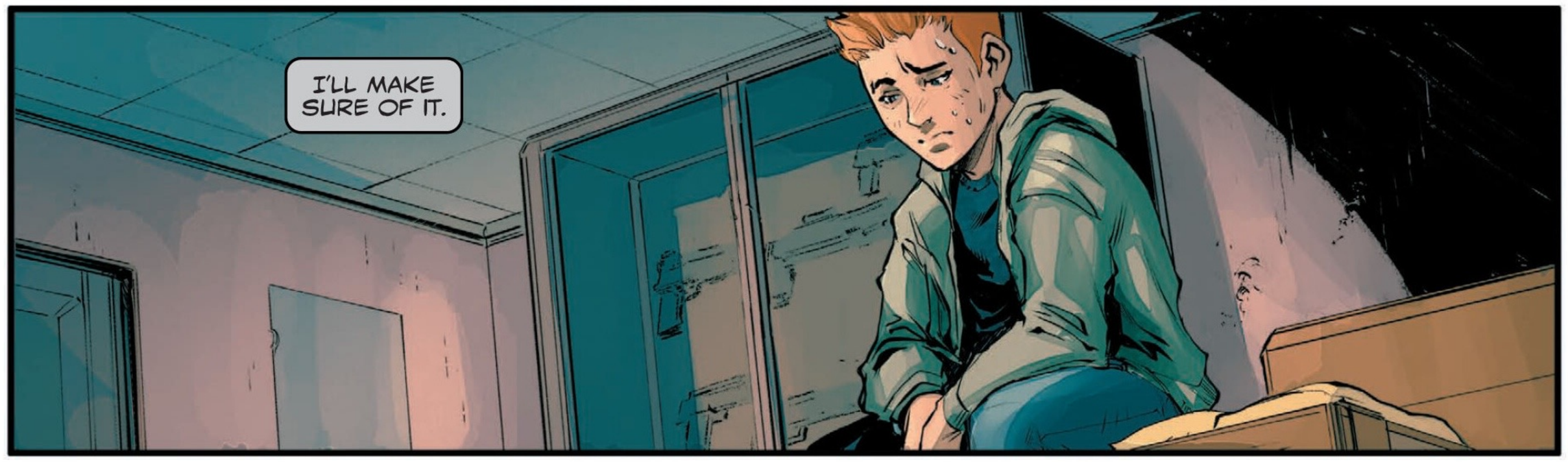

YOU DON'T GO THROUGH THE FIRE...
...NOT LIKE THIS...

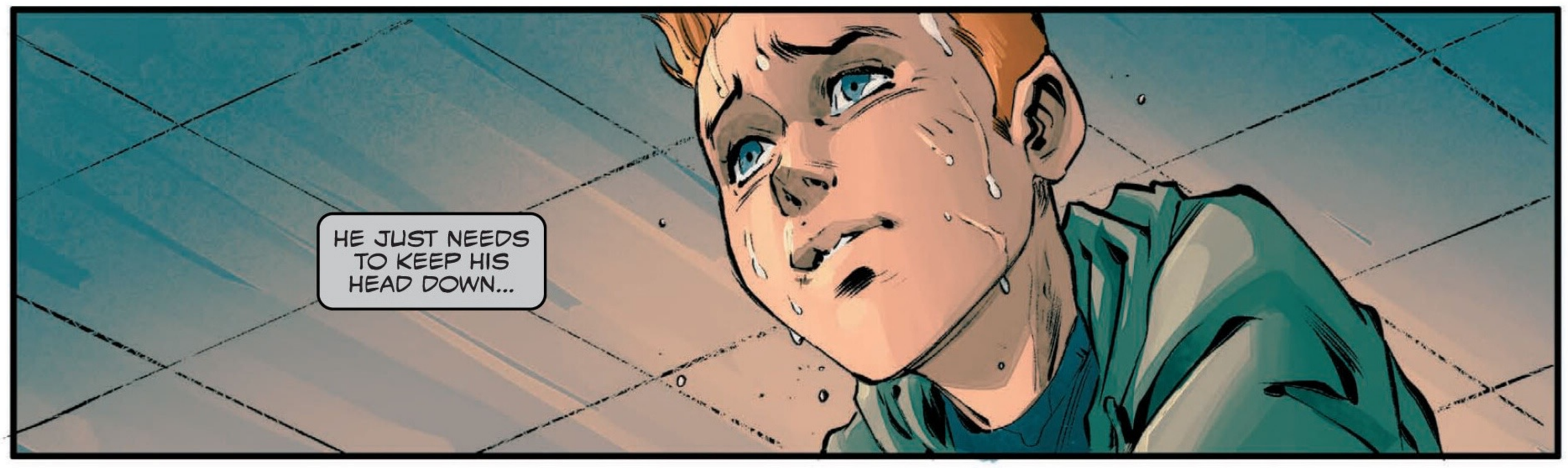
...AND REMAIN UNCHANGED.
THIS IS...DIFFERENT. NOT A LIVING SUIT ANYMORE.
A SUIT OF ASGARDIAN ARMOR.
YOU JUST DON'T KNOW WHEN TO QUIT, DO YOU?
Y'KNOW... IF I HAD MY DRUTHERS, I'D END YOU RIGHT NOW.
SADLY, I HAVE PROMISES TO KEEP.
AND A LOT MORE TORMENT TO INFLICT.
I'M COOKING UP SOMETHING YOU'RE REALLY GONNA LOVE!

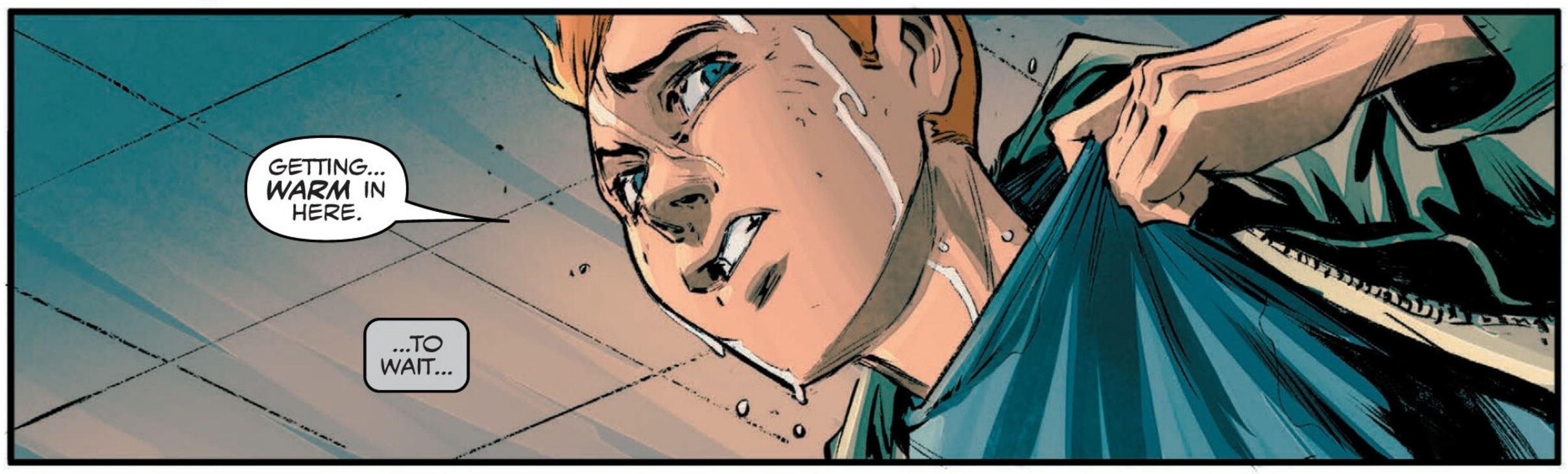
YES, YES.
DREAMS FEED ON WRATH!
WRATH TURNS TO FLESH AND BLOOD!
FLESH AND BLOOD TO SERVE AS MALEKITH'S WAR PUPPET!
"PUPPET"?
I HOPE YOU DON'T THINK OF ME IN THOSE TERMS, LADY.
RIGHT NOW, YOUR GOALS AND MINE SYNC UP.
JACK O'LANTERN'S HIS OWN MAN.
LET'S KEEP IT THAT WAY.
BOLD WORDS FROM A MAN WHO WAS, UNTIL I FOUND HIM, HIDING IN HIS WARREN IN FEAR.
FINISH THE TASK I'VE SET BEFORE YOU.
FINISH AND WE CAN BE DONE WITH EACH OTHER.
"THE MORE VENOM FIGHTS...THE MORE A WARRIOR OF MALEKITH HE BECOMES!"
YOU REALLY GOT IT BAD FOR THIS MALEKITH, HUH?
HOLD YOUR BLASPHEMOUS TONGUE!
VENOM CARES FOR THE INNOCENT!
HE PROTECTS THEM--AND ONE IN PARTICULAR!
THEY KEEP HIM ROOTED TO HIS HUMANITY!
DON'T WORRY.
Y'SEE-- VENOM TAUGHT ME SOMETHING I'M GONNA PUT TO GOOD USE.
HE TAUGHT ME--

--TO THINK BIG!
BURN!
BURN IT ALL!
BURN IT DOWN!
JACK'S TORCHING EVERYTHING IN SIGHT.
ROASTING ANYONE IN HIS PATH.
HE'LL TURN THE ENTIRE DISTRICT TO ASH.
AAAAHHHHH!
UNLESS I GO A LITTLE... BERSERK.
RAAAGGH!

THE KID'S GONNA BE ALL RIGHT.


I'LL MAKE SURE OF IT.


HE JUST NEEDS TO KEEP HIS HEAD DOWN...


GETTING... WARM IN HERE.
...TO WAIT...

...FOR THE MONSTERS TO GO AWAY.

Venom #15

WHOLE CITY'S BURNING.
WHOLE WORLD, MAYBE.
HE'LL KILL EVERYONE...
...JUST TO DRAW ME OUT.
WHY SHOULD HERE BE ANY DIFFERENT?
EDDIE?
WHERE ARE YOU?
THE WORD OF THE DAY, KIDS, IS--
--CONFLAGRATION!
JACK O'LANTERN'S GOT THE MATCHES AND THE GASOLINE.
SETTING THE CITY ABLAZE.
HE'S JUICED UP ON DARK ELF MAGIC.
GONNA GET HIS WISH.

NEW SUIT.
A WITCH'S GIFT.

JACK'S GOT ONE TOO.

NOT MY SYMBIOTE.
MY OTHER.

THIS IS SOMETHING NEW...
...CREATED FROM DREAMS...

...FROM NIGHTMARES.
AGGH!

AND IT KEEPS CHANGING.

THWAP

NNNUUH!
PLAYING DIRTY NOW?
GOOD.
I LIKE DIRTY.
FWWSSH
FPP-FP-FPP-FPP-FP
HHT!
MISSED ME.
DON'T BE SO SURE.

YOU STILL HAVEN'T FIGURED IT OUT, HAVE YOU?

WIELDING A DREAMSTONE IS LIKE PLAYING GOD!

I WANT TO TURN MY SCYTHE INTO A FULL-BLOWN JACK O'LANTERN GOLEM--

BOOM! GET READY FOR A TAG-TEAM THROWDOWN.

THE DREAMSTONES ALLOW YOU TO DO ANYTHING!

ANYTHING!

SAYS THE GUY WHO CAN'T SHAKE THE HALLOWEEN MOTIF.

SHUNK
HOW YOU LIKE DEEZ PUMPKINS?
JACK MIGHT BE RIGHT.
RRRRRR--
THE DREAMSTONE DRAWS ON THE USER'S IMAGINATION.
KRRNCH
AND MY THOUGHTS SWIRL AROUND THE SAME DRAIN AS ALWAYS.
SHRA-KK
MY DREAMSTONE FEEDS ON RAGE.

I'VE BEEN KICKED PLENTY.

YOU SHOULD KNOW BETTER!

DON'T YOU EVER--***EVER!***--TURN YOUR BACK ON ME!

THERE YOU ARE!

THE ***REAL*** YOU WANTS A SHOT AT THE TITLE, *HUH?*

CAST OUT IN THE STREET.

SCREWED UP.

FWOOOOOOOOSH

FLUSHED A NORMAL LIFE RIGHT DOWN THE TOILET.

BEEN BEATEN.

FOR ALL YOUR ***BARBARIAN GLORY,*** YOU'RE STILL AFRAID OF ***FIRE!***

POISONED.

DECEIVED AND BETRAYED.

NNN--

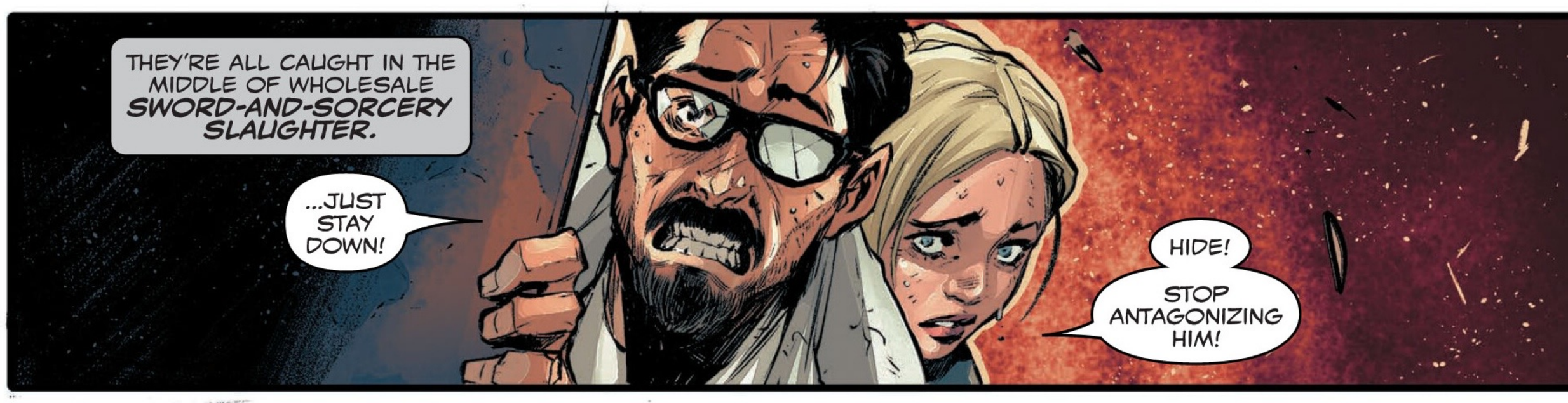
MY PAST MAKES ME ***DANGEROUS,*** BUT NOT ***CREATIVE.***

THE DREAMSTONE'S NOT WAITING FOR ME TO STEP UP.

IT'S CHANGING ME.

CONTROLLING ITSELF.

THE AREA'S CRAWLING WITH CIVILIANS.
SOME FLED HERE LOOKING FOR COVER.
PLEASE...
OTHERS LIVE ON THESE STREETS.


THEY'RE ALL CAUGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF WHOLESALE SWORD-AND-SORCERY SLAUGHTER.
...JUST STAY DOWN!
HIDE!
STOP ANTAGONIZING HIM!

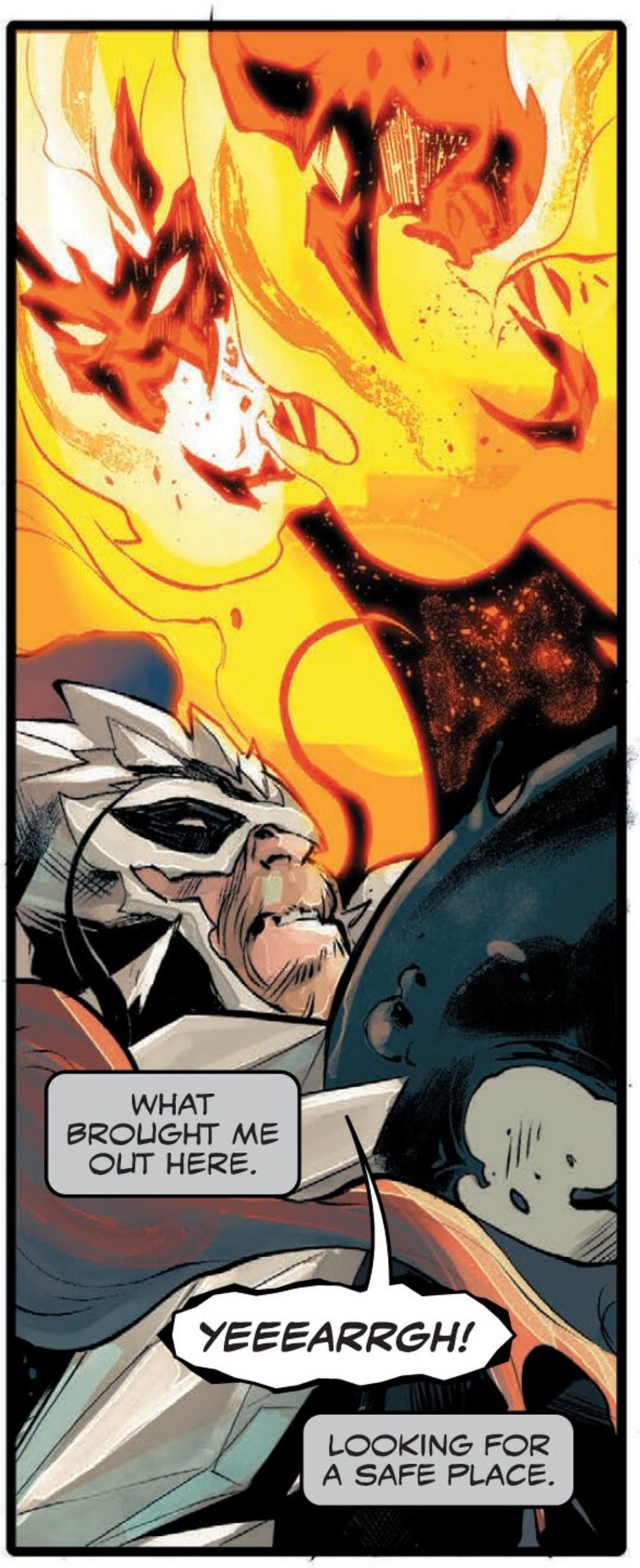
MAYBE HE'LL LEAVE US ALONE!

FWOOSH

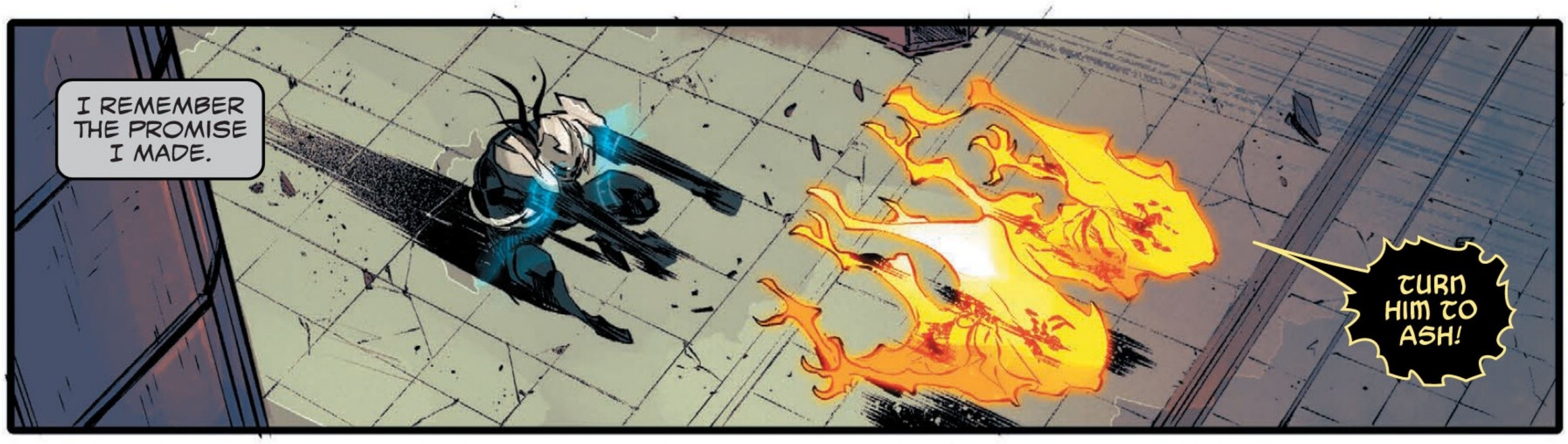
NO.
NO WAY WOULD HE JUST FLY OFF LIKE THAT.
NOT UNLESS--

THE MORTAL HAS LEFT SACRIFICES!
OFFERINGS TO THE BURNING THRONE!
OFFERINGS TO THE QUEEN OF CINDERS!
RUN!
GET CLEAR!
I'LL HOLD THEM BACK!
MORE ASGARDIAN JACKASSES.
DEMONS MADE OF FIRE.
PERFECT.
I SAID--
--RUN!
OOH!
A BRAVE ONE!
A BOLD FOOL!
REMIND HIM WHY HE SHOULD FEAR THE FLAME!

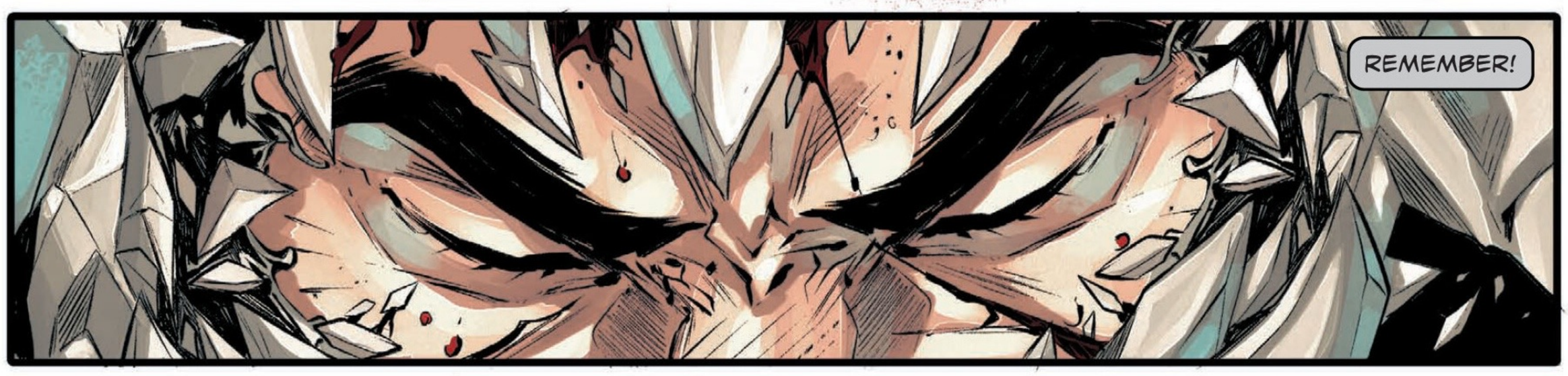
I REMEMBER, DAMN IT!
I REMEMBER!
SSSSSSSSS

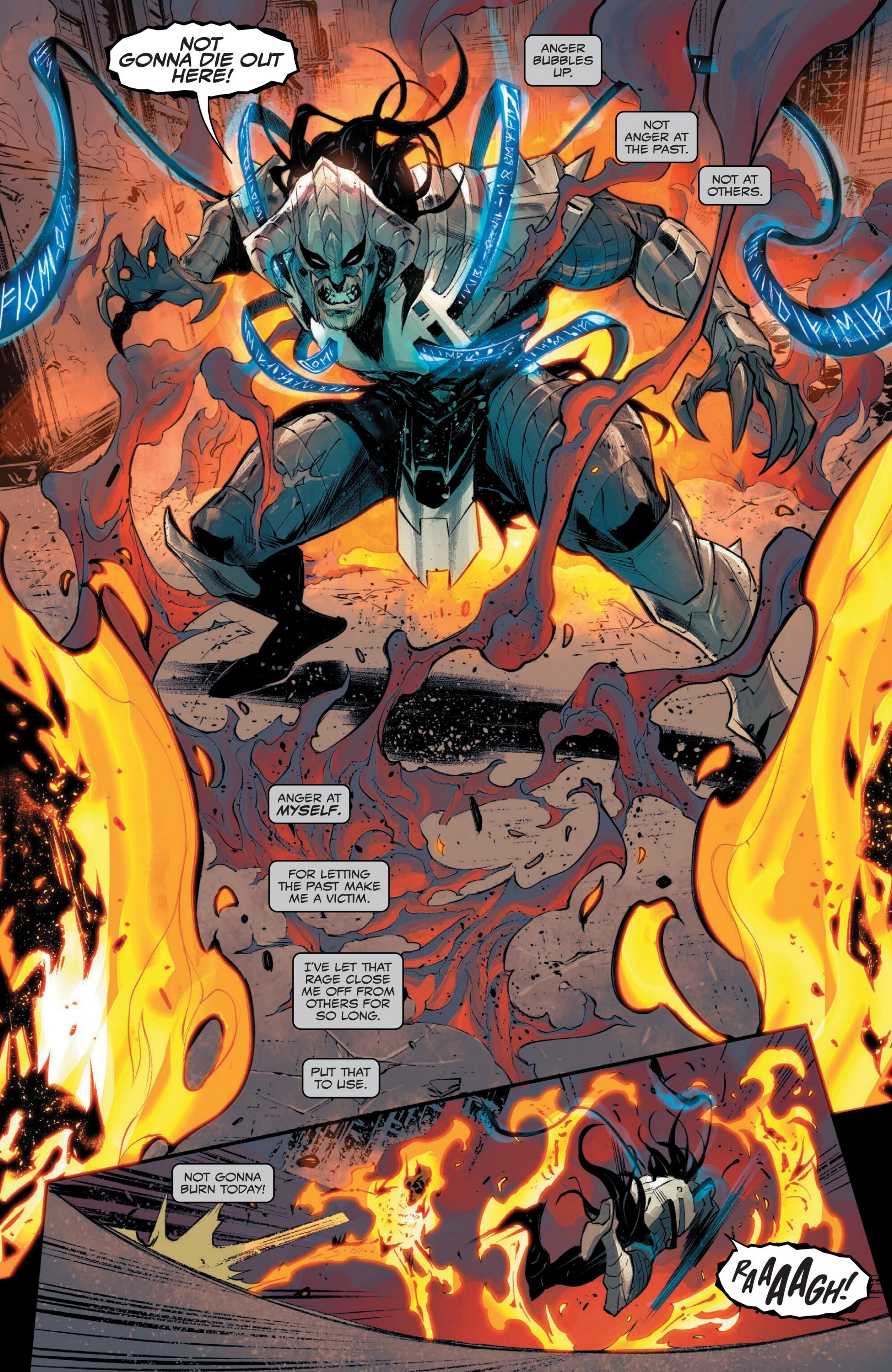

WHAT BROUGHT ME OUT HERE.
YEEEARRGH!
LOOKING FOR A SAFE PLACE.

FOR DYLAN.
I REMEMBER!
FOR MY SON.


I REMEMBER THE PROMISE I MADE.
TURN HIM TO ASH!

TO HIM.
TO MYSELF.


REMEMBER!


NOT GONNA DIE OUT HERE!
ANGER BUBBLES UP.
NOT ANGER AT THE PAST.
NOT AT OTHERS.
ANGER AT MYSELF.
FOR LETTING THE PAST MAKE ME A VICTIM.
I'VE LET THAT RAGE CLOSE ME OFF FROM OTHERS FOR SO LONG.
PUT THAT TO USE.
NOT GONNA BURN TODAY!
RAAAAGH!

CRYSTAL CLAWS TEAR THROUGH BLAZING FLESH.
HE'S MARKED!
MARKED WITH DREAM RUNES!
A TRICKSTER!
MOLTEN BLOOD DRIPS FROM MY FINGERTIPS.
SHRRRP
SHRRKP
RRRRP
AND IT FEELS GOOD.

BUT JACK...

...I CAN'T BEAT HIM...

...NOT LIKE THIS...

...NOT AT HIS OWN GAME.

HIS *MADNESS* AGAINST MY *FURY.*

ONLY ONE THING'S FOR CERTAIN IN THAT FIGHT.

INNOCENT PEOPLE WILL DIE.

JACK KNOWS I WON'T LET THAT HAPPEN.

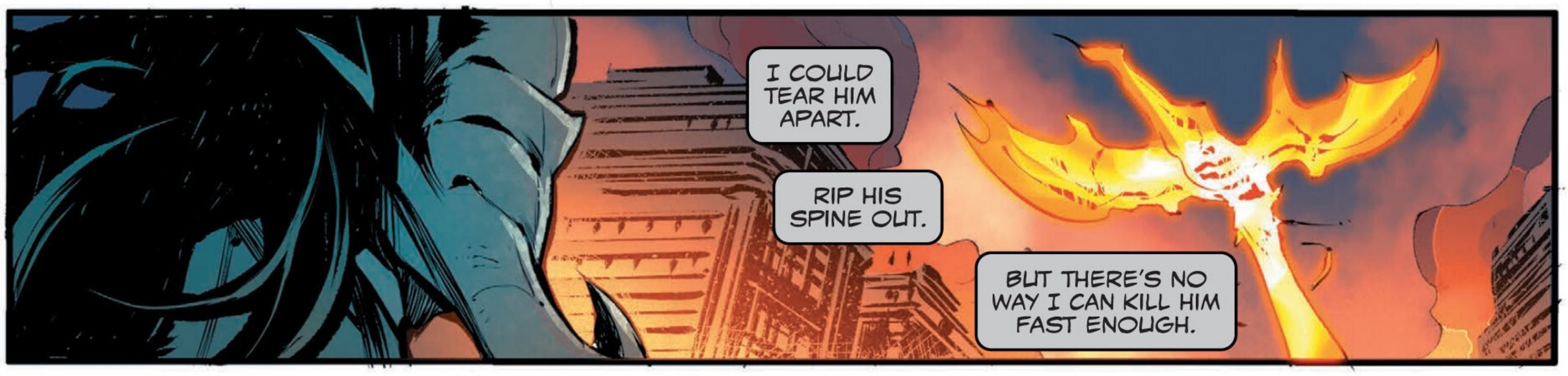
HE KNOWS THEY MAKE ME WEAK.

MAKES ME PISSED OFF.

AT JACK O'LANTERN.

AT THEM.

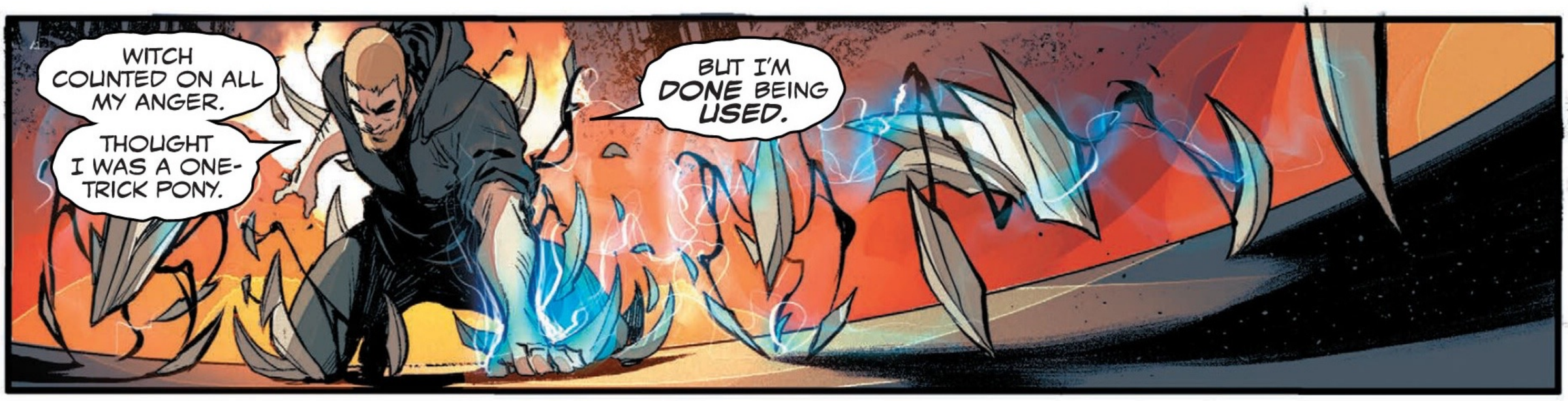
AT *MYSELF.*


I COULD TEAR HIM APART.
RIP HIS SPINE OUT.
BUT THERE'S NO WAY I CAN KILL HIM FAST ENOUGH.

ALL THE INNOCENTS...THEY'LL BURN.
COLLATERAL DAMAGE...THE LOSS OF LIFE...WILL BE TOO HIGH.
MY ANGER'S NOT GONNA WIN THIS ONE.

OLD WITCH WANTED TO TURN ME INTO A WEAPON.
THE DREAMSTONE'S CHANGING ME INTO WHATEVER THE HELL SHE WANTED.
UNLESS I TAKE CONTROL... FOR ONCE IN MY LIFE.

DREAMSTONE CAN BECOME ANYTHING.
JUST FELL BACK ON WHAT I KNOW.


WITCH COUNTED ON ALL MY ANGER.
THOUGHT I WAS A ONE-TRICK PONY.
BUT I'M DONE BEING USED.

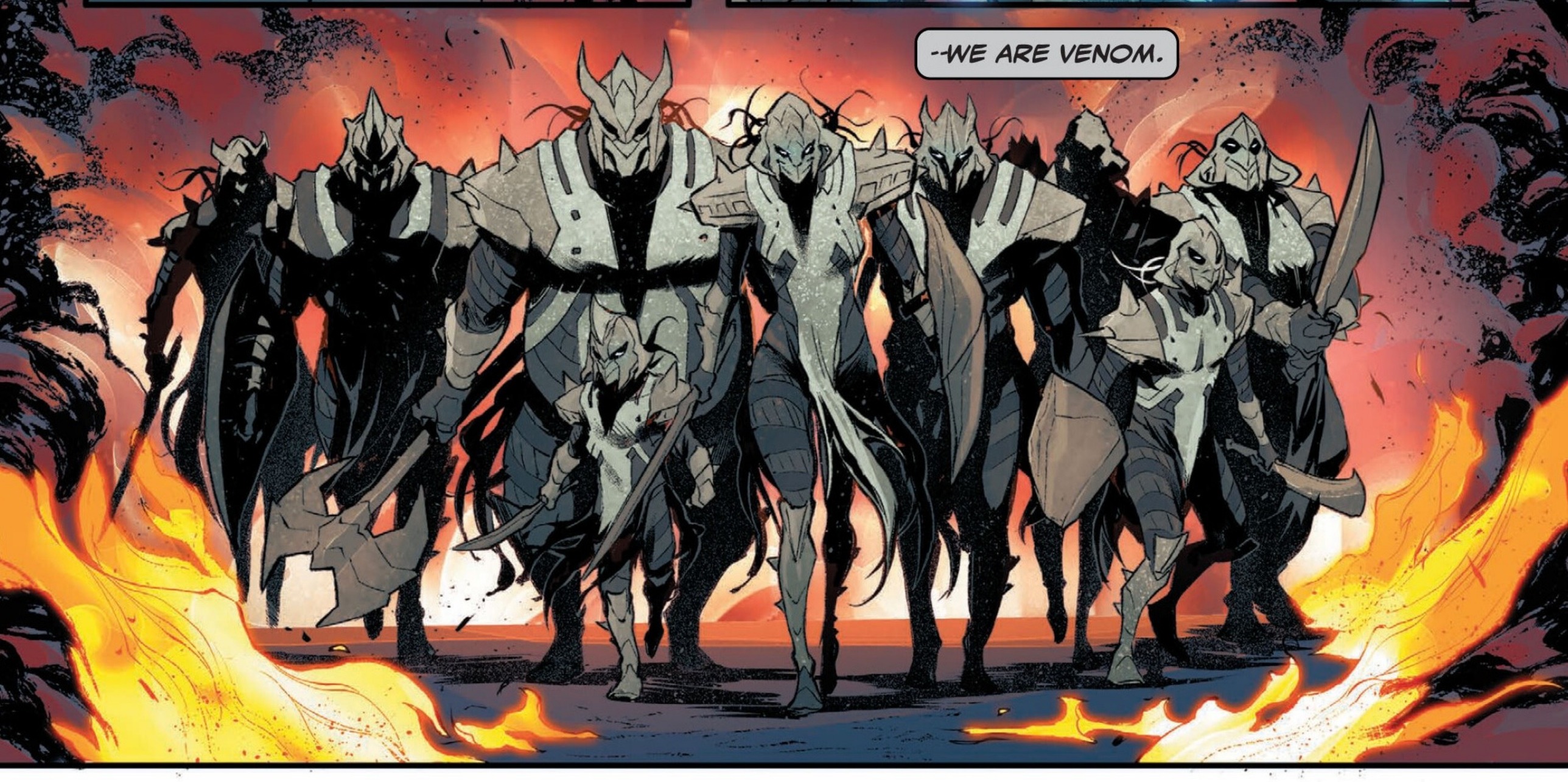
TIME TO SHAKE THINGS UP.

I WILL THE DREAMSTONE TO PROTECT THEM.
THEY'RE SCARED AT FIRST.
OMIGOD!
WHAT'S--
WHAT'S HAPPENING?
OF COURSE THEY ARE.

ALIEN SYMBIOTE OR WITCH'S TOTEM, DOESN'T MATTER.

AHH!
WHAT IS THAT?
THE FEAR IS ALWAYS THE SAME.

THAT'S HOW THEY KNOW.
THAT'S HOW I KNOW--


--WE ARE VENOM.

IT'S THE STUFF OF DREAMS.

AND I REALLY ONLY KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT ONE ASGARDIAN.

KRAKKA-THOOOOM
YEEEAAAGH!
UNNGFFH!
T-TAK
HFF! HFF!
THE STONE!
I DROPPED IT!

HIYA, JACK.

W-WAIT.

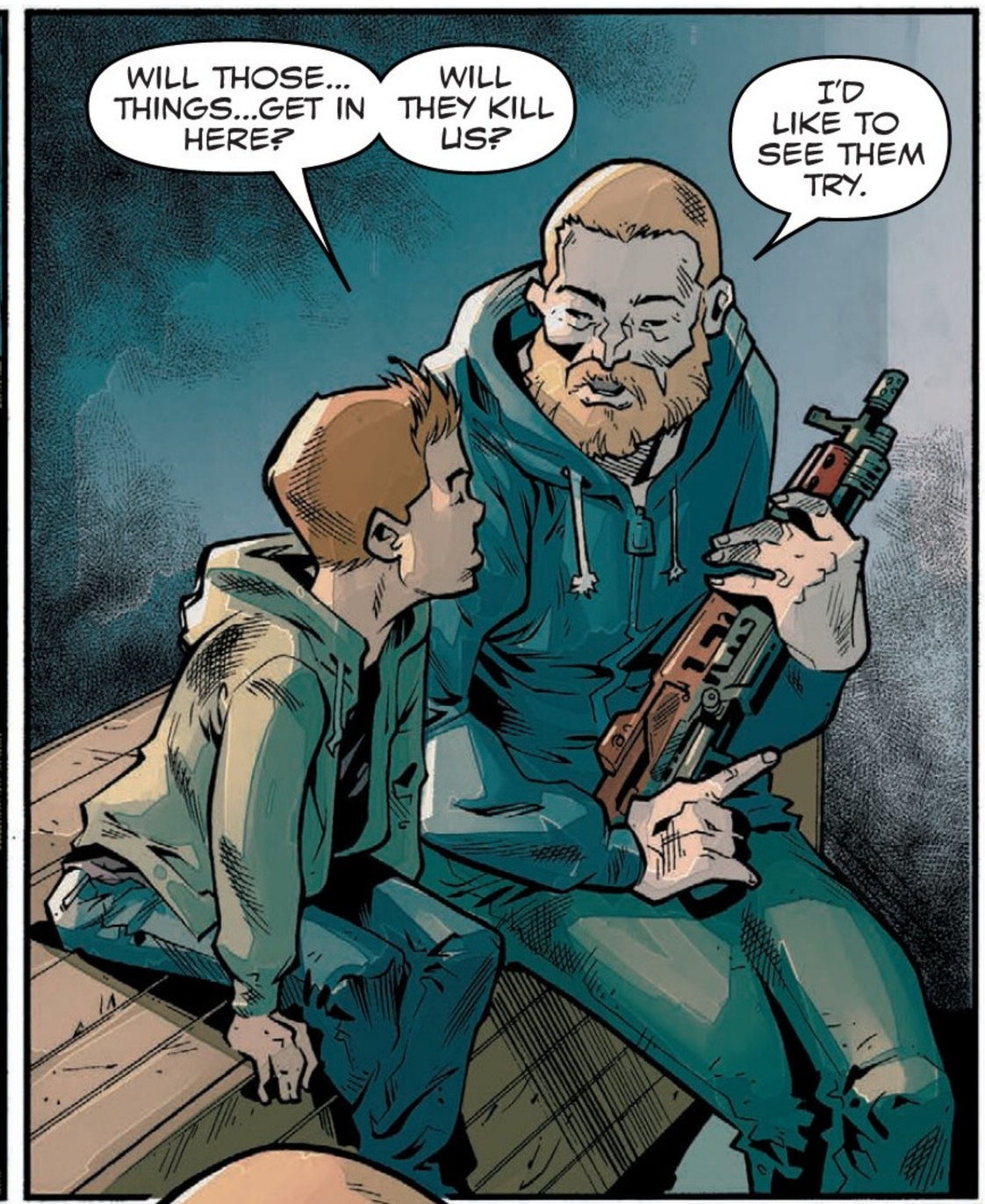
HOLD ON.

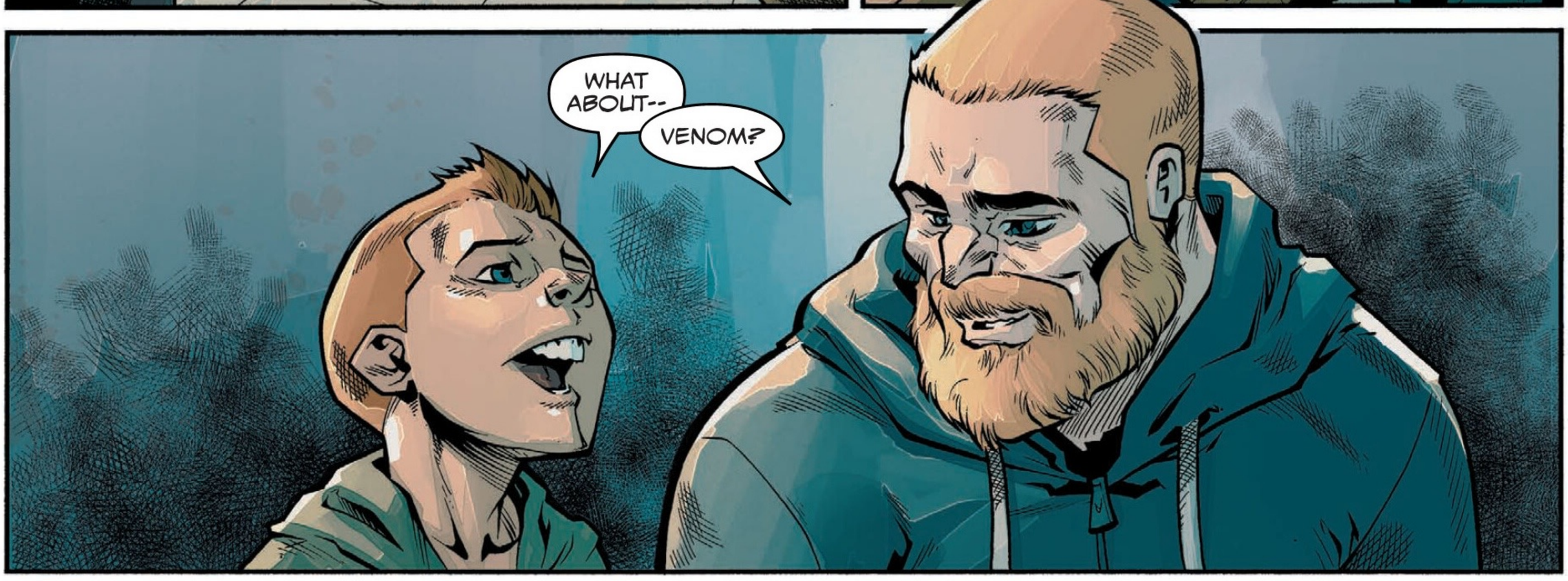
I...I'M NOT...I JUST FOUND THE SUIT.

I GAVE THEM SACRED GIFTS.
AND THIS-- THIS!--IS HOW THEY SQUANDER THEM?
SUCH A WASTE!
THEY COULD HAVE BEEN AVATARS OF DREAMS AND NIGHTMARES.
CHAOS.
ARE YOUR GAMES DONE, SISTER?
WAS IT ALL YOU HOPED?
WE HEARD YOUR PLAYTHINGS SLIPPED THROUGH YOUR FINGERS.
WE HEARD YOU HAD TO REGROW AN ARM.
I'LL NEVER UNDERSTAND YOUR FASCINATION WITH TEMPTING MORTALS.
YOU'RE A WITCH, NOT A DEVIL.
PRESS YOUR FORTUNE, AND YOU'LL FIND I CAN BE BOTH.
COME.
MALEKITH HAS NEED OF US ELSEWHERE.
HEH.
I MERELY SET THE POTENTIAL FOR CHAOS FREE.

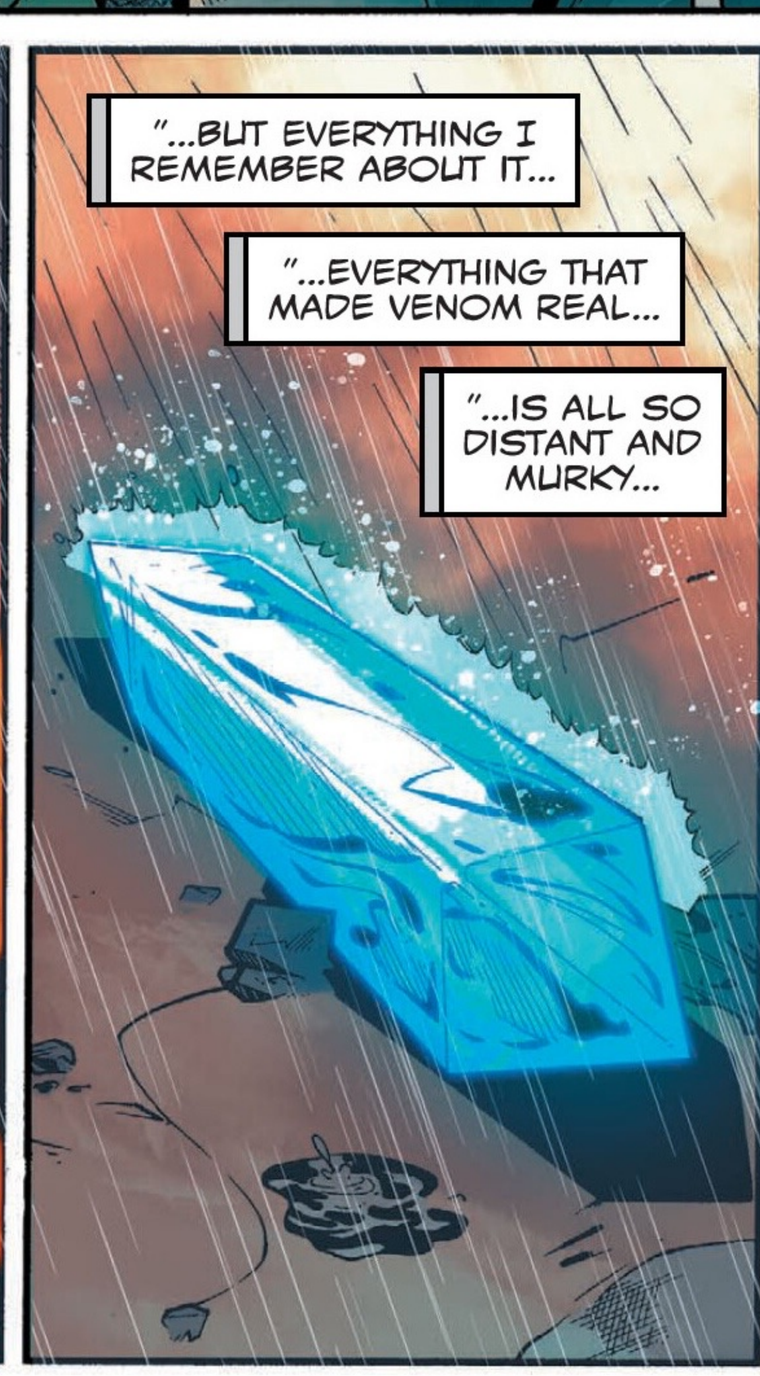
"I FORESEE IT WILL LONG OUTLAST EVEN MALEKITH'S PRESENCE ON THIS WORLD."
HNNN--
SKRRRRKK
UH.
EDDIE?
YOU'RE BACK.
AND YOU'RE NOT VENOM.
YEAH, KID.
YOU WERE RIGHT.
YOU CAN'T TRUST A WITCH.

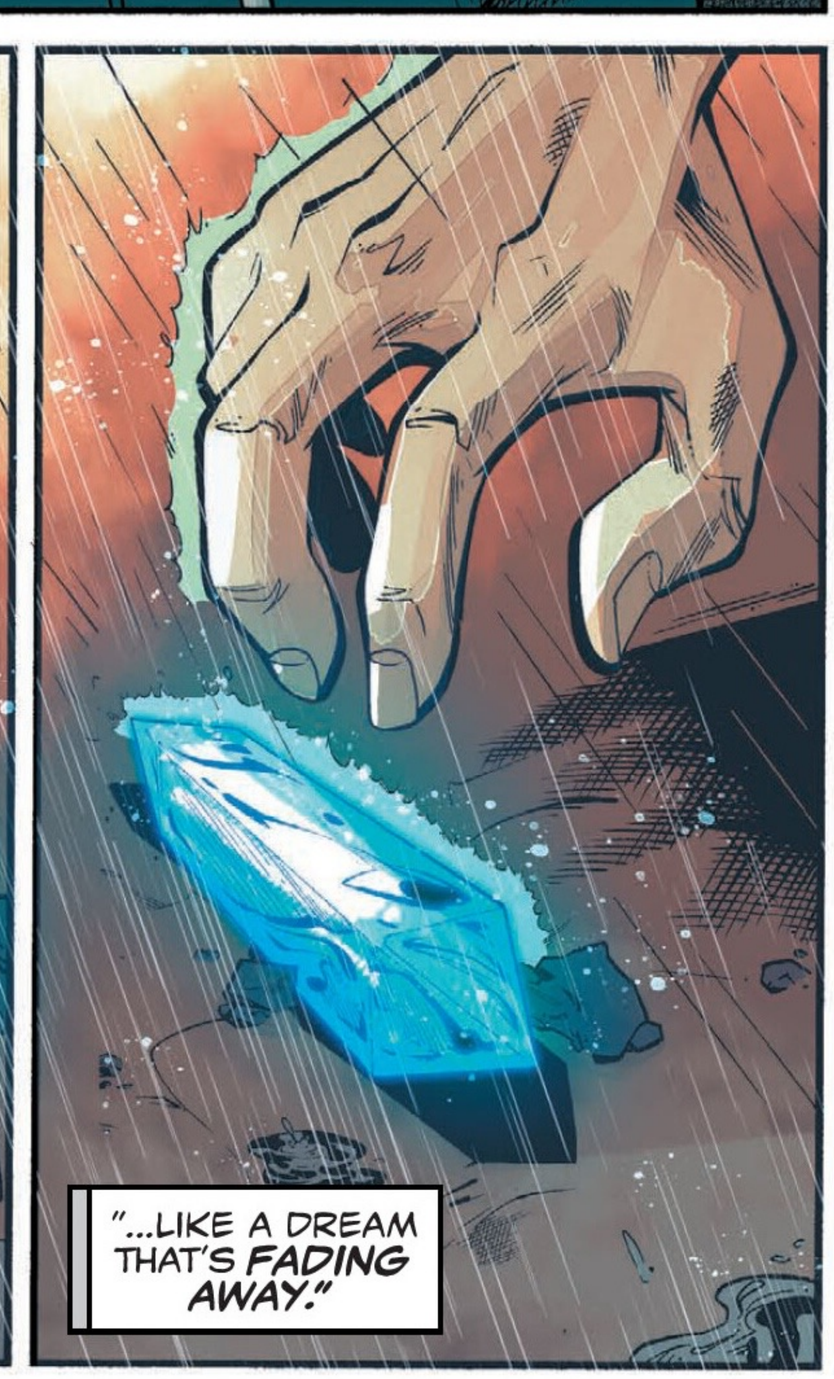
IS IT... BAD OUT THERE?
IT AIN'T GOOD.
BUT YOU DON'T NEED TO WORRY ABOUT THAT.
WE'RE SAFE HERE.
WE CAN WAIT IT OUT.


WILL THOSE... THINGS...GET IN HERE?
WILL THEY KILL US?
I'D LIKE TO SEE THEM TRY.


WHAT ABOUT--
VENOM?

"VENOM'S GONE.
"FEELS LIKE IT'S BEEN GONE FOREVER.
"MAYBE I'M JUST WORN OUT...


"...BUT EVERYTHING I REMEMBER ABOUT IT...
"...EVERYTHING THAT MADE VENOM REAL...
"...IS ALL SO DISTANT AND MURKY...


"...LIKE A DREAM THAT'S FADING AWAY."

WAR OF THE REALMS #1
WORLD TREE CONNECTING VARIANT BY
Giuseppe Camuncoli
& Elia Bonetti

WAR OF THE REALMS #2
WORLD TREE CONNECTING VARIANT BY
Giuseppe Camuncoli
& Elia Bonetti

WAR OF THE REALMS #3
WORLD TREE CONNECTING VARIANT BY
Giuseppe Camuncoli
& Elia Bonetti

WAR OF THE REALMS #4
WORLD TREE CONNECTING VARIANT BY
Giuseppe Camuncoli
& Elia Bonetti

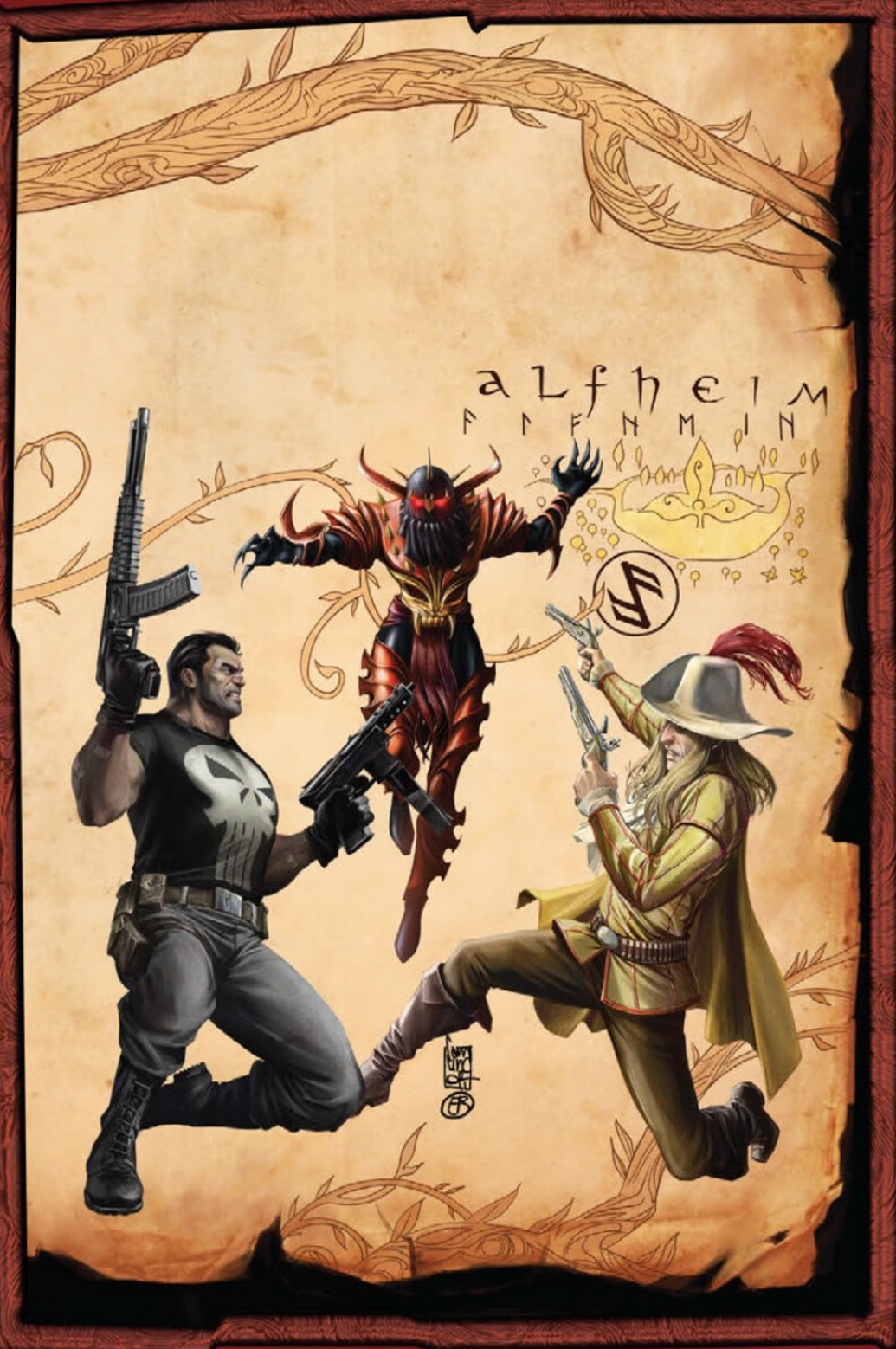
WAR OF THE REALMS #5
WORLD TREE CONNECTING VARIANT BY
Giuseppe Camuncoli
& Elia Bonetti

WAR OF THE REALMS #6
WORLD TREE CONNECTING VARIANT BY
Giuseppe Camuncoli
& Elia Bonetti

WAR OF THE REALMS: JOURNEY INTO MYSTERY #1
WORLD TREE CONNECTING VARIANT BY
Giuseppe Camuncoli
& Elia Bonetti

WAR OF THE REALMS: NEW AGENTS OF ATLAS #1
WORLD TREE CONNECTING VARIANT BY
Giuseppe Camuncoli
& Elia Bonetti

WAR OF THE REALMS: PUNISHER #1
WORLD TREE CONNECTING VARIANT BY
Giuseppe Camuncoli & Elia Bonetti



WAR OF THE REALMS: UNCANNY X-MEN #1
WORLD TREE CONNECTING VARIANT BY
Giuseppe Camuncoli & Elia Bonetti

WAR OF THE REALMS #1 VARIANT BY
Victor Hugo

WAR OF THE REALMS #2 VARIANT BY
Victor Hugo

WAR OF THE REALMS #3 VARIANT BY
Victor Hugo

WAR OF THE REALMS #4 VARIANT BY
Victor Hugo

WAR OF THE REALMS #5 VARIANT BY
Victor Hugo

WAR OF THE REALMS #6 VARIANT BY
Victor Hugo

WAR OF THE REALMS #1
INTERNATIONAL VARIANT BY
Humberto Ramos & Edgar Delgado
WITH Mike Hawthorne

WAR OF THE REALMS #2
INTERNATIONAL VARIANT BY
David Lopez & Edgar Delgado
WITH Mike Hawthorne

WAR OF THE REALMS #3
INTERNATIONAL VARIANT BY
Sean Izaakse & Edgar Delgado
WITH Mike Hawthorne

WAR OF THE REALMS #4
INTERNATIONAL VARIANT BY
Billy Tan & Haining OF Tan Comics &
Edgar Delgado WITH Mike Hawthorne

WAR OF THE REALMS #5
INTERNATIONAL VARIANT BY
Luke Ross & Edgar Delgado
WITH Mike Hawthorne

WAR OF THE REALMS #6
INTERNATIONAL VARIANT BY
David Yardin & Edgar Delgado
WITH Mike Hawthorne

WAR OF THE REALMS #1 YOUNG GUNS VARIANT BY
Russell Dauterman & Matthew Wilson

WAR OF THE REALMS #2 YOUNG GUNS VARIANT BY
Javier Garrón & David Curiel

WAR OF THE REALMS #3 YOUNG GUNS VARIANT BY
Marco Checchetto

WAR OF THE REALMS #4 YOUNG GUNS VARIANT BY
Aaron Kuder & Matthew Wilson

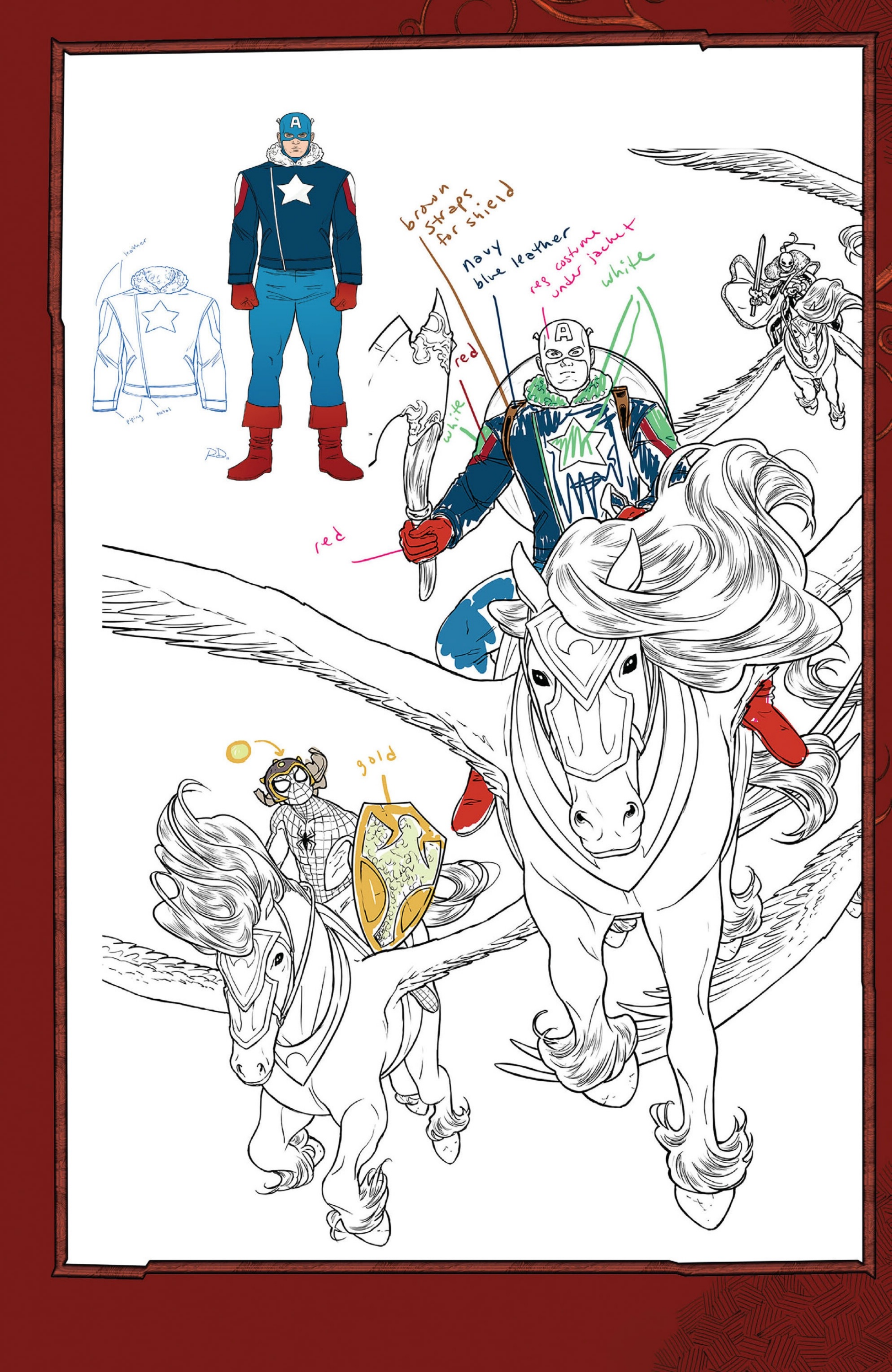
WAR OF THE REALMS #5 YOUNG GUNS VARIANT BY
Pepe Larraz & David Curiel

WAR OF THE REALMS #2 YOUNG GUNS VARIANT BY
Mike del Mundo

GIANT-MAN #1 HIDDEN GEM VARIANT BY
Bob Powell

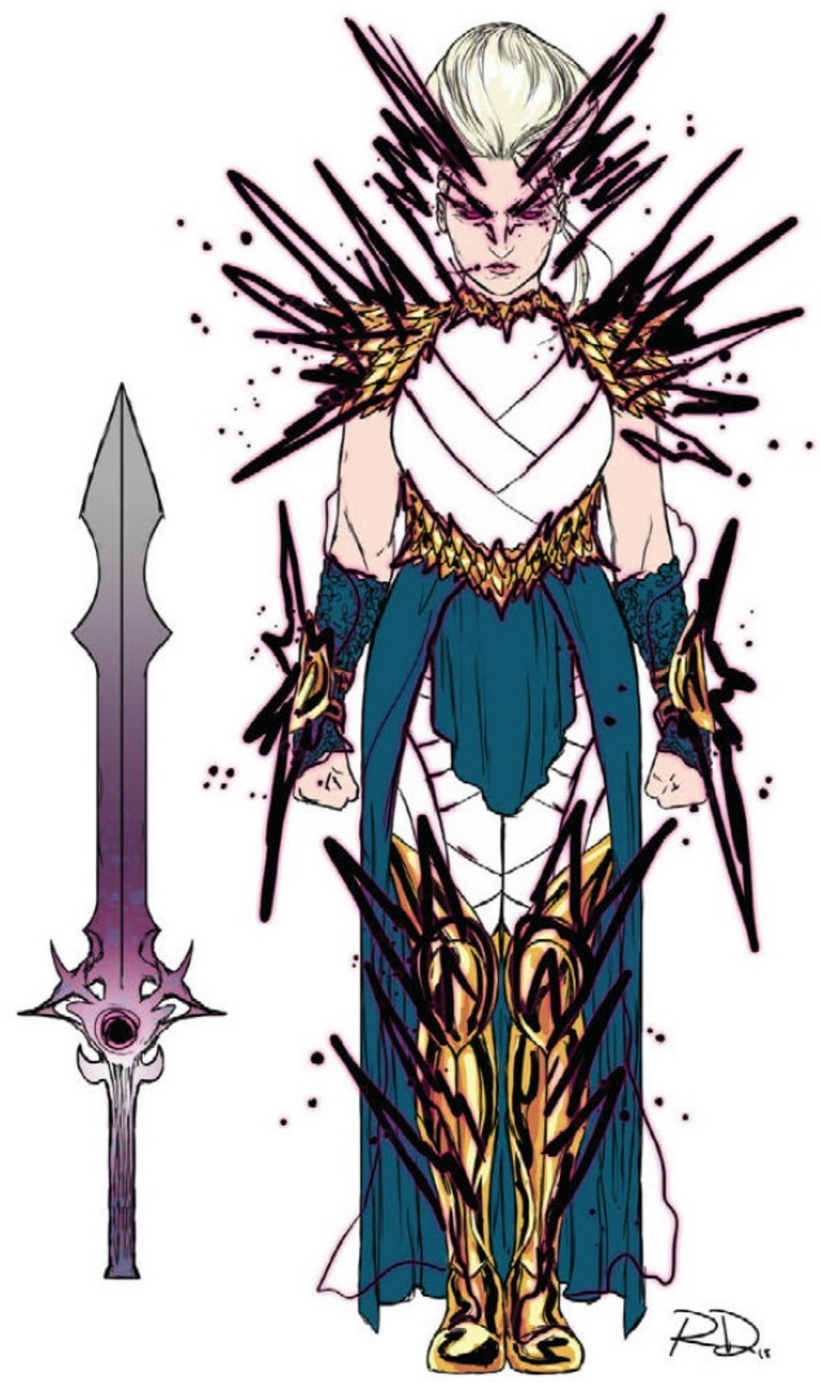
WAR OF THE REALMS #5 HIDDEN GEM VARIANT BY
Walter Simonson & Laura Martin

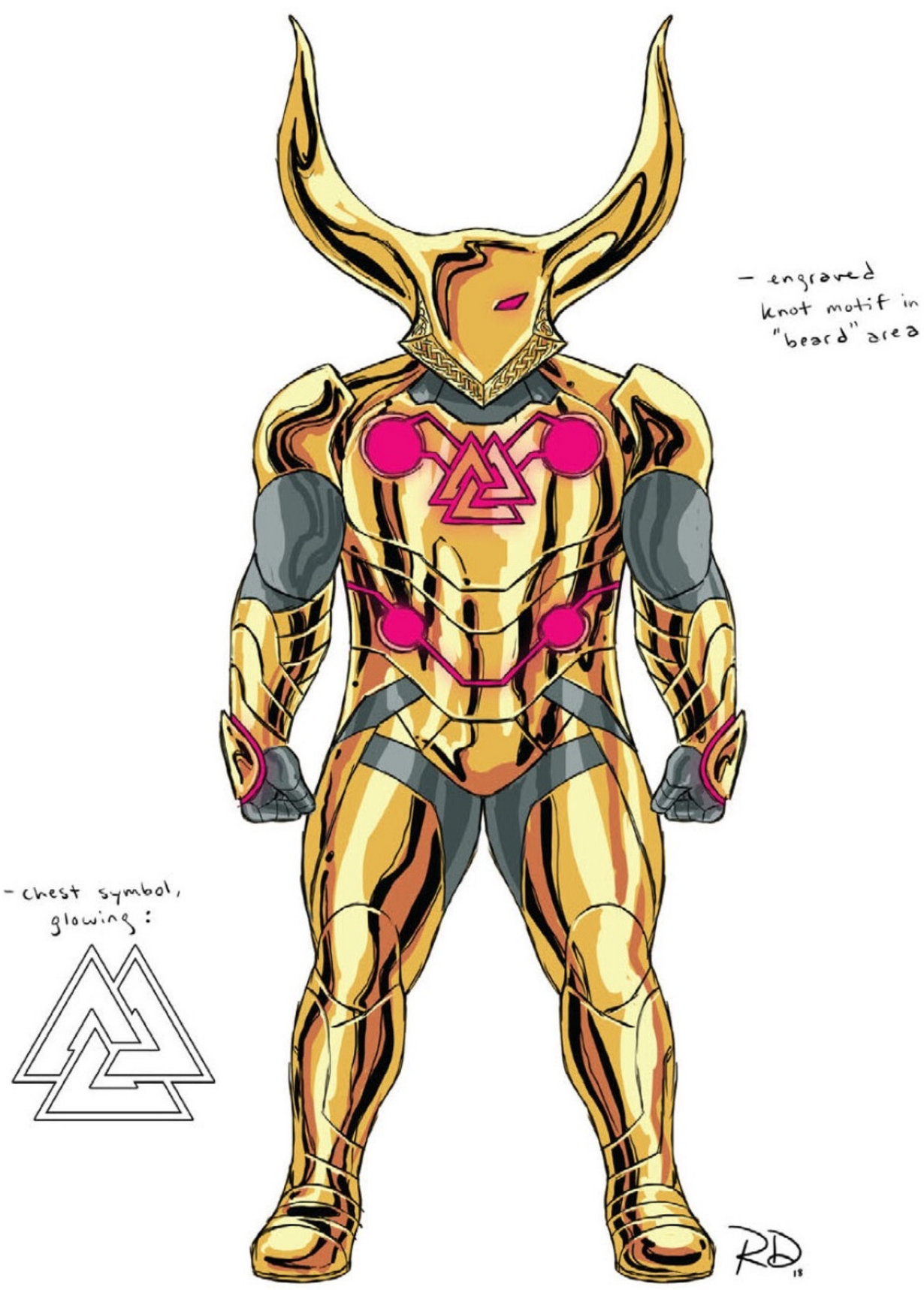
CHARACTER SKETCHES BY
Russell Dauterman

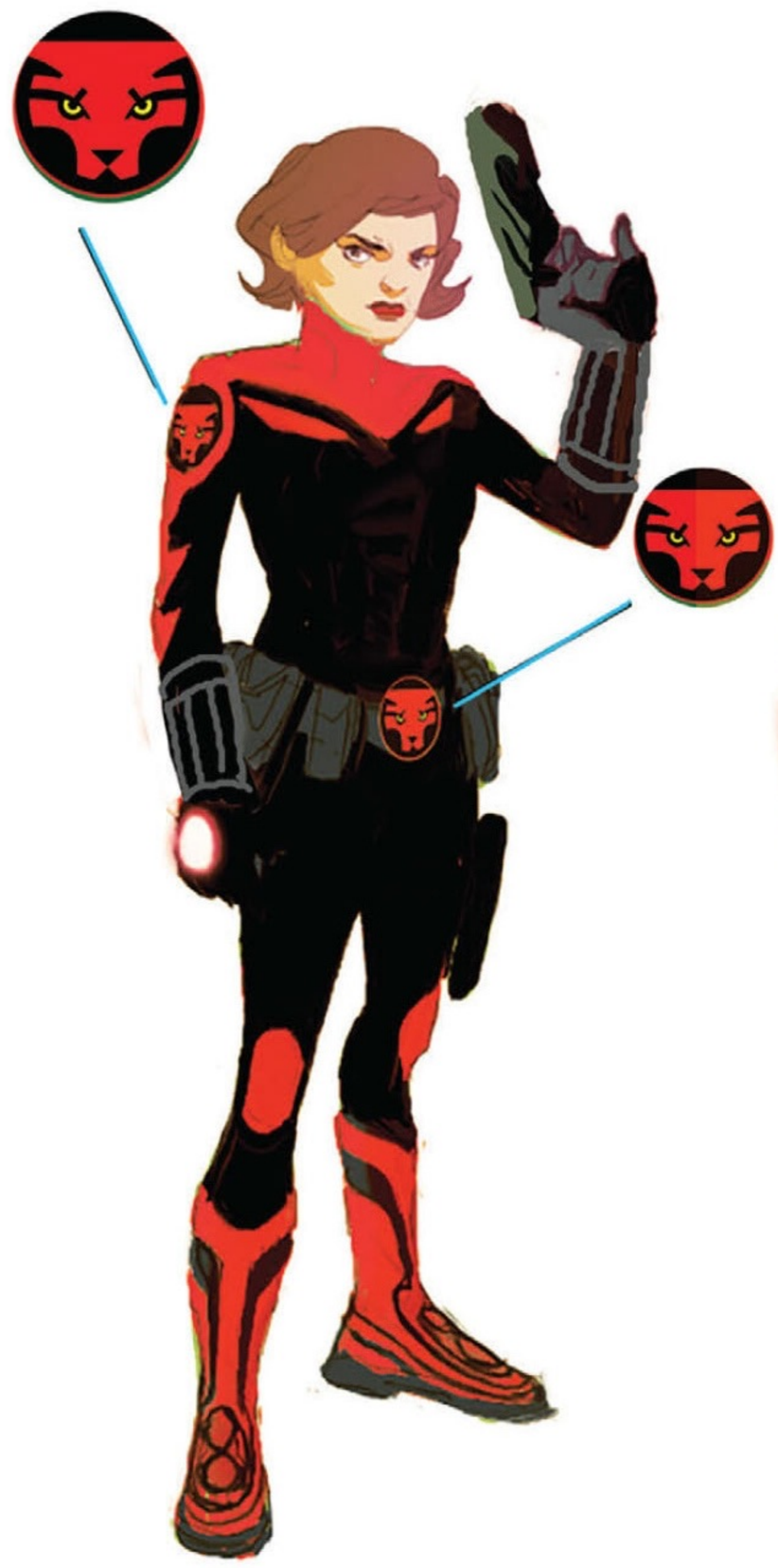

leather
piping
metal
RD.
brown straps for shield
navy blue leather
red
white
red
gold

Freyja w/o headdress

Dark Freyja



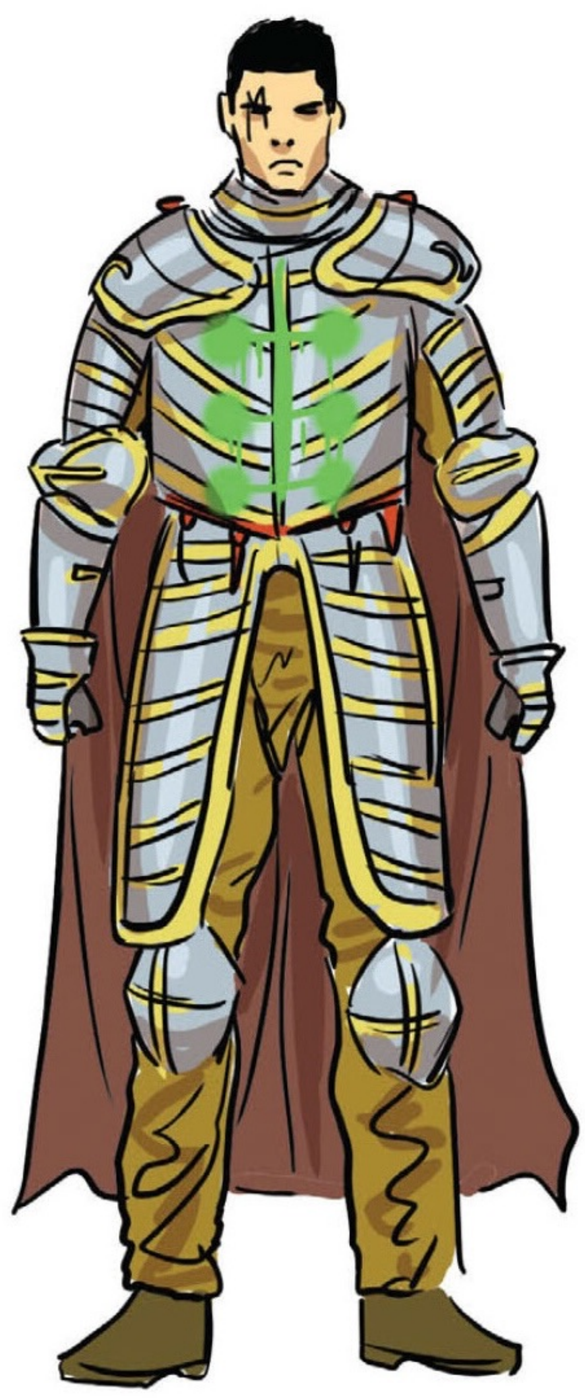




ROZ WAKANDA WHIP

AGENT ROZ SOLOMON & WAKANDAN VEHICLE SKETCHES BY

Mike del Mundo

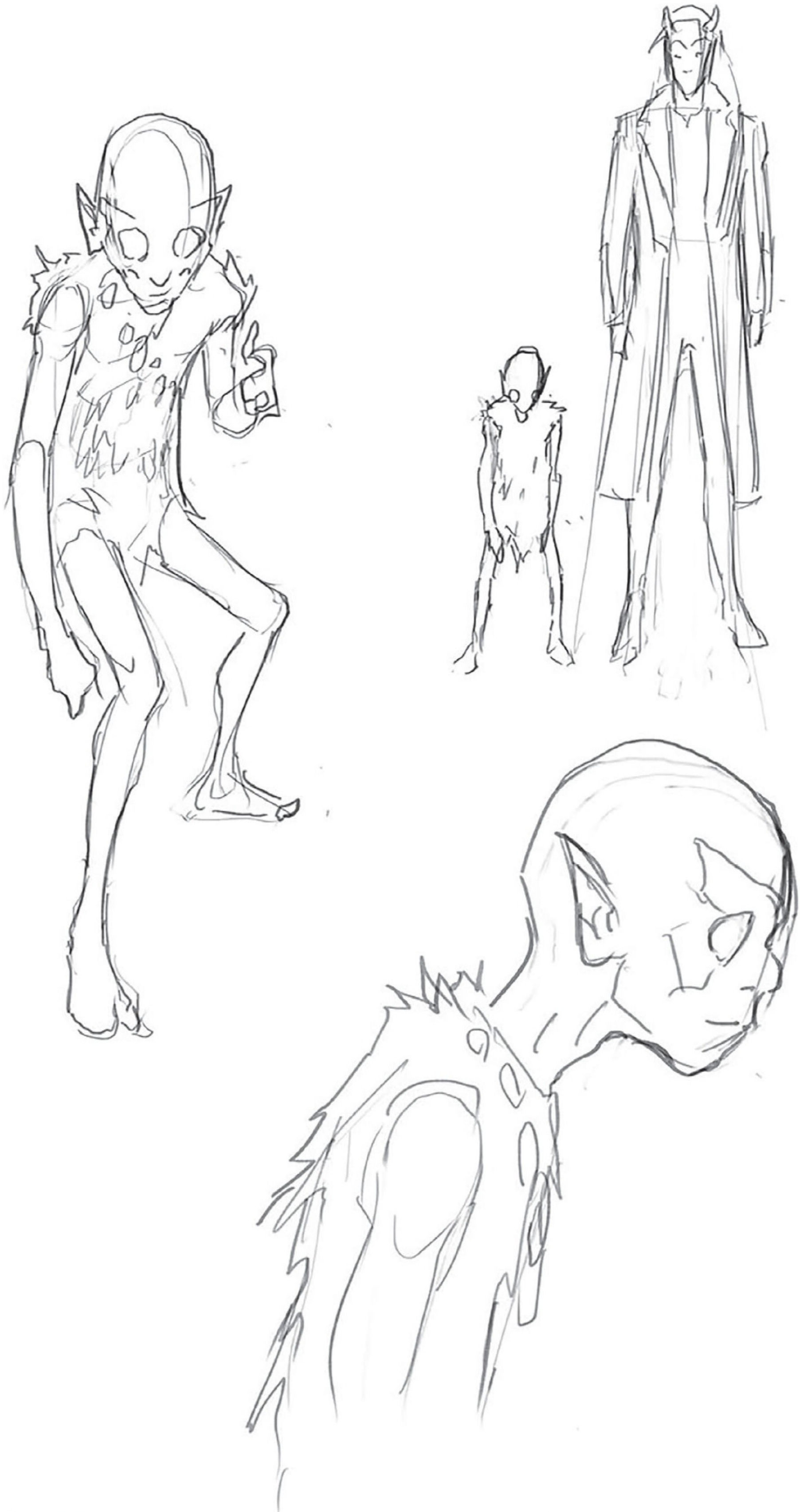


WAR OF THE REALMS: UNCANNY X-MEN CHARACTER SKETCHES BY

Pere Pérez

VENOM CHARACTER DESIGNS BY

Iban Coello



DRRF SKETCH BY
Bazaldua

"THIS IS MODERN MARVEL COMICS AT THEIR FINEST." – **SCIFIPULSE**

MIDGARD WILL FALL!

Malekith has conquered or made alliances with nine of the Ten Realms. Now, at last, the Dark Elf warlord has come for Earth — and all its mighty heroes may not be enough to stop him! With Thor missing in action, it falls to the Avengers, X-Men and everyone in between to mount a desperate last stand across the globe against an invading army of Frost Giants, Trolls, Angels, Fire Goblins and more! The epic conflict from the *Mighty Thor* team of Jason Aaron and Russell Dauterman is collected alongside every single tie-in — in a volume so big you'll need to be worthy to lift it!

COLLECTING ***WAR OF THE REALMS #1-6***; ***WAR OF THE REALMS OMEGA***; ***WAR OF THE REALMS: WAR SCROLLS #1-3***; ***WAR OF THE REALMS STRIKEFORCE: THE LAND OF THE GIANTS, THE DARK ELF REALM*** AND ***THE WAR AVENGERS***; ***GIANT-MAN #1-3***; ***WAR OF THE REALMS: JOURNEY INTO MYSTERY #1-5***; ***SPIDER-MAN & THE LEAGUE OF REALMS #1-3***; ***WAR OF THE REALMS: THE PUNISHER #1-3***; ***WAR OF THE REALMS: UNCANNY X-MEN #1-3***; ***WAR OF THE REALMS: NEW AGENTS OF ATLAS #1-4***; ***ASGARDIANS OF THE GALAXY #8-10***; ***TONY STARK, IRON MAN #12-13***; ***VENOM (2018) #13-15***; ***THOR (2018) #8-16***; ***AVENGERS (2018) #18-20***; ***CAPTAIN MARVEL (2019) #6-7***; ***CHAMPIONS (2019) #5-6***; ***DEADPOOL (2018) #13-14***; ***FANTASTIC FOUR (2018) #10***; ***MOON GIRL AND DEVIL DINOSAUR #43***; ***SUPERIOR SPIDER-MAN (2019) #7-8***; AND ***THE UNBEATABLE SQUIRREL GIRL (2015B) #43-46***.

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